

# **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

February 27, 2024

Location: Clinton Town Hall, Iron Junction, Minnesota

Present: Commissioners Harala, Boyle, McDonald, Musolf, Jugovich and Chair Nelson

Absent: Commissioner Grimm

Convened: Chair Nelson called the meeting to order at 10:29 a.m.

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## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Harala/Musolf moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed. (6-0, Grimm absent)

- Minutes of February 20, 2024
- Acquisition of Right-of-Way for Replacement of County Bridge 37 over Amity Creek in the City of Rice Lake; CP 0034-769494 [24-87]
- Architectural and Engineering Services Agreement with TKDA, Inc. for Design, Construction Administration, and Inspection on the Jean Duluth Building Replacement - RFP 5931 (MP 0000-853183) [24-88]
- Acquisition of Right-of-Way for Replacement of County Bridge 127 over West Rocky Run in Solway Township; CP 0006-834778 [24-89]
- Donation of Tree Seedlings from Minnesota Power [24-90]

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## **Health & Human Services Committee**

Boyle/Harala moved that the St. Louis County Board appoints Pablo Romo, Homeless Advocate; Angela Neal, Rural Housing Coalition; and Theresa Drift, Bois Forte Reservation, to the St. Louis County Heading Home Advisory Committee for terms ending on December 31, 2025. [24-91]. Deputy Administrator Brian Fritsinger noted that the appointments expire on December 31, 2025. The motion passed. (6-0, Grimm absent)

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## **Public Works & Transportation Committee**

Musolf/Jugovich moved to award a bid to Fahrner Asphalt Sealers, LLC, Eau Claire, WI, in the amount of \$711,482.85 for project CP 0000-475841 (2024 Maintenance Striping) on various city streets, township roads, and county roads within Lake and St. Louis Counties. [24-92]. The motion passed. (6-0, Grimm absent)

Musolf/Harala moved to award a bid to Hoover Construction Company, Virginia, MN, in the amount of \$498,747.50 for project CP 0000-798458 (2024 South Crushing) for various pits in southern St. Louis County. [24-93]. The motion passed. (6-0, Grimm absent)

McDonald/Nelson moved to award a bid to Mesabi Bituminous, Inc., Gilbert, MN, in the amount of \$283,540.68 for Profile Correction, Excavation, Plant Mixed Bituminous Patches Project (CP 0000-809450 (Prime), consisting of 7 projects for various locations within St. Louis County. [24-94]. Deputy Administrator Fritsinger said that the project is a scattered site project. Commissioner Musolf noted that the funding sources vary based on the type of road. The motion passed. (6-0, Grimm absent)

McDonald/Nelson moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., Angora, MN, in the amount of \$846,132.35 for Culvert Replacement, Aggregate Base, Grading and Plant Mixed Bituminous Patches Project (CP 0025-539746, SAP 069-625-020 (Low); CP 0353-730385 (Tied); CP 0657-730386 (Tied)); for County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 25 between County Road (CR) 660 and approximately 1,800' S. of US Hwy 53 (CP 0025-539746, SAP 069-625-020); CR 353 between 3,240' N. of Little Creek Rd. and 3,190' S. of CSAH 16 (CP 0353-730385); and CR 657 between CSAH 7 and 180' E. of RR Tracks (CP 0657-730386). [24-95]. The motion passed. (6-0, Grimm absent)

Musolf/Boyle moved that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the purchase and installation of ten (10) dump bodies with hydraulic systems and snow removal equipment from Towmaster, LLC of Litchfield, MN, in accordance with the State of Minnesota Contract S-863(5) pricing, inclusive of additional fees and taxes, for a total cost of \$1,953,986.00. [24-96]. The motion passed. (6-0, Grimm absent)

Musolf/Jugovich moved that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the purchase of six (6) heavy equipment trailers from McCoy Construction and Forestry, of Duluth, MN, inclusive of additional fees and taxes, for a total cost of \$245,383.00. [24-97]. The motion passed. (6-0, Grimm absent)

Musolf/Harala moved that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the purchase of ten (10) 2025 Mack Granite tandem trucks (64FR) from Nuss Truck & Equipment, Inc. of Roseville, MN, in accordance with State of Minnesota Contract T-647(5) pricing, inclusive of additional fees and taxes, for a total of \$1,646,737.00. [24-98]. The motion passed. (6-0, Grimm absent)

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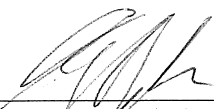
## **COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Commissioner McDonald commented that he and Commissioners Harala and Grimm, and Administrator Gray were at the Capitol last week and testified before the Property Tax Committee. Commissioner McDonald noted that Duluth/St. Louis County Days are taking place on March 6<sup>th</sup> and March 7<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Boyle commented that he will be writing a letter next week in support of efforts to unionize by the Advanced Practice Providers (APP) of Essentia Health.

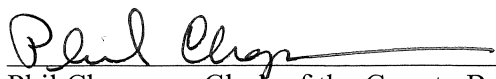
Chair Nelson commented that the county had received a written response from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) regarding the hauling of solid waste from the old Gilbert dump to the Keewatin Industrial landfill; however, they still did not receive answers. Chair Nelson commented that he spent yesterday with legislatures working on the Northern Light Express (NLX) project and noted that the federal application deadline is early October.

At 10:52 a.m., Harala/McDonald moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. (6-0, Grimm absent)



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Keith Nelson, Chair of the County Board



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Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board