



**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA**  
**Board of Commissioners, St. Louis County, Minnesota**

**February 2, 2021**  
**Immediately following the Board Meeting, which begins at 9:30 A.M.**  
**Lake Superior Room, Government Services Center, Duluth, MN**

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***NOTE:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting is being conducted in accordance with Minnesota Statutes § 13D.021, which provides that members of the St. Louis County Board may attend the meeting by telephone or other electronic means. This statute also provides that, if telephone or other electronic means are used to conduct a meeting, to the extent practical, the county shall allow a person to monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. For information on how to view or participate in the County Board meeting, please visit the county website at [www.stlouiscountymn.gov](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov), scroll to the County Board Meeting section, and click on the meeting date.*

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

*All matters listed under the consent agenda are considered routine and/or non-controversial and will be enacted by one unanimous motion. If a commissioner requests, or a citizen wishes to speak on an item on the consent agenda, it will be removed and handled separately.*

**Minutes of January 26, 2021**

**Public Works & Transportation Committee, Commissioner McDonald, Chair**

1. Agreement with the City of Duluth for Construction of Various Projects in the Woodland Avenue/Glenwood Street Area [21-54]
2. Acquisition of Right of Way - Replacement of County Bridge 547 over Shannon River (Balkan Township) [21-55]
3. Acquisition of Right of Way - Replacement of County Bridge 416 over Water Hen Creek (Colvin Township) [21-56]
4. Acquisition of Right of Way - Replacement of County Bridge 777 over Pelican River (Leiding Township) [21-57]
5. Cooperative Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Wisconsin Central, Ltd. to Install Gates and Signals at Railroad Crossing DOT 251911V (Solway Township) [21-58]

**Finance & Budget Committee, Commissioner Nelson, Chair**

6. Request for St. Louis County to Act as Fiscal Agent for City of Brookston – LCCMR Grant [21-59]
7. Abatement List for Board Approval [21-60]

**Environment & Natural Resources Committee, Commissioner Musolf, Chair**

8. Right of Way Easement Across State Tax Forfeited Land to Big Bear Lake Company (Ault Twp 55-12) [21-61]
9. Right of Way and Utility Easement Across State Tax Forfeited Land to Gregory P. Bulinski (Morse Twp 62-13) [21-62]

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**REGULAR AGENDA:**

*For items on the Regular Agenda, citizens will be allowed to address the Board at the time a motion is on the floor.*

**Public Works & Transportation Committee, Commissioner McDonald, Chair**

**1. Sourcewell Purchase of One Hybrid Wheel Loader [21-63]**

Resolution authorizing the Sourcewell purchase of one John Deere Model 644LH Wheel Loader from McCoy Equipment of Duluth, Minnesota.

**Environment & Natural Resources Committee, Commissioner Musolf, Chair**

**1. Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid – 2021 Funding Recommendations [21-64]**

Resolution approving the 2021 Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid funding recommendations.

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**COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS:**

*Commissioners may introduce items for future discussion, or report on past and upcoming activities.*

**ADJOURNED:**

**NEXT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING DATES:**

**February 9, 2021                      Public Works, 7823 Hwy 135, Virginia, MN**

**February 23, 2021                  Public Works, 7823 Hwy 135, Virginia, MN**

**March 2, 2021                        Government Services Center, 320 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Duluth, MN**

**BARRIER FREE:** *All St. Louis County Board meetings are accessible to the handicapped. Attempts will be made to accommodate any other individual needs for special services. Please contact St. Louis County Administration (218-726-2450) early so necessary arrangements can be made.*

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

January 26, 2021

Location: St. Louis County Public Works Facility, Virginia, Minnesota

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

Absent: None

Convened: Chair Jugovich called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m.

Commissioners Frank Jewell, Patrick Boyle, and Ashley Grimm participated by WebEx.

At 10:34 a.m., the Committee convened in a closed session for the purpose of discussing the proposed settlement and litigation strategy relating to *King v. County of St. Louis*, Case No. 69DU-CV-17-529, in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, Subd. 3(b). At 12:05 p.m., the closed session concluded.

At 12:14 p.m., the Committee of the Whole meeting convened with all members present.

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## CONSENT AGENDA

Nelson/Jewell moved to approve the consent agenda. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed. (7-0)

- Minutes of January 12, 2021
- Acquisition of Right of Way - Replacement of County Bridge 473 over East Two River (Clinton Township) [21-31]
- Acquisition of Right of Way - Replacement of County Bridge 684 over an Unnamed Tributary to the Little Fork River (Linden Grove Township) [21-32]
- Resolutions of Support for Funding Applications to the 2020 Local Road Improvement Program Solicitation – Midway Township (CSAH 13) [21-33]
- Cooperative Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Wisconsin Central, Ltd. to Install Gates and Signals at Railroad Crossing DOT 260090S (Solway Township) [21-34]
- Cooperative Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Wisconsin Central, Ltd. to Install Gates and Signals at Railroad Crossing DOT 260092F (Solway Township and Grand Lake Township) [21-35]
- Grant Agreement with MnDOT to Accept LBRP Grant Funds for Bridge 285 Reconstruction Project [21-36]
- Premise Permit Application for Lawful Gambling (Unorganized Township 61-13) [21-37]
- Sale of Surplus Fee Land – That Part of the Easterly 500 Feet of SE ¼ of SW1/4 of Section 2, T56N, R18W (McDavitt Township) [21-38]
- Abatement List for Board Approval [21-39]
- 2021 Special Legislation for the Private Sale of State Tax Forfeited Lands [21-40]
- Contract with TNT Timber, White Pine Contracting, Inc. and Reliable Handyman Services, LLC for the U.S. Forest Service Britt and Ely Project Sites [21-41]

- Utility Easement Across State Tax Forfeited Land to MN Power (City of Hoyt Lakes 59-14) [21-42]
- Conveyance of State Tax Forfeited Land to City of Virginia [21-43]
- Sale and Disposal of Abandoned Personal Property [21-44]
- Public Sale of Shoreland Lease Lots [21-45]

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## **Public Works & Transportation Committee**

Jugovich/Nelson moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., Angora, MN, in the amount of \$2,222,690.15 for project CP 0131-469719 (Low), SAP 069-731-003; CP 0137-275617 (Tied), SAP 069-737-002; CP 0708-275608 (Tied), Bituminous Reclamation, located on CSAH 131 from TH 53 to CSAH 68 in the City of Mountain Iron, CSAH 137 from TH 37 to TH 169 in the City of Mountain Iron, and CR 708 from TH 169 to CR 661 in Great Scott Township. [21-46]. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Nelson moved to award a bid to Northland Constructors of Duluth, Inc., Duluth, MN, in the amount of \$854,000.00 for project CP 0059-366241; SAP 069-659-003, located on CSAH 59 0.2 miles North of CR 542 [21-47]. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Nelson moved to authorize the purchase of “Base One” material for the 2021 Capital Improvement Program from Team Lab Chemical Corporation of Detroit Lakes, MN, for \$247,500.00. [21-48]. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Jugovich moved to authorize the purchase order for the installation of ten (10) Dump Bodies with Hydraulic Systems and Snow Removal Equipment from Towmaster, Inc., of Litchfield, MN, for \$1,522,980.00. [21-49]. Commissioner Nelson asked that sales tax be broken out and requested that the resolution be moved without recommendation; Commissioners McDonald and Jugovich agreed with the request. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed without recommendation. (7-0)

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## **Finance & Budget Committee**

Nelson/Jugovich moved to authorize the IT Department to purchase two (2) Pure Storage Area Network devices including hardware, software, professional services, and maintenance from Insight Public Sector, Inc. under MN State Contract (Contract Number MNWNC-125//101417) for an estimated fee of \$276,607.44. [21-50]. Information Technology Director Jeremy Craker said that the new devices will have increased efficiency, which is required to support the number of GIS applications across the county. After further discussion, a roll call vote was taken; the motion passed. (7-0)

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## **Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee**

Jewell/Jugovich moved to appoint Garrison Hale to the Arrowhead Library System Board of Directors for a three (3) year term expiring on December 31, 2023. [20-51]. A roll call vote was taken; the amended motion passed. (7-0)

Jewell/Musolf moved to reappoint Doug Hoffbauer to the St. Louis County Cooperative Extension Committee for a three-year term ending December 31, 2023. [20-52]. A roll call vote was taken; the amended motion passed. (7-0)

