

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, MINNESOTA,  
HELD ON APRIL 6, 2021**

The Board of County Commissioners of the County of St. Louis, Minnesota, met this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021, at 9:31 a.m., at the Government Services Center, Duluth, Minnesota, with the following members present: Commissioners Frank Jewell, Patrick Boyle, Ashley Grimm, Keith Musolf, Paul McDonald, Keith Nelson and Chair Mike Jugovich - 7. Absent: None - 0.

Commissioners Frank Jewell and Ashley Grimm participated by WebEx.

Chair Jugovich asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of all victims of violence, foreign and domestic; followed by the pledge of allegiance. Chair Jugovich acknowledged the effort and sacrifices that frontline workers have made during the pandemic.

Chair Jugovich commented that it was National Public Health week. Commissioner Boyle recognized the work of the Public Health and Human Services Department throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past year, the department has educated people regarding the risks of COVID, were a point of contact for schools and industry, distributed guidelines from the state and federal level, performed COVID testing, and administered the vaccine; all while ensuring essential services were available during the pandemic. St. Louis County Public Health Division Director Amy Westbrook acknowledged the dedication and work of federal, state, local, community and internal partners during the pandemic.

Chair Jugovich opened the meeting to persons who wish to address the Board concerning issues not on the agenda, and no one came forth.

Commissioner McDonald, supported by Commissioner Boyle, moved to approve the consent agenda. A roll call vote was taken, the motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner Nelson, supported by Commissioner Jewell, moved that the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners hereby declares a State of Local Emergency exists and will continue until such time that the Board determines that an emergency no longer exists; that the County Administrator or his designee(s) are directed to request and coordinate all necessary aid from local, state and federal government; that after April 15, 2021, the delegating of the Board's Authority to the County Administrator, the Deputy County Administrator, and/or Director of Human Resources and Administration to exercise the emergency powers outlined in Minn. Stat. § 12.37 shall cease. All earlier resolutions relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic, to the extent they are contrary to the terms of this resolution, are hereby rescinded. St. Louis County Deputy Administrator Brian Fritsinger commented that the resolution will reduce administrative authority. The most significant impact of the change will be related to the timing and ability to respond quickly to emergency situations. Certain situations may be required to be placed on Board agendas, which may result in asking for a suspension of the rules or scheduling of an emergency meeting. A roll call vote was taken, the motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays. Resolution No. 21-233.

The following Board and contract files were created from documents received by this Board:

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and Brian Fritsinger, Deputy County Administrator, submitting Board Letter No. 21-147, Declare a Continued State of Local Emergency in St. Louis County.--61463

Service Contract 5689B-2 between the County of St. Louis and North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Virginia, MN, to provide Lake and Stream Protection Projects, Outreach and Education, Technical Assistance to Landowners and other Agencies, Private Forest Management, and Direct Administration, through December 31, 2021.—21-265

Grant Agreement 5685J between the County of St. Louis and Duluth Seaway Port Authority, Duluth, MN, for economic development activities during the period January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021.—21-266

Agreement for Services between the County of St. Louis and Beck & Co. Engineering, Inc., Woodbury, MN, for Pavement Marking Assessment through December 31, 2021 (CP 0000-369585).—21-267

Cooperative Agreement between the County of St. Louis and the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority to construct and maintain the Palo Tia segment of the Mesabi Trail from Soini Road (CR 558) to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 21 in Embarrass Township, MN (CP 0000-552411).—21-268

Contract for County State Aid Highway Project between the County of St. Louis and Traffic Marking Service, Maple Lake, MN, for Maintenance of Pavement Markings on various county highways in Lake County, St. Louis County, Hibbing and Virginia (CP 0000-369585).—21-269

Contract for County State Aid Highway Project between the County of St. Louis and Northland Constructors of Duluth, Inc., Duluth, MN, for Bridge No. 69A77 (County Bridge 389) and Approach Grading located on CSAH 59 over Paleface Creek near Eveleth, MN (CP 0059-366241, SAP 069-659-003 BR 389).—21-270

Contract for County State Aid Highway Project between the County of St. Louis and Northland Constructors of Duluth, Inc., Duluth, MN, for 9'x7' Precast Concrete Box Culvert, Culvert Replacement, Mill Bituminous Surface, Full Depth Reclamation, Base Stabilization – Base One, Plant Mixed Bituminous Surface, Aggregate Shouldering, Aggregate Base, Grading and Construct Bridge 69K68 located in southern St. Louis County, Duluth and Hermantown (CP 0017-369575, SAP 069-617-005 (Low Prime); CP 0045-544465; CP 0296-507728; CP 0724-369579; CP 0000-533596, SAP 202-111-001; CP 0000-533597, SAP 202-112-001).—21-271

