

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 25, 2021

Location: Grand Lake Town Hall, Saginaw, Minnesota

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

Absent: None

Convened: Chair Jugovich called the meeting to order at 10:27 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Minutes of May 11, 2021
- Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation to Accept LBRP Grant Funds and Authorize Reimbursements for County Bridge 159 Reconstruction Project [21-224]
- Acquisition of Right of Way - Replacement of County Bridge 631 over the Sturgeon River (Unorganized Township 60-20) [21-225]
- Acquisition of Right of Way - Replacement of County Bridge 136 over the Prairie River (Fine Lakes Township) [21-226]
- Premise Permit Application for Lawful Gambling (Unorganized Township 60-18) [21-227]
- Abatement List for Board Approval [21-228]
- Dedication of Permanent Highway Easements over County Fee Owned Property [21-229]
- Reauthorize Funding for Dovetail Partners Inc. Contract [21-230]
- Agreement with Waste Wood Recyclers, LLC for Brush Grinding, Hauling and Disposal [21-231]
- Joint Powers Agreement between the State of Minnesota and St. Louis County [21-232]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – 116 Duluth LLC Non-Homestead [21-233]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Bagley (Homestead) [21-234]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Mortensen (Non-Homestead) [21-235]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Homer (Non-Homestead) [21-236]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Kamunen (Non-Homestead) [21-237]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – McArthur (Homestead) [21-238]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Moreland (Homestead) [21-239]
- Special Sale to the City of Duluth [21-240]

Public Works & Transportation Committee

Nelson/McDonald moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., Angora, MN, in the amount of \$293,799.00 for project CP 0734-432192 (Low Prime), Culvert Replacements located on County Road 734 between County Road 220 and Trunk Highway 53 and County Road 868 674' North of County State Aid Highway 8. [21-241.] The motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Jugovich moved to authorize the purchase of ten (10) 2021 Mack Granite tandem trucks from Twin Cities Mack and Volvo Trucks of Roseville, MN, for a total cost of \$1,354,572.00. Commissioner McDonald commented that the county has to pay 6.5% sales tax because these vehicles are not classified as emergency vehicles; he hopes the classification can be changed in the future. Commissioner Nelson stressed the importance of building storage facilities to protect the investment of county equipment. [21-242]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Finance & Budget Committee

Jugovich/Jewell moved that the St. Louis County Board approves a one-time grant contribution in the amount of \$60,000 to the Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community to support the Duluth Superior Film Festival and Northland Film Schools; and further, that if necessary, appropriate county officials are authorized to negotiate the terms and conditions and execute appropriate grant/funding agreement(s) with the Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community. [21-243]. Tony Cuneo, Executive Director of Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community, said that the classes and resources will help make county investments in the regional film economy more likely to succeed and will give voice to Northland communities' local stories. The program has been successfully piloted at the Discovery Center in Chisholm. Matt Koshmrl, Director of the Duluth Superior Film Festival, said that fifty people went through the program and have produced films that are festival-ready. Films shown at festivals will help local filmmakers connect with the global film community. After further discussion, the motion passed. (7-0)

Jugovich/Nelson moved that pursuant to the requirements and procedures of Minn. Stat. § 373.01 Subdivision 5(i), the Chair of the County Board and the County Auditor are authorized to execute and deliver a quit claim deed conveying the sale of unimproved non-conforming fee land, parcel code: 535-0010-04220, to Harvey A. Jarvis, Jr., and Bruce D. Jarvis, for the amount of \$1,080, payable to Fund 100, Agency 128014, Object 583202. The grantee(s) are also responsible for deed tax and recording fees. [21-244]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee

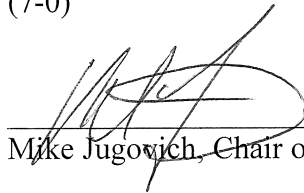
Jewell/Boyle moved that the St. Louis County Board approves the Internal Audit Analyst job classification, which is allocated to Grade B21: \$50,832 - \$70,644 (annual steps and longevities through twenty-four years of service – 2021 salary rates) and for the Internal Audit Analyst Senior job classification at Grade B23: \$54,636 - \$76,212 (annual steps and longevities through twenty-four years of service - 2021 salary rates) both in the Civil Service Basic Unit Pay Plan; and further, that the St. Louis County Board approves reallocation of a vacant 1.0 FTE Information Specialist II (position 0421-011) to the Internal Audit Analyst job classification series, payable from Fund 100, Agency 115011 in the Auditor's Office. St. Louis County Administrator Kevin Gray said that the reallocation will create two job classes and budget funding for the positions is available in the Auditor's Office. St. Louis County Auditor Nancy Nilsen commented that the Internal Audit position will allow the Senior Internal Auditor to focus on critical areas. Auditor Nilsen was hoping to make the change last year; however, the pandemic-related hiring freeze put the position on hold. [21-245]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Jewell/McDonald moved to reappoint John Klarich – Small Cities, Terry Samsa – Chisholm, Margaret Taylor – At Large, and Robert Wilmunen – Ely, as representatives to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Citizen Advisory Committee for terms ending April 30, 2024; and further, that the County Auditor advertise and accept applications through July 31, 2021, for one (1) vacant position on the CDBG Citizen Advisory Committee as an At Large representative with a term to expire April 30, 2024. [21-246]. The motion passed. (7-0)

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Nelson commented that mental health and drug abuse issues cause eight to ten times the number of deaths compared to individuals with weapons. Commissioner Nelson applauded the Board's efforts to focus on mental health and drug abuse issues.

At 11:01 a.m., Boyle/Jewell moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. The motion passed. (7-0)



Mike Jugovich, Chair of the County Board



Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board