Nelson/Jugovich moved that the St. Louis County Board opposes state or federal legislation which places a moratorium on issuing permits for nonferrous mining operations or withdrawal of lands from future exploration and potential development in Northeastern Minnesota; and that a copy of this resolution be sent to federal and state legislators to demonstrate the County Board's continued support of state and federal environmental review and permitting standards for the continued exploration and development of all ferrous and nonferrous mining operations in Minnesota. [20-53]. Commissioner Jewell discussed multiple resolutions of support that he felt the Board should consider in future meetings. Commissioner Grimm requested a point of order and asked if the resolutions Commissioner Jewell discussed were an amendment to the initial motion or future discussion items. Commissioner Jewell clarified that the resolutions of support were for future consideration over the next eleven months. Commissioner Jewell asked if there were citizens that would like to address the Board. Caleb Rouse-Zittler, of Babbitt, spoke in opposition of the resolution and stated that it would be irresponsible to harm the wilderness. Jessica Polachick, of Babbitt (currently residing in Pennsylvania), said that she opposes unsafe mining because of the lasting effects to the area. Ms. Polachick said that more than fifty-five science and economic studies document significant harm to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and the Superior National Forest if copper nickel mining were to occur in the headwaters of the Boundary Waters. Benjamin Stagg, of Duluth, spoke in opposition of copper nickel mining; by approving the resolution the county would send a message that it opposes "prove it first" mining. Levi Greg, of Duluth, spoke in opposition of the resolution and felt the resolution opposed "prove it first" mining. Josiah Robert, of Duluth, commented that he opposed the resolution and felt mining operations should be well vetted before opening to ensure operations are safe. Chair Jugovich commented that state legislation instituting a moratorium on nonferrous mining is important to the area, because approval of the legislation would effectively shut down the projects. Commissioner Nelson read portions of a resolution that the Board passed in 2011 in support of the existing open, transparent and comprehensive environmental review and permitting process for nonferrous mining in Northeastern Minnesota. Currently, a mine has made it through the permitting process and NEPA process; if state legislation were passed, it would be unfair that existing projects that have met requirements would pause. A Point of Personal Privilege was requested at 1:09 p.m. At 1:19 p.m., the Board reconvened with all members present. Commissioner Nelson encouraged the Board to review Senate File 59 and commented that once the permitting requirements have been met, the permit should be issued. Commissioner Grimm stated that it was concerning that copper nickel mining has never been done safely in the United States and commented on labor concerns relating to copper nickel mining. Commissioner Musolf commented that this legislation affects all communities, not just the Iron Range. Commissioner McDonald said that Minnesota has a science-based environmental review and permitting process and encouraged people to let the permitting process take place. After further discussion, a roll call vote was taken; the motion passed. (4-3 Jewell, Boyle, Grimm)

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## **COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Commissioner Nelson noted the recent passing of Carol Begich, wife of former State Representative Joe Begich. Commissioner Nelson commented that the Begich's were champions for the Iron Range.

Commissioner Jewell said that the list of resolutions he discussed earlier were important to the citizens of St. Louis County; he plans to bring the resolutions forward for Board consideration.

At 1:45 p.m., Musolf/Nelson moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed. (7-0)

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Mike Jugovich, Chair of the County Board

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Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board

# **BOARD LETTER NO. 21 – 54**

## **PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 1**

### **BOARD AGENDA NO.**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021

**RE:** Agreement with the City of Duluth  
for Construction of Various  
Projects in the Woodland Avenue/  
Glenwood Street Area

**FROM:** Kevin Z. Gray  
County Administrator

James T. Foldesi  
Public Works Director/Highway Engineer

#### **RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:**

To provide a safe, well maintained road and bridge system.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize an agreement with the City of Duluth for the construction of various projects in the Woodland Avenue / Glenwood Street area in 2022.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

There are several construction projects proposed to be wrapped into an agreement with the City of Duluth. Those projects include the following:

1. The St. Louis County Public Works Department and the City of Duluth have a joint project to construct a roundabout at the intersection of Glenwood Street/Snively Road/ Jean Duluth Road in 2022 known as (CP 0037-382899/SP 069-637-025/SP 118-162-016/SP 118-163-004).
2. The Public Works Department and the City of Duluth have a joint project to replace the traffic signals and perform intersection improvements at the intersection of Woodland Avenue/Arrowhead Road and Woodland Avenue/Snively Road in 2022 known as CP 0009- 382898/SP 069-609-047, CP 0037-466143/SP 069-637-026/SP 118-157-023.
3. The City of Duluth has a mill and overlay project on Arrowhead Road between Dodge Street and Woodland Avenue in 2022 known as CP 0000-464162/SP 118-160-024. This project will be bid and constructed with the roundabout and intersection improvement projects.

It is justified and mutually beneficial to construct these joint projects and to combine the County and Duluth projects to mutually benefit from economies of scale, mobilization, and contract administration and an agreement needs to be authorized to deliver the project to completion. The Duluth construction will be done under the above project by means of non-participating items in the construction plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended the St. Louis County Board authorize an agreement with the City of Duluth outlining responsibilities of both St. Louis County and the City of Duluth for the construction of the roundabout on Glenwood Street/Snively Road/Jean Duluth Road (CP 0037-382899/SP 069-637-025/SP 118-162-016/SP 118-163-004), intersection improvements at the intersection of Woodland Avenue and Arrowhead Road and Woodland Avenue and Snively Road CP 0009- 382898/SP 069-609-047, CP 0037-466143/SP 069-637-026/SP 118-157-023, and the mill and overlay of Arrowhead Road between Dodge Street and Woodland Avenue CP 0000-464162/SP 118-160-024. The funds from the City of Duluth will be receipted into:

**CP 0037-382899/SP 069-637-025/SP 118-162-016/SP 118-163-004,**  
Fund 220, Agency 220556, Object 551501;

**CP 0009- 382898/SP 069-609-047,**  
Fund 220, Agency 220590, Object 551501;

**CP 0037-466143/SP 069-637-026/SP 118-157-023,**  
Fund 220, Agency 220615, Object 551501;

**CP 0000-464162/SP 118-160-024,**  
Fund 220, Agency 220616, Object 551501.

**Agreement with the City of Duluth for Construction of Various Projects in the  
Woodland Avenue/Glenwood Road Area**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

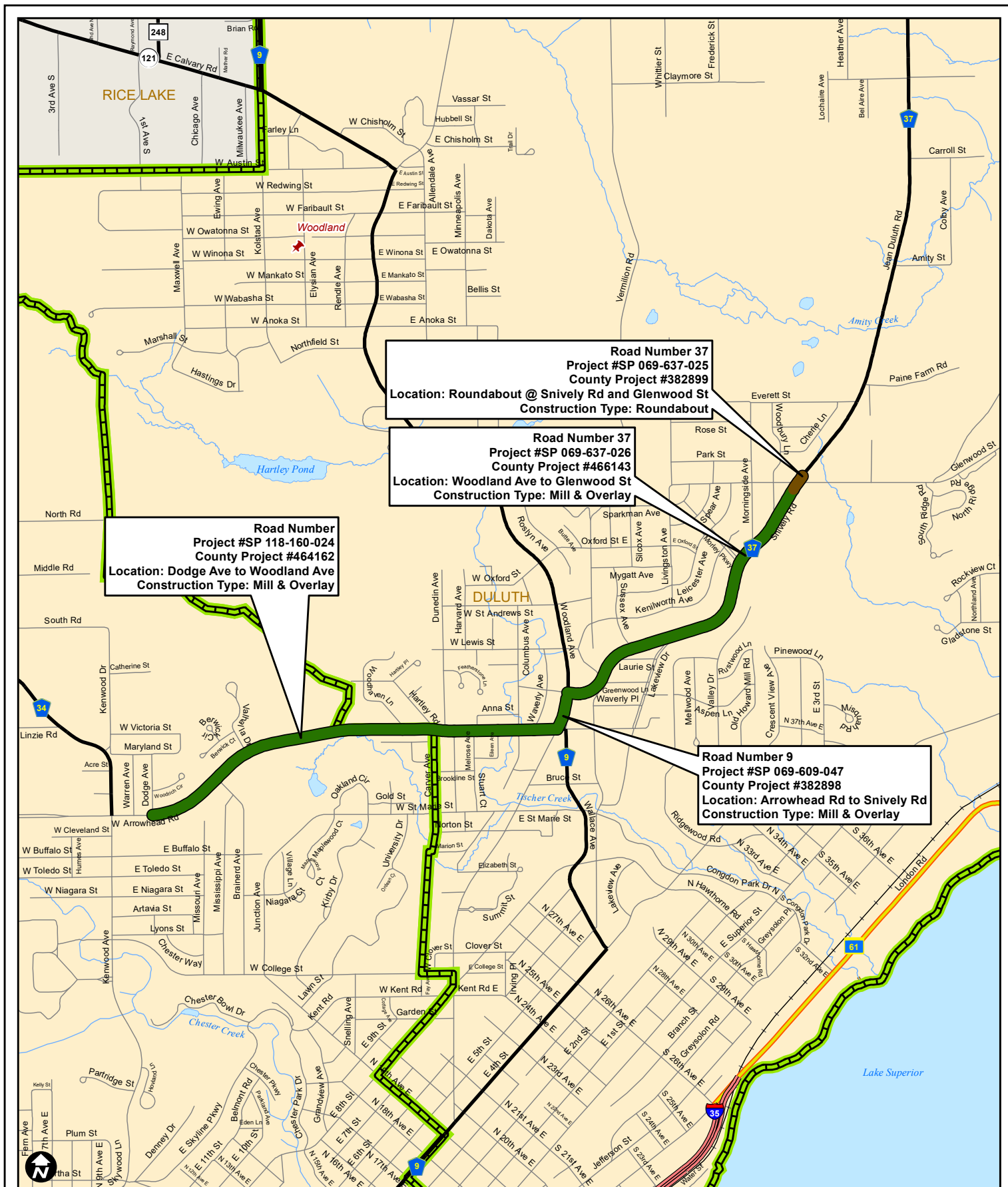
RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes an agreement, and any amendments approved by the County Attorney, with the City of Duluth for construction of the roundabout on Glenwood Street/Snively Road/Jean Duluth Road (CP 0037-382899/SP 069-637-025/SP 118-162-016/SP 118-163-004), intersection improvements at the intersection of Woodland Avenue/Arrowhead Road and Woodland Avenue/Snively Road CP 0009- 382898/SP 069-609-047, CP 0037-466143/SP 069-637-026/SP 118-157-023, and Arrowhead Road between Dodge Street and Woodland Avenue CP 0000-464162/SP 118-160-024, whereby the City of Duluth will pay the “City of Duluth Non-Participating” local share items listed in the plan. The funds from the City of Duluth will be receipted into:

CP 0037-382899/SP 069-637-025/SP 118-162-016/SP 118-163-004,  
Fund 220, Agency 220556, Object 551501;

CP 0009- 382898/SP 069-609-047,  
Fund 220, Agency 220590, Object 551501;

CP 0037-466143/SP 069-637-026/SP 118-157-023,  
Fund 220, Agency 220615, Object 551501;

CP 0000-464162/SP 118-160-024,  
Fund 220, Agency 220616, Object 551501.