Quit Claim Deed between the County of St. Louis and the City of Floodwood for Lots 1 and 2, Block 43, Savanna Addition to Floodwood.—21-272

Grant Agreement 5685I between the County of St. Louis and St. Louis County Historical Society, Duluth, MN, for the purchase of services during the period January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021.—21-273

Grant Agreement 5685T between the County of St. Louis and St. Louis County Historical Society, Duluth, MN, for cataloging services during the period January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021.—21-274

Amendment No. 1, Original Damion No. 2020-013821, between the County of St. Louis and Upper Lakes Foods, Cloquet, MN, to provide food services at the Duluth Jail, extending the contract an additional one (1) year, effective July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.—21-275

2020-2021 Fiscal Services Agreement between the County of St. Louis, Nancy Nilsen, County Auditor/Treasurer, and the Ash River Sanitary District for the limited purpose of administering a \$32,000 grant from St. Louis County during the term November 1, 2020, to December 31, 2021.—21-276

Public Health & Human Services Independent Contractors Agreement, Contract No. 17149, between St. Louis County and Nathaniel Coward, Chisholm, MN, to assist with COVID-19 vaccination clinics at the Hibbing Memorial Building during the period February 1, 2021, to February 28, 2021.—21-277

Purchase of Service Agreement, Contract No. 17155, between the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners and Human Development Center (HDC), Duluth, MN, for Collaborative Case Management and Healthy Families America (HFA) Services via the Northstar Families Program to decrease the incidences of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, during the period January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021.—21-278

Purchase of Service Agreement, Contract No. 17034, between St. Louis County and Head of the Lakes United Way, Duluth, MN, for Referral Services and Onsite CCA Consultation Services during the period January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2022.—21-279

Minnesota Department of Human Services SFY 2021 Housing Support Agreement – Group Settings, Contract No. 53989, between St. Louis County and Cheyenne Lustila, Hibbing, MN.—21-280

Minnesota Department of Human Services SFY 2021 Housing Support Agreement – Group Settings, Contract No. 54002, between St. Louis County and Range Transitional Housing, Inc., Virginia, MN.—21-281

Purchase of Service Agreement, Contract No. 17140, between St. Louis County and the Salvation Army, Duluth, MN, for Emergency Assistance Services during the period January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2022.—21-282

Service Agreement, Contract No. 17159, between St. Louis County and St. Luke's Home Health Services, Duluth, MN, for COVID-19 services related to Isolation and Quarantine (I&Q) during the period December 2, 2020, to June 30, 2021.—21-283

Upon motion by Commissioner McDonald, supported by Commissioner Boyle, resolutions numbered 21-228 through 21-232, as submitted on the consent agenda, were unanimously adopted as follows:

**BY COMMISSIONER McDONALD:**

RESOLVED, That the official proceedings of the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners for the meeting of March 23, 2021, are hereby approved.

Adopted April 6, 2021. No. 21-228

RESOLVED, That pursuant to the provisions of Minn. Stat. § 340A, as amended, and Rules and Regulations adopted by this Board under St. Louis County Ordinance No. 28, dated May 22, 1978, as amended, the following application for a Temporary On-Sale 3.2 Percent Malt Liquor License is hereby approved, on file in the office of the County Auditor, identified as County Board File No. 61449:

Lake 14 & Lake Leander Club, Unorganized Township 60-19, Temporary On-Sale 3.2 Percent Malt Liquor License, for the date of July 3, 2021 (rain date July 4, 2021), renewal.

Adopted April 6, 2021. No. 21-229

RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Finance Committee for payment of claims and bills against the County of St. Louis, on file in the office of the County Auditor, identified as County Board File No. 61425, are hereby approved and the County Auditor shall issue checks in the following amounts:

**FEBRUARY 2021**

100	General Fund	6,710,385.04
149	Personal Service Fund	833.50
155	Depot	49,978.74
160	MN Trail Assistance	184,394.91
169	Attorney Trust Accounts – VW	1,534.65
170	Boundary Waters – Forfeiture	10,000.00
173	Emergency Shelter Grant	5,146.35
176	Revolving Loan Fund	131.94
178	Economic Development – Tax Forfeit	6,705.00
179	Enhanced 9-1-1	3,761.00
180	Law Library	21,696.73
183	City/County Communications	575.46
184	Extension Service	49,312.97
192	Permit to Carry	4,563.12
200	Public Works	3,052,159.26
204	Local Option Transit Sales Tax	292,331.01
210	Road Maint. – Unorg. Townships	379.45
220	State/Federal Road Aid	643,306.62
230	Public Health & Human Services	8,523,819.11
239	Pandemic Response Fund	2,084,428.82
240	Forfeited Tax	448,751.36
260	CDBG Grant	312,971.61
270	HOME Grant	23,400.00
289	ISTS Grant	48,441.99
290	Forest Resources	13,768.09

