

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 14, 2020

Location: Government Services Center, St. Louis River Room, Duluth, Minnesota

Present: Commissioners Jewell, Boyle, Olson, McDonald, Musolf, Nelson, and Chair Jugovich

Absent: None

Convened: Chair Jugovich called the meeting to order at 10:53 a.m.

Commissioners Frank Jewell, Patrick Boyle, Beth Olson, and Paul McDonald participated by WebEx.

CONSENT AGENDA

Jewell/Olson moved to approve the consent agenda. Item #7, Reschedule Location of April 28, 2020 Board Meeting [20-131] was removed from the agenda for separate consideration. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. (7-0)

- Minutes of March 24, 2020
- Cooperative Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation to Detour Truck Traffic [20-125]
- Agreement with the City of Hermantown for Construction on Swan Lake Road and Sundby Road [20-126]
- Acquisition of Right-of-Way – Reclaim and Overlay Project and Culvert Replacement Project on CSAH 41 [20-127]
- Execute a Grant with the State of Minnesota and Cooperative Agreement with Voyageur Country ATV Club for the Trail System and Connections Environmental Assessment Worksheet [20-128]
- Execute a Grant with the State of Minnesota and Cooperative Agreement with Quad Cities ATV Club for the Trail Construction Program [20-129]
- Abatement List for Board Approval [20-130]
- 2020 St. Louis County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan [20-132]
- Application and Acceptance of 2020 NG911 Call Handling Equipment Grant [20-133]
- Application and Acceptance of the 2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program [20-134]
- Special Sale to the Tower Economic Development Authority [20-135]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Dupuis (Homestead) [20-136]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Hanninen (Homestead) [20-137]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Nelson (Homestead) [20-138]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Finn (Non-Homestead) [20-139]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Mochlenbrock (Non-Homestead) [20-140]
- Adjoining Owner Sale [20-141]
- Public Sale of State Tax Forfeited Properties on June 11, 2020 [20-142]
- Public Sale of Shoreland Lease Lots [20-143]
- Surface Lease Agreement with MnDOT [20-144]

- Rescind County Board Resolution No. 20-173, and Authorization to Submit Proposal to the LCCMR for FY21 Minnesota Environmental & Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant for the Regional Landfill Leachate PFAS Reduction Pilot Project [20-145]

Public Works & Transportation Committee

Musolf/McDonald moved to award a bid to Northland Constructors of Duluth, Inc., Duluth, MN, in the amount of \$1,111,911.11, for project CP 0269-240699 (Low Prime) & CP 9205-465047, SAP 069-600-049, Culverts, Reclamation, Aggregate Base, Bituminous Surfacing, and Aggregate Surfacing, located on CR 269 and UT 9205 from CSAH 4 to end of Boulder Dam Road, Gnesen and Unorganized Township 53-15. [20-146]. St. Louis County Public Works Director Jim Foldesi said that \$700,000 was funded from State Park and Road and \$400,000 was funded from transportation sales tax. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Jugovich moved to award a bid to Asphalt Surface Technologies Corp., St. Cloud, MN, in the amount of \$624,021.14, for project CP 0000-447672, Crack Sealing and Crack Repair Special, located on various roads throughout St. Louis County. [20-146]. Administrator Kevin Gray noted the bid was approximately twenty percent under the estimate. After further discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Jewell moved to award a bid to Traffic Marking Service, Maple Lake, MN, in the amount of \$41,410.96, for project CP 0000-293135, SP 069-070-033, 6" Solid Line Paint Edgeline, located throughout St. Louis County. [20-147]. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. (7-0)

Nelson/McDonald moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., Angora, MN, in the amount of \$443,193.60, for project CP 0137-465279, SAP 069-737-004 (Low), CP 0708-526988 (Tied), Culverts, located on CSAH 137 between TH 37 and TH 169, and CR 708 between TH 169 and CR 661. [20-147]. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Nelson moved to award a bid to Asphalt Surface Technologies Corp., St. Cloud, MN, in the amount of \$2,058,646.01, for project CP 0000-504509, SAP 069-030-051 (Low Prime), Scrub Seal, Fog Seal, and Crack Repair, located on various roads throughout St. Louis County, Hermantown, and Canosia and Midway Townships. [20-147]. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Jewell moved to award a bid to DeAngelo Brothers, LLC, Hazelton, PA, in the amount of \$479,506.24, for project CP 0000-293137, SP 069-070-035, High Friction Surface Treatment, located throughout St. Louis County. [20-148]. Director Foldesi said that this project is a partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) and is the second project of this type that has been done in the State of Minnesota. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Jugovich moved to award a bid to Louis Leustek & Sons, Inc., Ely, MN, in the amount of \$479,224.50, for project CP 0000-494182, Aggregate Crushing 2020, County Wide. [20-148]. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. (7-0)

Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee

Jewell/Jugovich moved that the Public Works Departments four day work week agreement pertaining to the Sign Maintenance Divisions-North and South, and Highway Maintenance Divisions Four (Ely) and Five (Duluth) effective during the 2020, 2021 and 2022 summer maintenance seasons is approved, and

the appropriate county officials are authorized to execute the supplemental labor agreement. [20-149]. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. (7-0)

Jewell/Boyle moved that the St. Louis County Board will adjust its 2020 Board Meeting schedule to reschedule the meeting location of its April 28, 2020 meeting from the Eveleth City Auditorium to the St. Louis River Room at the Government Services Center, Duluth, MN. [20-131]. Commissioner Nelson expressed concerns regarding limitations of having the public participate in electronic meetings. After further discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. (7-0)

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Nelson discussed a safety issue relating to the employees working at St. Louis County transfer and landfill sites. The county has worked to keep all transfer sites and landfills open through the pandemic. This weekend one site took in 11.5 tons of municipal solid waste (MSW); normally that site takes in 5 tons; the increase in waste is putting county works at risk. Commissioner Nelson asked that county administration address this with other entities, because he believes the increase is due to other entities such as Aitken, Carlton, Itasca, and WLSSD have closed their sites or have significantly reduced their hours.

Commissioner McDonald commented on the shutdown of North Shore Mining; approximately 470 people will be impacted by the shutdown. Twin Metals donated \$10,000 to United Way of Northeastern Minnesota, \$5,000 to the Ely Food Shelf, \$5,000 to the Babbitt Ambulance Service, and \$1,500 to Ruby's Pantry in Babbitt.

Chair Jugovich encouraged people to continue social distancing during this pandemic and congratulated Hibbing native Scott Perunovich for winning the Hobey Baker Memorial Award.

Commissioner Nelson provided the Committee with a copy of correspondence between him and a reporter at the Duluth News Tribune regarding to the introduction of Elk into the Cloquet Valley. Commissioner Nelson expressed concern regarding the impact on public opinion due to a skewed survey and misinformation presented as fact. Commissioner Nelson indicated that he also had a letter that he would be submitting for signatures, indicating that the St. Louis County Board has a resolution in opposition of the introduction of Elk into the Cloquet Valley.

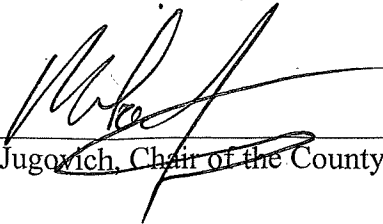
Commissioner Nelson said that WLSSD is dumping five million gallons of municipal solid waste - leachate into Lake Superior. The waste shows a clear and present danger to the water quality of Lake Superior; the discharge is taking place ten miles upstream from the water intake of the City of Duluth. Commissioner Nelson said that he has a letter he will submit for signatures and send to the EPA and MPCA asking them to evaluate the situation.

Commissioner Jewell recognized that staff have been continuing to work during the pandemic, particularly the Sheriff's Office, Public Health, and Human Service. Commissioner Jewell also acknowledged the dedication and hard work of staff that assisted with issues at Saint Ann's Residence.

Commissioner Musolf commented that he felt that the county could do better with awarding bids to local contractors and said that there were ways the Board could capture local dollars. The Committee briefly discussed efforts to work with local contractors to award bids locally.

Commissioner Nelson said that the County Liquor Licensing Committee met earlier today and are recommending that the County Board approve a resolution of support to offer a partial refund for the number of days that the liquor establishments have been closed due to the governor's executive order.

At 12:15 p.m., Commissioner Jewell, supported by Commissioner Olson, moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed. (7-0)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Jugovich', written over a horizontal line.

Mike Jugovich, Chair of the County Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Chapman', written over a horizontal line.

Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board