# St. Louis County 2022 Road & Bridge Construction



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Mile

## Map Components

### 2022 Road & Bridge Construction

- Roundabout
- Mill & Overlay
- Interstate Highway
- U.S./State Highway

- County/Unorg. Twp. Road - Paved
- County/Unorg. Twp. Road - Gravel
- Local Road/City Street
- Railroad
- Commissioner District

- Township Boundary
- City/Town
- Lake
- River/Stream

# **BOARD LETTER NO. 21 – 55**

## **PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 2**

### **BOARD AGENDA NO.**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021                      **RE:** Acquisition of Right of Way -  
Replacement of County Bridge  
547 over Shannon River  
(Balkan Township)

**FROM:** Kevin Z. Gray  
County Administrator

James T. Foldesi  
Public Works Director/Highway Engineer

#### **RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:**

To provide a safe, well maintained road and bridge system.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize the acquisition of right of way for County Project (CP) 0084-368342, State Aid Project (SAP) 069-684-005.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The St. Louis County Public Works Department plans to reconstruct a short segment of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 84 and to replace the existing bridge (County Bridge 547, State Bridge L4173) over the Shannon River in Balkan Township. Additional right of way and/or temporary easements will be needed from adjacent private and State of Minnesota property. This project will affect one parcel of State of Minnesota Trust Land:

1. Government Lot 4, Section 6, Township 58 North, Range 20 West,  
EXCEPT Railroad Right of way of 1.33 acres and EXCEPT 0.25 acre for  
road. (parcel ID No. 235-0010-00950)

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize the acquisition of right of way necessary for the reconstruction of CSAH 84 and the replacement of County Bridge 547. Right of way acquisition is payable from Fund 200, Agency 203001.

**Acquisition of Right of Way - Replacement of County Bridge 547 over Shannon River (Balkan Township)**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Public Works Department plans to reconstruct a short segment of County State Aid Highway 84 (a.k.a. Highway 84) and to replace the existing bridge (County Bridge # 547, State Bridge # L4173) over the Shannon River in Balkan Township. (County Project (CP) 0084-368342, State Aid Project (SAP) 069-684-005); and

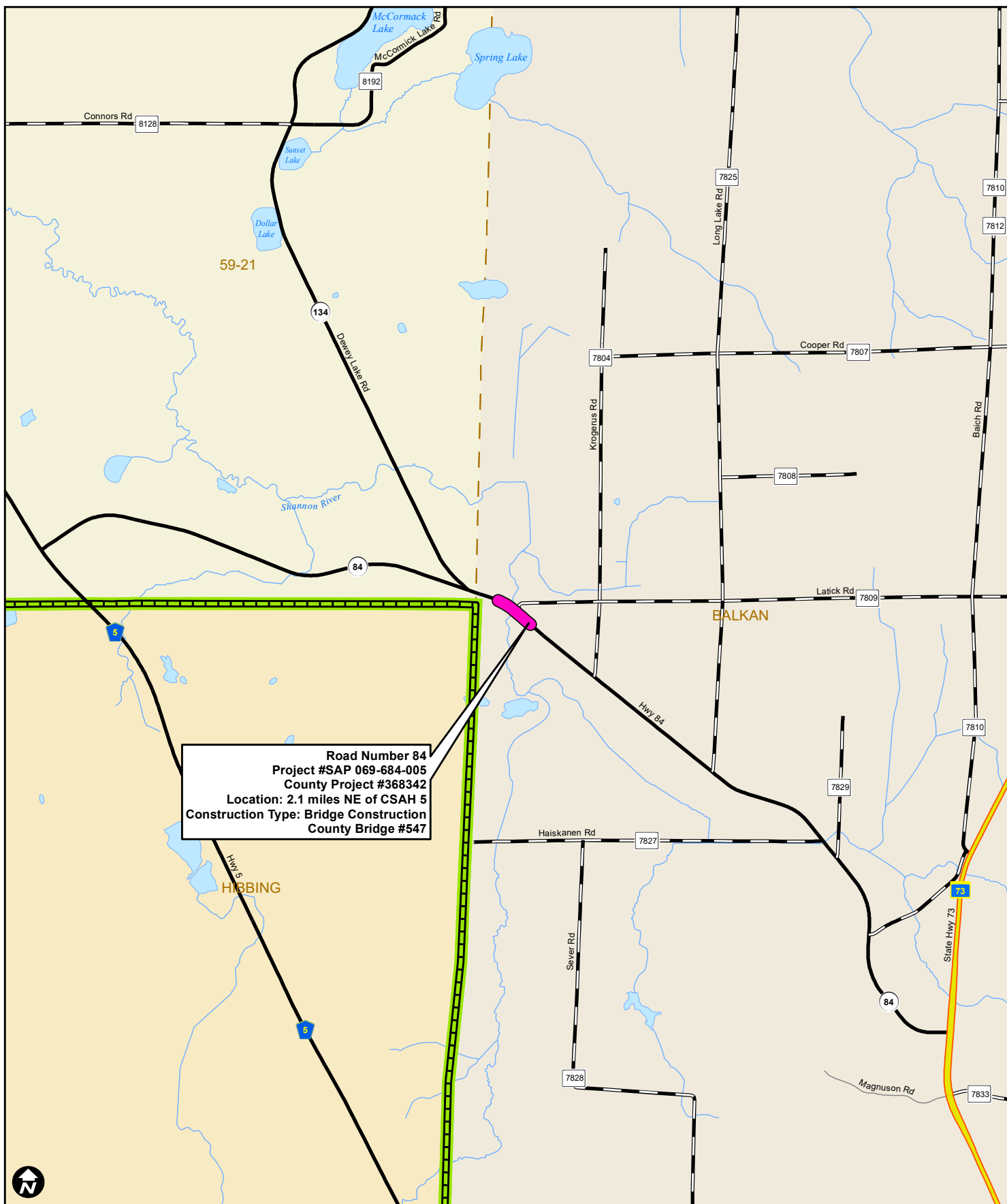
WHEREAS, These improvements consist of replacing the existing bridge with a new bridge at the same location and reconstructing the roadway as determined necessary to provide for the safety and convenience of the public; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the existing highway right of way, certain lands are required for this construction, together with temporary construction easements.

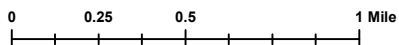
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the Public Works Director to proceed with the acquisition of the necessary lands and temporary easements for this project and to execute any easement documents on behalf of the county as may become necessary. Right of way acquisition is payable from Fund 200, Agency 203001.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is requested to provide St. Louis County with easement across the following State of Minnesota land located adjacent to the present course of County State Aid Highway 84 in Balkan Township:

1. Government Lot 4, Section 6, Township 58 North, Range 20 West, EXCEPT Railroad Right of way of 1.33 acres and EXCEPT 0.25 acre for road. Parcel ID No. 235-0010-00950)



St. Louis County 2022 Road & Bridge Construction



**Map Components**

**2022 Road & Bridge Construction**

- Bridge Construction
- Interstate Highway
- U.S./State Highway

- County/Twp. Road - Paved
- County/Twp. Road - Gravel
- Local Road/City Street
- +

 Railroad
- Commissioner District

- Township Boundary
- City/Town
- Lake
- River/Stream

# **BOARD LETTER NO. 21 – 56**

## **PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 3**

### **BOARD AGENDA NO.**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021                      **RE:** Acquisition of Right of Way -  
Replacement of County Bridge  
416 over Water Hen Creek  
(Colvin Township)

**FROM:** Kevin Z. Gray  
County Administrator

James T. Foldesi  
Public Works Director/Highway Engineer

#### **RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:**

To provide a safe, well maintained road and bridge system.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize the acquisition of right of way for County Project (CP) 0632-368348.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The St. Louis County Public Works Department plans to reconstruct a short segment of County Road (CR) 632 (Wilson Road) and to replace the existing bridge (County Bridge 416, State Bridge 93275) over Water Hen Creek in Colvin Township. Additional right of way and/or temporary easements will be needed from adjacent parcels of private property.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize the acquisition of right of way necessary for the reconstruction of CR 632 and the replacement of County Bridge 416. Right of way acquisition is payable from Fund 200, Agency 203001.