400	County Facilities	142,081.30
402	Depreciation Reserve Fund	25,061.79
403	Emergency Repairs	98,724.00
405	Public Works Building Const.	104,093.01
407	Public Works – Equipment	243,165.50
600	Environmental Services	1,333,990.71
640	Plat Books	142.81
715	County Garage	75,400.19
720	Property Casualty Liability	276,383.49
730	Workers Compensation	990,238.34
740	Medical Dental Insurance	1,325,584.15
770	Retired Employees Health Insurance	969.89
		<u>\$27,108,611.91</u>

Adopted April 6, 2021. No. 21-230

RESOLVED, That the workers' compensation report of claims by employees for work-related injuries, March 26, 2021, on file in the office of the County Auditor, identified as County Board File No. 61404, is hereby received and ratified as payable from Fund 730, Agency 730001.

Adopted April 6, 2021. No. 21-231

RESOLVED, That the appraisal reports for the sale of timber to be offered at PUBLIC ORAL TIMBER AUCTION, Tracts 1 through 25 (totaling \$415,871.46), as submitted by the Land Commissioner, on file in the office of the County Auditor, identified as County Board File No. 61414, are approved and the County Auditor is authorized to carry out the recommendations as listed in said appraisal reports.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That if conditions arise due to the Covid-19 pandemic which makes it necessary for the PUBLIC ORAL TIMBER AUCTION to be canceled, the County Auditor is authorized to offer said tracts via PUBLIC SEALED BID TIMBER AUCTION as soon as is feasible.

Adopted April 6, 2021. No. 21-232

#### **BY COMMISSIONER NELSON:**

WHEREAS, There is an outbreak of respiratory illness, called coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), in a growing number of countries, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, Federal, state, and local public health authorities have identified the public health threat posed by COVID-19, which may be spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization deemed COVID-19 to be a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, On March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a Presidential National Emergency, and Governor Tim Walz declared a Peacetime State of Emergency in Minnesota, to authorize any and all necessary resources to be used in support of the response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 12.29 gives authority to the Chair of the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners to declare a local emergency in St. Louis County for a period of three days, after which a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners will be needed to resolve to continue the local emergency; and

WHEREAS, A declaration of local emergency invokes St. Louis County's disaster plans, including response and recovery aspects, and authorizes aid and assistance under those plans, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.29; and

WHEREAS, On March 18, 2020, the St. Louis County Board declared a local emergency, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.29; and

WHEREAS, On November 24, 2020, the St. Louis County Board amended or declaratory resolution further authorizing the Deputy County Administrator and/or Director of Human Resources and Administration to exercise the emergency powers outlined in Minn. Stat. § 12.37; and

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Board finds that the COVID-19 pandemic, the potential for outbreak in St. Louis County, and the need for extraordinary and immediate measures to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and St. Louis County residents and employees will not be resolved in the immediate future; and

WHEREAS, The Federal and State Declaration of emergencies are still active and in place.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners hereby declares a State of Local Emergency exists and will continue until such time that the Board determines that an emergency no longer exists.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the County Administrator or his designee(s) are directed to request and coordinate all necessary aid from local, state and federal government.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That after April 15, 2021, the delegating of the Board's Authority to the County Administrator, the Deputy County Administrator and/or Director of Human Resources and Administration to exercise the emergency powers outlined in Minn. Stat. § 12.37 shall cease.

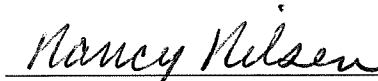
RESOLVED FURTHER, That all earlier resolutions relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic, to the extent they are contrary to the terms of this resolution, are hereby rescinded.

Unanimously adopted April 6, 2021. No. 21-233

At 9:44 a.m., April 6, 2021, Commissioner Boyle, supported by Commissioner Jewell, moved to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken, the motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

  
Mike Jugovich, Chair of the Board  
of County Commissioners

Attest:

  
Nancy Nilsen, County Auditor  
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board  
of County Commissioners

(Seal of the County Auditor)