

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 11, 2022

Location: Ely City Hall, Ely, Minnesota

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

Absent: None

Convened: Chair McDonald called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Minutes of October 4, 2022
- Abatement List for Board Approval [22-447]
- Cohesity Enterprise Backup Disk Infrastructure [22-448]
- Premise Permit Application for Lawful Gambling (Unorganized Township 56-17) [22-449]
- Advertisement to the Arrowhead Library System Board of Directors [22-450]

Time Specific Presentation

At 10:30 a.m., Ronald Hein gave the Committee an update regarding the hiring process for the St. Louis County Historical Society Executive Director position. Mr. Hein said the hiring committee received thirty applications and during the first round of interviews narrowed the finalists to six candidates. The committee is in the second phase of hiring to determine the top two or three candidates. Commissioners Jewell, Boyle, and Grimm all stressed the importance of the new director working closely with Depot Director Mary Tennis and said the St. Louis County Board should be part of the hiring process.

Finance & Budget Committee

Nelson/Jugovich moved that the St. Louis County Board authorize entering into a software and support subscription agreement with Arctic Wolf Networks for their real-time, uninterrupted monitoring, detection, analysis, and response services, with an estimated annual cost of \$239,580 utilizing Fund 100, Agency 117051, Object 634801, with funds transferred from the Information Technology assigned fund balance, Fund 100, Object 311139. [22-451]. St. Louis County Information Technology Director Jeremy Craker discussed the need for improved network security and said the county's network security has made incremental progress over the past eight years. However, there are security vulnerabilities that need to be addressed. Commissioner Nelson commented that the cost is high and requested a summary of how much the county has invested in security and asked what additional steps could be taken to improve security. After further discussion, the motion passed without recommendation. (7-0)

Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee

Jewell/Boyle moved that the St. Louis County Board reappoints Julie Waltenburg as an alternate member for a three-year term ending November 4, 2025, to the Civil Service Commission. [22-452]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Jugovich/McDonald moved that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate County officials to execute a contract with PRT USA, Inc., in the amount of \$245,235.60 for containerized tree seedlings for delivery in the spring of 2024, with up to four (4) optional one (1) year terms, provided the Contractor has satisfactorily performed the services determined solely by the County, and in accordance with the specifications of Bid No. 5851. [22-453]. The motion passed. (7-0)

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Jugovich noted that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and stressed the importance of early detection.

Commissioner Nelson commented that he was a panelist for 4-H discussion and thanked all who assisted him with questions.

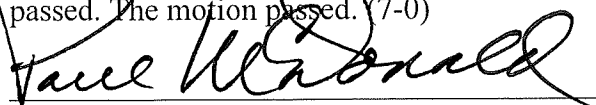
Commissioner Grimm said the Minnesota Nurses Association is still in contract negotiations and encouraged people to show solidarity for the nurses.

Administrator Kevin Gray recognized the hard work of Patrick Orent and the St. Louis County Assessor's Office for providing assistance through abatement recommendations for flood victims.

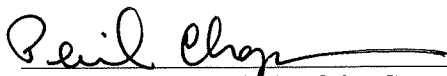
Chair McDonald said the Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board had a positive meeting with Congressman Pete Stauber regarding the importance and funding needs of the Ash River Sanitary Sewer project.

Commissioner Nelson said a lot of funding has come to St. Louis County due to the spectacular work of Commissioner Jewell on the Clean Water Council. Commissioner Jewell commented that there is an additional \$2 million of funding available for Voyageurs due to efforts of Senator Tom Bakk and others.

At 12:33 p.m., Grimm/Jugovich moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. The motion passed. The motion passed. (7-0)



Paul McDonald, Chair of the County Board



Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board