**Acquisition of Right of Way - Replacement of County Bridge 416 over Water Hen Creek (Colvin Township)**

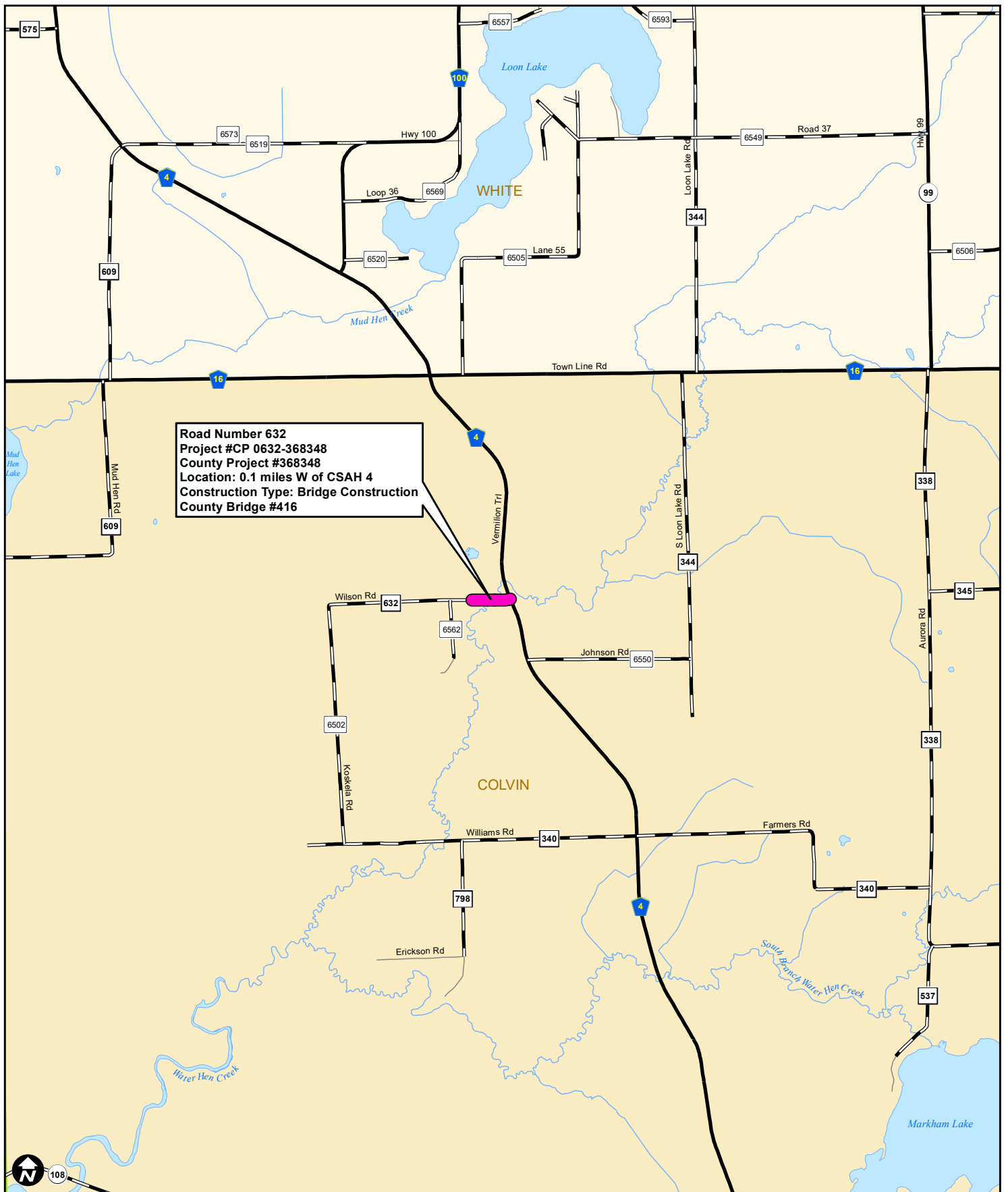
BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Public Works Department plans to reconstruct a short segment of County Road 632 (Wilson Road) and to replace the existing bridge (County Bridge 416, State Bridge 93275) over Water Hen Creek in Colvin Township (County Project 0632-368348); and

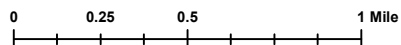
WHEREAS, These improvements consist of replacing the existing bridge with a new bridge at the same location and reconstructing the roadway as determined necessary to provide for the safety and convenience of the public; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the existing highway right of way, certain lands are required for this construction, together with temporary construction easements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the Public Works Director to proceed with the acquisition of the necessary lands and temporary easements for this project and to execute, on behalf of the county, any easement documents as may become necessary. Right of way acquisition is payable from Fund 200, Agency 203001.



# St. Louis County 2022 Road & Bridge Construction



## Map Components

### 2022 Road & Bridge Construction

- Bridge Construction
- Interstate Highway
- U.S./State Highway

- County/Twp. Road - Paved
- County/Twp. Road - Gravel
- Local Road/City Street
- Railroad
- Commissioner District

- Township Boundary
- City/Town
- Lake
- River/Stream

# **BOARD LETTER NO. 21 – 57**

## **PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 4**

### **BOARD AGENDA NO.**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021

**RE:** Acquisition of Right of Way -  
Replacement of County Bridge  
777 over Pelican River (Leiding  
Township)

**FROM:** Kevin Z. Gray  
County Administrator

James T. Foldesi  
Public Works Director/Highway Engineer

#### **RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:**

To provide a safe, well maintained road and bridge system.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize the acquisition of right of way for County Project (CP) 7992-398713, State Aid Project (SAP) 069-599-049.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The St. Louis County Public Works Department plans to reconstruct a short segment of Leiding Township Road 7992 (Johnson Road) and to replace the existing bridge (County Bridge 777, State Bridge L9571) over the Pelican River in Leiding Township. Additional right of way and/or temporary easements will be needed from adjacent parcels of private property.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize the acquisition of right of way necessary for the reconstruction of Leiding Township Road 7992 and the replacement of County Bridge 777. Right of way acquisition is payable from Fund 200, Agency 203001.

**Acquisition of Right of Way - Replacement of County Bridge 777 over Pelican River (Leiding Township)**

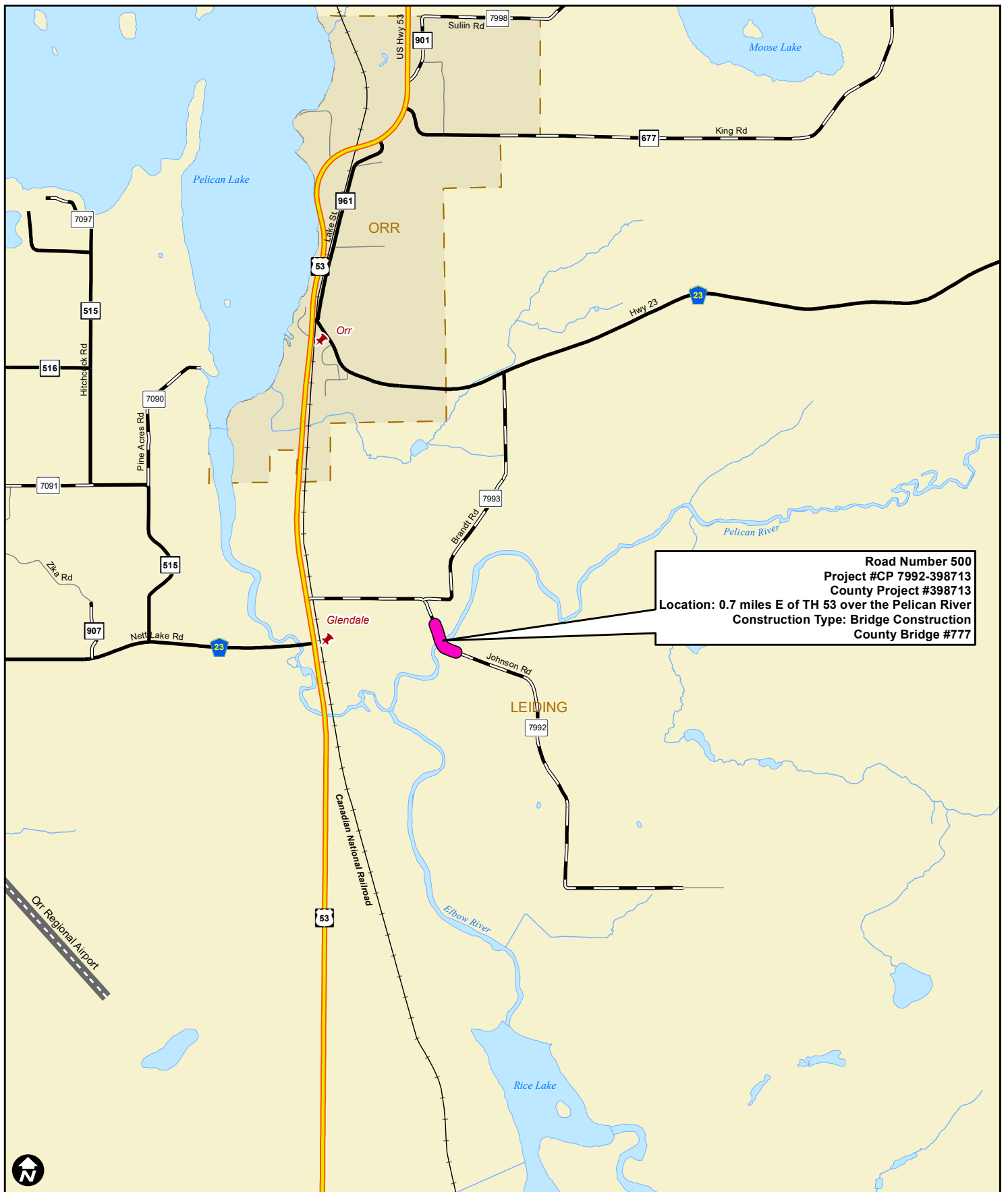
BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Public Works Department plans to reconstruct a short segment of Leiding Township Road 7992 (Johnson Road) and to replace the existing bridge (County Bridge 777, State Bridge L9571) over the Pelican River in Leiding Township (County Project 7992-398713, State Aid Project 069-599-049); and

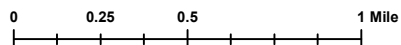
WHEREAS, These improvements consist of replacing the existing bridge with a new bridge at the same location and reconstructing the roadway as determined necessary to provide for the safety and convenience of the public; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the existing highway right of way, certain lands are required for this construction, together with temporary construction easements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the Public Works Director to proceed with the acquisition of the necessary lands and temporary easements for this project and to execute, on behalf of the county, any easement documents as may become necessary. Right of way acquisition is payable from Fund 200, Agency 203001.



