

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

January 2, 2024

Location: St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth, Minnesota

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

Absent: None

Convened: Chair Boyle called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

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## CONSENT AGENDA

Boyle/Musolf moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed. (7-0)

- Minutes of December 19, 2023
- Authorization to Apply for the Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant [24-02]
- Cooperative Agreement with the City of Cook for the Reconstruction of CSAH 25 (Vermilion Drive) & Adjacent City Streets [24-03]
- Revocation of Parts of County Road 763 (Wilpen Trail) and Reversion to the City of Hibbing [24-04]
- Acquisition of Right of Way for a Highway Drainage Project on County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 49 (Three Lakes Road) in Northland Township and Unorganized Township (53-16); CP 0049-796818 [24-05]
- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Procedures [24-06]
- Sealed Bid Timber Auction – First Quarter 2024 [24-07]

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## Public Works & Transportation Committee

Musolf/Harala moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., Angora, MN, in the amount of \$262,241.75 for project CP 0187-555605, SAP 069-598-077 (Br 204), Construction and Approaches Project located on CR 187 between Hwy 73 and CR 5161 in Cedar Valley. [24-08]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Musolf/Harala moved that the St. Louis County Board does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund for the construction of State Bridge 69L20 (County Bridge 204), further identified as CP 0187-555605, SAP 069-598- 077 consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 174.50, and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate and will return to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund any amount appropriated for the project but not required. The proper County officials are authorized to execute a grant agreement and any amendments thereto with the Commissioner of Transportation concerning the above-referenced grant. The project will be funded by a combination of LBRP Funds (2023 LBRP Funds – SAAS Acct 377, \$167,991.65) and local funds (\$94,250.10). LBRP funds received for this project will be receipted into Fund 220, Agency 220763, Object 530401. [24-09]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Musolf/Boyle moved to award a bid to TNT Construction Group, LLC., Grand Rapids, MN, in the amount of \$1,178,800 for project (CP 0016-555210, SAP 069-616-059 (Br 437) (Low); CP 0592-555606, SAP 069-598-076 (Br 603) (Tied)), Construction and Approaches Project located on CSAH 16 between CR 313 and TWP 6801; and CR 592 between CR 453 and CSAH 25. [24-10]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Musolf/McDonald moved to award a bid to Rachel Contracting, LLC., St. Michael, MN, in the amount of \$285,353.70 for project (CP 0000-692697, SAP 069-600-052), Grading, Aggregate Surfacing, and Pipe Culverts, located on Bayside Drive from County Road (CR) 425 to the MN DNR Boat Launch Access. [24-11]. The motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Nelson moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., Angora, MN, in the amount of \$4,384,770.20 for project (CP 0078-685127 (Low); CP 0540-558221 (Tied); CP 0910-685125 (Tied)), Reconstruction and Reclaim & Overlay, located on CSAH 78 from CSAH 24 to CSAH 115 and CR 540 from US Hwy 53 to CR 910 between CR 910 (Beatty Rd) and CSAH 24. [24-12]. The motion passed. (7-0)

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### **Finance & Budget Committee**

McDonald/Nelson moved to award a bid to Hawkinson Construction Co., Inc., Grand Rapids, MN, in the amount of \$3,045,666.66 for project (CP 0077-669551, SAP 069-677-011 (Low); CP 0115-669552, SAP 069-715-010 (Tied)), Reclaim & Overlay located on CSAH 77 between TH 1/169 and CSAH 115; and CSAH 115 between 0.1 Mi. E. of CR 418 and CSAH 77. [24-13]. The Committee recessed at 11:50 a.m.; at 12:35 p.m. the Committee reconvened with all members present. Commissioner Grimm questioned the use of ARPA dollars for the project. Administrator Gray commented that by using ARPA funds efficiencies can be realized and the project can be expedited. Commissioner Grimm said she would be voting against the project because it is not in line with what voters are asking. Commissioner Boyle asked if Director Foldesi could give the Board an update regarding project costs and savings. After further discussion, the motion passed. (6-1, Grimm nay)

McDonald/Nelson moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., Angora, MN, in the amount of \$4,816,754.58 for project (CP 0115-439125, SP 069-715-009, STBG 6924(086)), bituminous pavement reclamation, bituminous paving, aggregate surfacing, base stabilization, located on CSAH 115 between US Hwy 53 and CR 418. [24-14]. The motion passed. (6-1, Grimm nay)

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### **Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee**

McDonald/Jugovich moved that the County Board establishes an Absentee Ballot Board that shall consist of a sufficient number of Election Judges and may include Deputy Auditors to perform the duties required in Minn. Stat. § 203B. The County Board appoints the Absentee Ballot Board judges, for the 2024 election cycle at a rate of \$13.50 per hour with funding available from Auditor/Elections, Fund 100, Agency 127001, Objects 635300. The County Auditor and/or Clerk of the County Board may make election judge appointments to fill vacancies should they occur. [24-15]. The motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Harala moved that the St. Louis County Board appoints the following At-Large Housing Professional member and alternate member to the NE MN HOME Consortium Advisory Committee for terms ending December 31, 2026: At-Large Housing Professional – Member: ;At-Large Housing Professional – Alternate: . [24-16]. The motion passed. (7-0)

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## COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Musolf thanked outgoing Chair Boyle for his leadership during 2023 and commented that he was looking forward to the leadership of Chair Nelson in 2024.

Commissioner Jugovich thanked Commissioner Boyle for being Chair in 2023 and encouraged people to stay off the lakes until they freeze.

At 12:51 p.m., Chair Nelson adjourned the meeting.



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~~Keith Nelson~~, Chair of the County Board

*Anne Haral*



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Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board