# St. Louis County 2022 Road & Bridge Construction



## Map Components

### 2022 Road & Bridge Construction

- Bridge Construction
- Interstate Highway
- U.S./State Highway

- County/Twp. Road - Paved
- County/Twp. Road - Gravel
- Local Road/City Street
- Railroad
- Commissioner District

- Township Boundary
- City/Town
- Lake
- River/Stream

# **BOARD LETTER NO. 21 – 58**

## **PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 5**

### **BOARD AGENDA NO.**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021

**RE:** Cooperative Agreement with  
the Minnesota Department of  
Transportation and Wisconsin  
Central, Ltd. to Install Gates  
and Signals at Railroad  
Crossing DOT 251911V  
(Solway Township)

**FROM:** Kevin Z. Gray  
County Administrator

James T. Foldesi  
Public Works Director/Highway Engineer

#### **RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:**

To provide a safe, well maintained road and bridge system.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize a cooperative agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) and Wisconsin Central, Ltd. to install gates and signals at the railroad crossing DOT 251911V located on County Road (CR) 880 (Leiste Road) in Solway Township. This project is further identified as SP 069-00206, CP 0880-457961.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The MnDOT administers the Highway Grade Crossing Safety Improvement Program which provides funding to improve the safety of at-grade railroad crossings. MnDOT provides an annual solicitation for local agencies and railroad companies to submit funding requests to this program. The Public Works Department submitted a request in 2018 for railroad crossing DOT 251911V to install gates and signals. This railroad crossing is currently controlled by STOP signs. MnDOT awarded funding to this requested project for the year 2021.

The total estimated cost of this project is \$496,890.00. The Federal share of this project is 90 percent or \$447,201.00. The local share (St. Louis County local funds) of this project is 10 percent or \$49,689.00. The project is managed by MnDOT and the actual work is performed by the railroad company (Wisconsin Central, Ltd.).

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize a cooperative agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Wisconsin Central, Ltd. to install gates and signals at the railroad crossing DOT 251911V located on CR 880 (Leiste Road) in Solway Township. County funds are payable from Fund 200, Agency 203607, Object 652800.

**Cooperative Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and  
Wisconsin Central, Ltd. to Install Gates and Signals at Railroad Crossing DOT  
251911V (Solway Township)**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Transportation administers the Highway Grade Crossing Safety Improvement Program which provides funding to improve the safety of at-grade railroad crossings; and

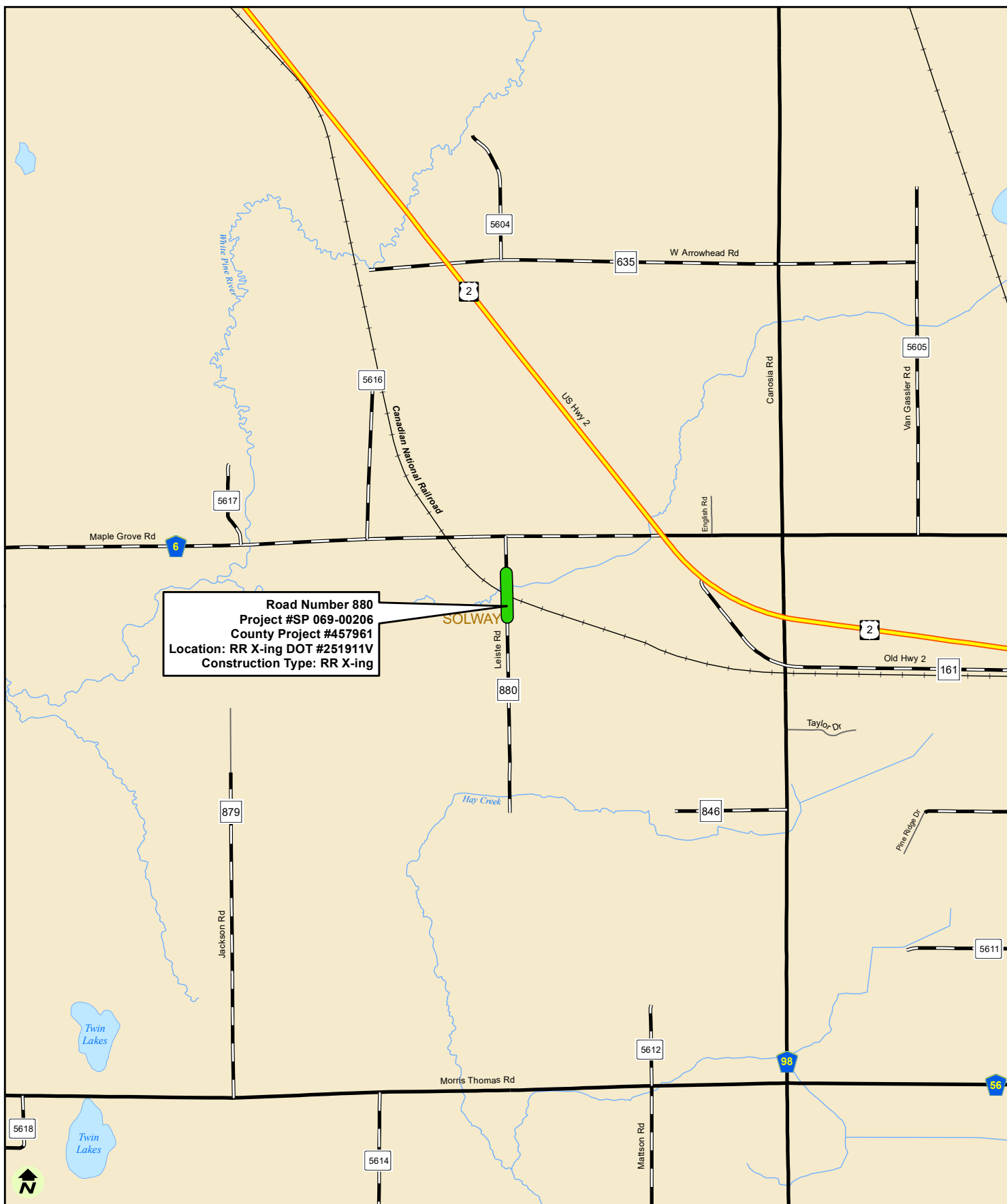
WHEREAS, St. Louis County was awarded funding from this program to install gates and signals at the railroad crossing DOT 251911V located on CR 880 (Leiste Road) in Solway Township; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Transportation will manage the project and the actual work will be performed by the railroad company.

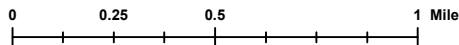
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That St. Louis County (Local Agency) enter into an agreement with the Wisconsin Central, Ltd. (Company) and the Commissioner of Transportation (State) for the installation and maintenance of railroad crossing signals at the intersection of CR 880 (Leiste Road) with the tracks of the Company in Solway Township, St. Louis County, MN and appointing the Commissioner of Transportation (State) agent for the Local Agency to supervise said project and administer available Federal Funds in accordance with Minn. Stat. §161.36. The Local Agency's share of the cost shall be 10% of the total signal cost.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the County Board Chair, Public Works Director and the Assistant County Attorney are hereby authorized to execute said agreement and any amendments thereto for and on behalf of the Local Agency.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That County funds are payable from Fund 200, Agency 203607, Object 652800.



**St. Louis County 2021 Road & Bridge Construction**



**Map Components**

**2021 Road & Bridge Construction**

- RR X-ing Improvement
- Interstate Highway
- U.S./State Highway

- County Road - Paved
- County Road - Gravel
- Local Road/City Street
- Railroad
- Commissioner District

- Township Boundary
- City/Town
- Lake
- River/Stream

# **BOARD LETTER NO. 21 - 59**

## **FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 6**

### **BOARD AGENDA NO.**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021

**RE:** Request for St. Louis County to  
Act as Fiscal Agent for City of  
Brookston – LCCMR Grant

**FROM:** Kevin Z. Gray  
County Administrator

**Cristen Christensen**  
Finance Director

#### **RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:**

To provide effective, efficient finance and accounting services.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize an agreement with the City of Brookston to act as its fiscal agent for its 2021 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) grant.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Brookston recently applied to the State of Minnesota for an LCCMR grant and has received support and a recommendation approving the application as part of the current legislative session. The City is expected to be awarded \$425,000 for a campground, boat launch, and recreation area on the bank of the St. Louis River. The grant approval is contingent on the City finding a fiscal agent for the project.

The City of Brookston has approached St. Louis County and is requesting the County to act as the fiscal agent for the City of Brookston for the 2021 LCCMR grant. The LCCMR grants are reimbursement based and the City of Brookston does not have the financial resources to front the cash or the staff to handle the purchasing and accounting functions associated with this grant.

The Finance Director and Deputy Administrator have reviewed the request. Entering this agreement will result in an increased workload for both staff in the Auditors Finance Office as well as the Purchasing Department. In order for the County's costs to be eligible for reimbursement under this grant the County must time record and bill the City of Brookston for our actual costs. Once this grant is approved the County will begin to

bill the City of Brookston monthly for the costs associated with this grant. The City will then need to approve the expenditure for it to become an eligible reimbursement under this grant.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended the St. Louis County Board authorize the St. Louis County Auditor and the Purchasing Department to enter into an agreement with the City of Brookston in order for St. Louis County to act as fiscal agent for the City of Brookston's 2021 LCCMR grant.

**Request for St. Louis County to Act as Fiscal Agent for the City of Brookston's  
2021 LCCMR Grant**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The City of Brookston applied for a Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) grant; and

WHEREAS, The proposed campground, boat launch and outdoor recreation project has been recommended for funding in the amount of \$425,000 contingent upon the City finding a fiscal agent for the project; and

WHEREAS, The LCCMR grants are reimbursement based and the City of Brookston did not have the financial resources to front the cash or the staff to handle the purchasing and accounting functions required of this grant; and

WHEREAS, The City of Brookston has approached St. Louis County and is requesting the County to act as the fiscal agent for the City of Brookston for the 2021 LCCMR grant; and

WHEREAS, The Finance Director and Deputy Administrator have reviewed the request and this agreement will increase the workload for both staff in the Auditors Finance Office as well as the Purchasing Department; and

WHEREAS, In order for the County's costs to be eligible for reimbursement under this grant the County must time record and bill the City of Brookston for our actual costs; and

WHEREAS, Once this grant is approved the County will begin to bill the City of Brookston monthly for the costs associated with this grant and the City will then need to approve the expenditure for it to become an eligible reimbursement under this grant;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize the St. Louis County Auditor and the Purchasing Department to enter into an agreement with the City of Brookston in order for St. Louis County to act as fiscal agent for the City of Brookston's 2021 LCCMR grant.

# **BOARD LETTER NO. 21 - 60**

## **FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 7**

### **BOARD AGENDA NO.**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021

**RE:** Abatement List for Board  
Approval

**FROM:** Kevin Z. Gray  
County Administrator

Mary Garness, Director  
Public Records & Property Valuation

David L. Sipila  
County Assessor

#### **RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:**

The County Assessor will meet all state mandates for classifying and valuing taxable parcels for property tax purposes as outlined in Minn. Stat. § 270 through 273.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

The St. Louis County Board is requested to approve the attached abatements.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The intent of abatements is to provide equitable treatment to individual taxpayers while at the same time exercising prudence with the tax monies due to the taxing authorities within St. Louis County. Abatements are processed in conformance with St. Louis County Board Resolution No. 16-82, dated January 26, 2016, outlining the Board's policy on abatement of ad valorem taxes. This Policy provides direction for the abatement of: 1) Current year taxes; 2) Current year penalty and costs; 3) Past year taxes; and 4) Past year penalty, interest, and costs.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board approve the attached list of applications for abatement.

## **Abatement List for Board Approval**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the applications for abatement, correction of assessed valuations and taxes plus penalty and interest, and any additional accrual, identified in County Board File No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Abatements Submitted for Approval by the St. Louis County Board  
on 2/9/2021

<u>PARCEL CODE</u>			<u>AUD NBR</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>APPRAISER</u>	<u>REASON</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>REDUCTION</u>
90	110	650	0	370	COUNTY AUDITOR	R	Virginia	County Auditor	CANCEL FORFEITURE	2020

# **BOARD LETTER NO. 21 – 61**

## **ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 8**

### **BOARD AGENDA NO.**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021      **RE:** Right of Way Easement Across  
State Tax Forfeited Land to Big  
Bear Lake Company (Ault Twp  
55-12)

**FROM:** Kevin Z. Gray  
County Administrator

Jason Meyer, Deputy Director  
Land and Minerals

Nancy J. Nilsen  
County Auditor/Treasurer

#### **RELATED DEPARTMENTAL GOAL:**

To perform public services.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize a non-exclusive right of way easement across state tax forfeited land in Ault Township (55-12).

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Big Bear Lake Company is requesting a 33-foot wide right of way easement across two state tax forfeited parcels to access private land in Ault Township. Acres encumbered by the easement in the SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 30, Township 55 North, Range 12 West is 1.33 acres. Acres encumbered by the easement in the NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 31, Township 55 North, Range 12 West is .19 acres. There are no reasonable alternatives to obtain access to the properties and exercising the easement will not cause significant adverse environmental or natural resource management impacts.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board approve the granting of a non-exclusive right of way easement to Big Bear Lake Company, for the amount of \$1,523 land use fee, \$150 administration fee, plus \$96 recording fee, for a total of \$1,769 to be deposited into Fund 240 (Forfeited Tax Fund).

**Right of Way Easement Across State Tax Forfeited Land  
to Big Bear Lake Company  
(Ault Twp 55-12)**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, Big Bear Lake Company has requested a 33-foot wide non-exclusive right of way easement across state tax forfeited land to access private property; and

WHEREAS, Acres encumbered by the easement in the SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 30, Township 55 North, Range 12 West is 1.33 acres. Acres encumbered by the easement in the NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 31, Township 55 North, Range 12 West is .19 acres; and

WHEREAS, There are no reasonable alternatives to obtain access to the property and exercising the easement will not cause significant adverse environmental or natural resource management impacts; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.04, Subd. 4a authorizes the St. Louis County Auditor to grant easements across state tax forfeited land for such purposes;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the St. Louis County Auditor to grant a non-exclusive right of way easement to Big Bear Lake Company across state tax forfeited lands as described in County Board File No.\_\_\_\_\_.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the granting of this easement is conditioned upon payment of \$1,523 land use fee, \$150 administration fee, plus \$96 recording fee, for a total of \$1,769 to be deposited into Fund 240 (Forfeited Tax Fund).

**Right of Way Easement Across State Tax Forfeited Land  
to Big Bear Lake Company  
(Ault Twp 55-12)**

A 33.00 foot wide easement for ingress and egress purposes lying, over under and across that part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter and the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 30, Township 55 North, Range 12 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, St. Louis County, Minnesota, the center line of said easement is described as follows:

Commencing at the Southeast corner of said Section 30; thence on an assumed bearing of South 89 degrees 04 minutes 14 seconds West, along the South line of the Southeast Quarter said Section 30 for a distance of 2638.71 feet to the South quarter corner of said Section 30; thence North 01 degrees 41 minutes 25 seconds West, along the West line of said Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter for a distance of 03.54 feet to the point of beginning of the center line herein described; thence North 39 degrees 00 minutes 36 seconds East 162.75 feet; thence North 76 degrees 58 minutes 42 seconds East 271.59 feet; thence North 71 degrees 24 minutes 47 seconds East 206.69 feet; thence North 00 degrees 09 minutes 53 seconds West 379.19 feet; thence North 69 degrees 21 minutes 22 seconds West 74.23 feet; thence North 57 degrees 55 minutes 11 seconds West 146.76 feet; thence North 47 degrees 03 minutes 31 seconds West 205.15 feet; thence North 52 degrees 24 minutes 08 seconds West 314.79 feet to the West line of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 30 and there terminating.

The side lines of said easement shall be prolonged or shortened to terminate on the West line of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter and on the West line of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 30.

Said easement contains 58,118 square feet or 1.33 acres.

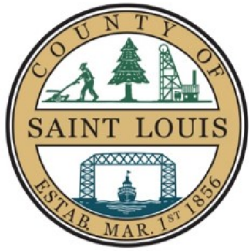
AND

A 33.00 foot wide easement for ingress and egress purposes lying over, under and across that part of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 31, Township 55 North, Range 12 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, St. Louis County, Minnesota, the center line of said easement is described as follows:

Commencing at the Northeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter; thence on an assumed bearing of South 89 degrees 16 minutes 39 seconds West, along the North line of said Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter 959.35 feet to the point of beginning of the center line herein described; thence South 44 degrees 43 minutes 10 seconds West 249.39 feet to the West line of said Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter and there terminating.

The side lines of said easement are to be prolonged or shortened to terminate on the North and West lines of said Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter.

Said easement contains 8,230 square feet or 0.19 acres.

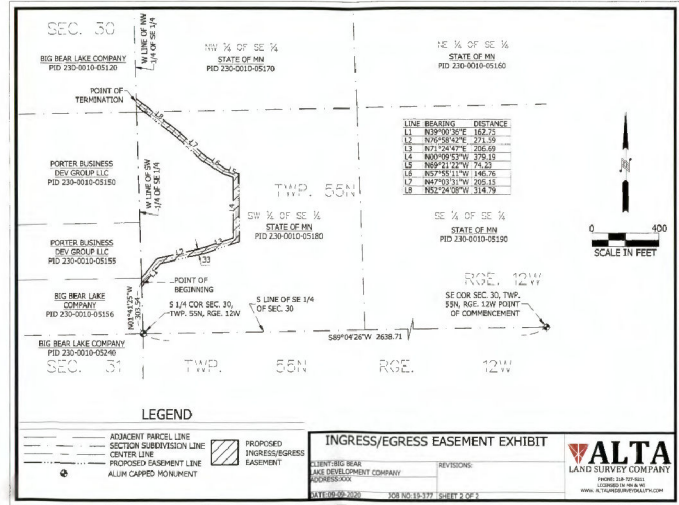
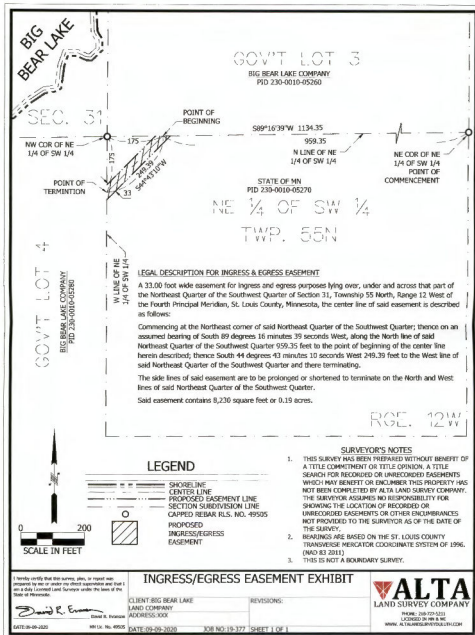


# LAND & MINERALS

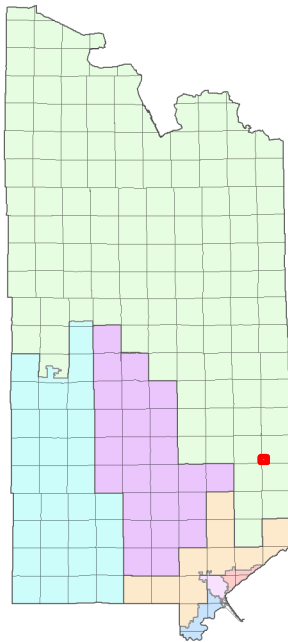
## ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MN

### Tax Forfeited Easement

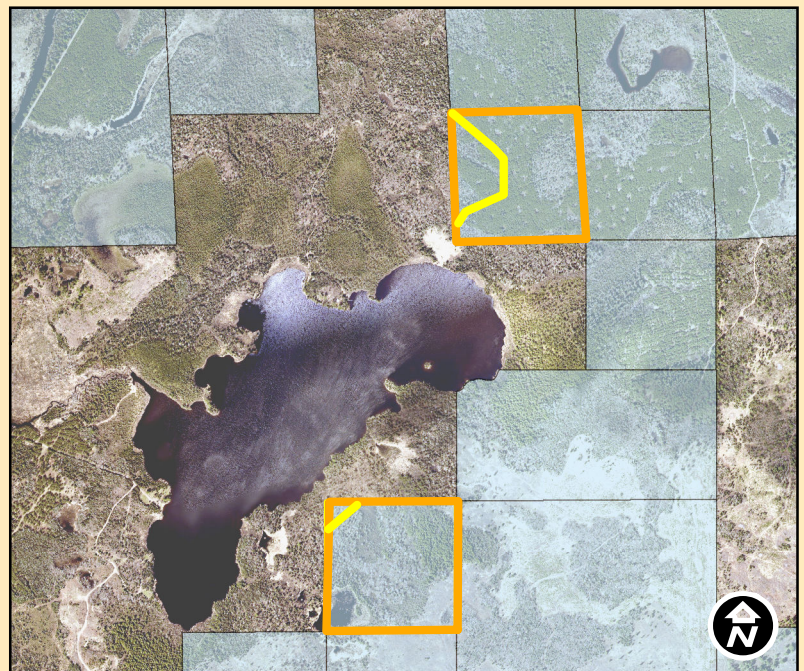
Affected Parcels:  
230-0010-05180,  
230-0010-05270



### St. Louis County District Map



- District 1
- District 2
- District 3
- District 4
- District 5
- District 6
- District 7



Tax forfeit

This drawing is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as such. This drawing is a compilation of recorded information and data located in various city, county, state and federal offices. St. Louis County is not responsible for any incorrectness herein.

# **BOARD LETTER NO. 21 – 62**

## **ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 9**

### **BOARD AGENDA NO.**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021

**RE:** Right of Way and Utility  
Easement Across State Tax  
Forfeited Land to Gregory P.  
Bulinski (Morse Twp 62-13)

**FROM:** Kevin Z. Gray  
County Administrator

Jason Meyer, Deputy Director  
Land and Minerals

Nancy J. Nilsen  
County Auditor/Treasurer

#### **RELATED DEPARTMENTAL GOAL:**

To perform public services.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize a non-exclusive right of way and utility easement across state tax forfeited land in Morse Township (62-13).

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Gregory P. Bulinski is requesting a 40-foot wide right of way and utility easement across state tax forfeited land to access private land in Morse Township. The total area encumbered by the easement is 1.72 acres. There are no reasonable alternatives to obtain access to the property and exercising the easement will not cause significant adverse environmental or natural resource management impacts.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board approve the granting of a non-exclusive right of way and utility easement to Gregory P. Bulinski, for the amount of \$1,700 land use fee, \$32 timber damage fee, \$300 administration fee, plus \$46 recording fee, for a total of \$2,078 to be deposited into Fund 240 (Forfeited Tax Fund).

**Right of Way and Utility Easement Across State Tax Forfeited Land  
to Gregory P. Bulinski  
(Morse Twp 62-13)**

BY COMMISSIONER\_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, Gregory P. Bulinski has requested a 40-foot wide non-exclusive right of way and utility easement across state tax forfeited land to access private property; and

WHEREAS, There are no reasonable alternatives to obtain access to the property and exercising the easement will not cause significant adverse environmental or natural resource management impacts; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.04, Subd. 4 and 4a authorizes the St. Louis County Auditor to grant easements across state tax forfeited land for such purposes;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the St. Louis County Auditor to grant a non-exclusive right of way and utility easement to Gregory P. Bulinski across state tax forfeited lands as described in County Board File No.\_\_\_\_\_.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the granting of this easement is conditioned upon payment of \$1,700 land use fee, \$32 timber damage fee, \$300 administration fee, plus \$46 recording fee, for a total of \$2,078 to be deposited into Fund 240 (Forfeited Tax Fund).

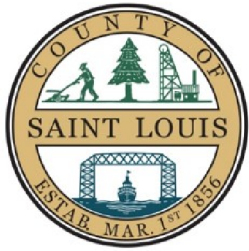
**Right of Way and Utility Easement Across State Tax Forfeited Land  
to Gregory P. Bulinski  
(Morse Twp 62-13)**

(For Gov't Lot 2, Sec. 5, T62N, R13W)

An easement across part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 63 North, Range 13 West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, St. Louis County, Minnesota, the centerline of which is described as follows.

Assuming the South line of said Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter to bear North 89° 48' 57" East and from the North Quarter corner of said Section 05, run North 89° 48' 57" East along said South line, a distance of 271.98 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

Thence North 26° 07' 20" East, a distance of 39.99 feet;  
thence North 57° 40' 31" East, a distance of 100.20 feet;  
thence North 36° 31' 58" East, a distance of 93.29 feet;  
thence North 32° 07' 30" East, a distance of 134.37 feet;  
thence North 70° 05' 57" East, a distance of 67.08 feet;  
thence North 89° 33' 49" East, a distance of 185.73 feet;  
thence North 58° 23' 28" East, a distance of 46.15 feet;  
thence North 45° 28' 25" East, a distance of 84.00 feet;  
thence North 57° 29' 41" East, a distance of 75.90 feet;  
thence North 89° 02' 08" East, a distance of 151.89 feet;  
thence North 64° 11' 06" East, a distance of 36.57 feet;  
thence North 23° 22' 11" East, a distance of 30.78 feet;  
thence North 02° 46' 11" East, a distance of 72.73 feet;  
thence North 23° 10' 21" East, a distance of 38.93 feet;  
thence North 00° 10' 12" West, a distance of 49.98 feet;  
thence North 16° 23' 56" West, a distance of 49.01 feet;  
thence North 24° 28' 09" West, a distance of 110.18 feet;  
thence North 00° 48' 26" West, a distance of 194.47 feet;  
thence North 14° 23' 53" West, a distance of 91.45 feet;  
thence North 12° 13' 02" East, a distance of 112.06 feet;  
thence North 03° 14' 49" East, a distance of 96.70 to the centerline of County Road #404 (also known as the Wolf Lake Road) and there terminate.



## LAND & MINERALS

ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MN

# Tax Forfeited Easement

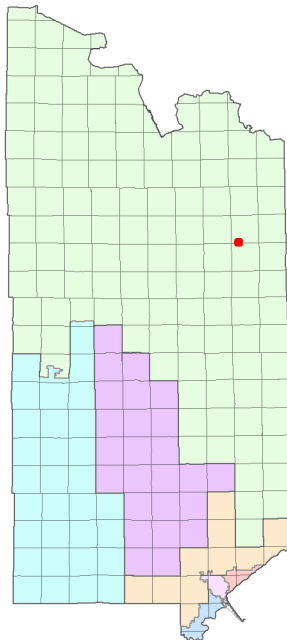
Affected Parcels: 465-0040-05220



Tax forfeit

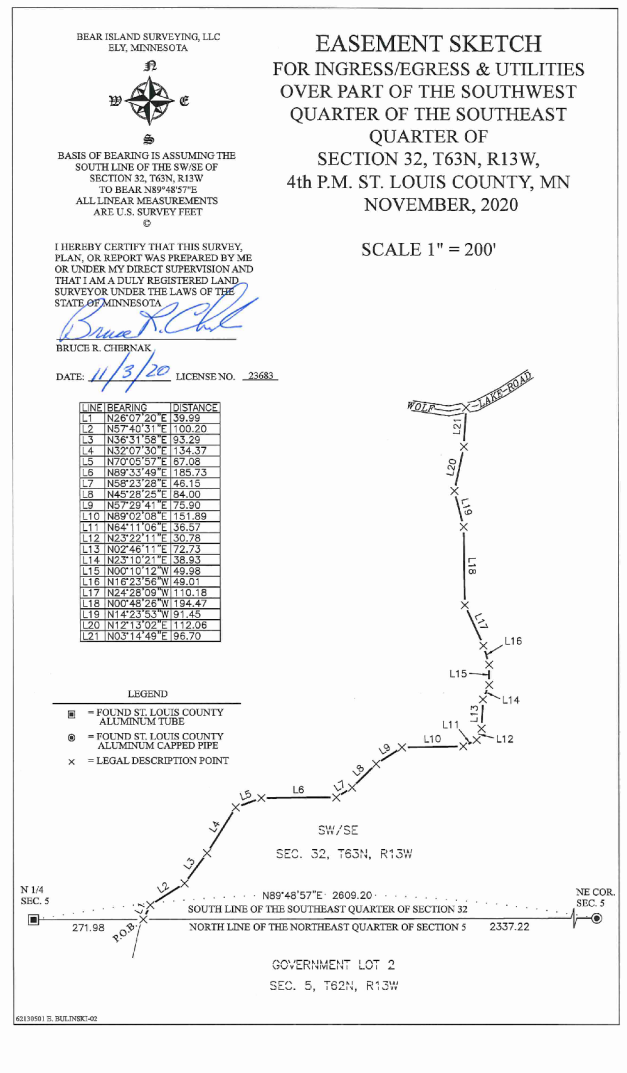
Proposed Easement

## St. Louis County District Map



- District 1
- District 2
- District 3
- District 4
- District 5
- District 6
- District 7

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# **BOARD LETTER NO. 21 – 63**

## **PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE NO. 1**

### **BOARD AGENDA NO.**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021                      **RE:** Sourcewell Purchase of One Hybrid Wheel Loader

**FROM:** Kevin Z. Gray  
County Administrator

James T. Foldesi  
Highway Engineer/Public Works Director

#### **RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:**

To provide a safe, well maintained road and bridge system.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize the Sourcewell purchase of one John Deere Model 644LH Wheel Loader from McCoy Equipment of Duluth, Minnesota.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The St. Louis County Public Works Department's 2021 budget includes the purchase of one wheel loader. It is recommended that the Public Works Department purchase this unit from McCoy Equipment, utilizing the Sourcewell discount contract. This purchase will allow the Public Works Department the proper number of dependable machines to perform maintenance operations at recommended levels.

The Public Works Department is committed to environmental stewardship when making fleet decisions and the planned purchase is environmentally friendly without compromising level of service. This John Deere loader will be the department's first piece of equipment that is a diesel electric hybrid. The machine will burn 25% less fuel which will result in reduced greenhouse gas emissions. The hybrid design produces less noise than traditional equipment which makes it better suited for urban locations. The hybrid has less moving parts, saving on maintenance costs. The 644LH will perform an estimated 30% better than a traditional 644L diesel loader, due to increases in torque, hydraulic performance, and breaking speed. The 644LH was 11% more in cost compared to a traditional 644L. However, this cost increase was justified by the estimated 30% performance increases, and 25% fuel savings over the life of the asset.

The wheel loader will be purchased from McCoy Equipment of Duluth, Minnesota, at a cost of \$286,000.00, the cost of which is within that budgeted for this purpose.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize the purchase of one John Deere Model 644LH Loader from McCoy Equipment of Duluth, Minnesota, at the Sourcewell Contract price of \$286,000.00, payable from Fund 407, Agency 407001, and Object 666400.

## **Sourcewell Purchase of One Hybrid Wheel Loader**

BY COMMISSIONER\_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The Public Works Departments' budget includes the purchase of one wheel loader for maintenance operations; and

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department and Purchasing Division presented specifications and requested pricing for one wheel loader based on the department's needs; and

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department is committed to environmental stewardship while maintaining a high level of service; and

WHEREAS, McCoy Equipment of Duluth, Minnesota, responded with the Sourcewell Discount Contract price for one John Deere Model 644LH Loader of \$286,000.00.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The St. Louis County Board authorizes the purchase of one John Deere Model 644LH Loader from McCoy Equipment of Duluth, Minnesota, for a total cost of \$286,000.00, payable from Fund 407, Agency 407001, and Object 666400.

# **BOARD LETTER NO. 21 – 64**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE NO. 1**

### **BOARD AGENDA NO.**

**DATE:** February 2, 2021                      **RE:** Aquatic Invasive Species  
Prevention Aid – 2021 Funding  
Recommendations

**FROM:** Kevin Z. Gray  
County Administrator

Matthew E. Johnson, Director  
Planning and Community Development

#### **RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:**

To secure and administer federal, state and other funding which implement county policies and maximize local resources.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

The St. Louis County Board is requested to award 2021 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Aid and authorize the Planning and Community Development Director and a representative of the County Attorney to negotiate contracts and authorize the appropriate county officials to execute contracts for all approved projects.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

In the 2014 legislative session, the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid program was established. The funds under this program are allocated to counties based 50 percent on each county's share of watercraft trailer launches and 50 percent on county's share of watercraft trailer parking spaces. The state appropriation for 2021 is \$10 million. St. Louis County's allocation for 2021 is \$709,530. One half of the allocation is paid to the county in July 2021 and the second half is paid in December 2021. There is also an additional \$20,000 available in reprogrammed funds, which are un-utilized 2019 grant funds.

The program funds are to be used to prevent the introduction or limit the spread of aquatic invasive species at access sites throughout the county. In May 2015, Resolution No. 15-284, the County Board approved the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan and authorized the Planning and Community Development Director to solicit proposals for the use of Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid. To date, St. Louis County has funded 53 projects totaling \$3,774,396.

On September 24, 2020, notification was provided to all cities, towns and over 400 parties informing them that the county was soliciting proposals for the use of the 2021 Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid. The application, instructions and other information were posted on the St. Louis County AIS webpage and distributed using a GovDelivery newsletter. Proposals were due by November 20, 2020.

The County has received 9 applications totaling \$853,445 for a variety of proposals. Based on the technical review and other considerations, county staff has made specific funding recommendations in the amount of \$654,530 for eight projects.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board allocate the 2021 Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid as outlined in County Board File No. \_\_\_\_\_; authorize the Planning and Community Development Director and a representative of the County Attorney to negotiate and execute contracts; and authorize the appropriate county officials to execute contracts for all approved projects. Funds for these projects are available from Fund 100, Agency 10999, and Grant 10910, for Year 2021.

## **Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid – 2021 Funding Recommendations**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, In 2014, the Minnesota Legislative Session established the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid Program, Minnesota Session Law Ch. 308; and

WHEREAS, In 2015, Resolution No. 15-284, the St. Louis County Board approved the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan and authorized the Planning and Community Development Director to solicit proposals for the use of the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid; and

WHEREAS, Planning and Community Development staff conducted a technical review of the applications; and

WHEREAS, Based on the technical review and other considerations, county staff formulated funding recommendations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the 2021 Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid as listed in County Board File No. \_\_\_\_.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the appropriate County officials are authorized to execute contracts negotiated by the Planning and Community Development Director and a representative of the County Attorney in order to implement the aid program, payable from Fund 100, Agency 109999, Grant 10910, Year 2021.



# Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program

St. Louis County, Minnesota

## 2021 AIS Program Applications Received

	Applicant	Project Cost	Funding		Description	Notes
			Requested	Recommend		
1	Burntside Lake Association	\$ 23,765	\$ 19,125	\$ 19,125	AIS prevention program including the following categories as aligned with the SLC AIS Plan: 1. Expand the training of and communication with all our boat inspectors 2. More aggressively promote the use of boat cleaning stations 3. Improve public awareness and education about AIS 4. Build early detection capabilities 5. Continue to build partnerships with other Ely area organizations.	Recommend full funding. Association is a model for others to follow. Continue to support their AIS prevention efforts.
2	Canosia Township	\$ 30,650	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	Existing zebra mussel population needs to be contained in Pike Lake. The project funded includes inspections and public education on Pike and Caribou Lakes in Canosia Township.	Recommend full funding. Continue to support Canosia Township prevention efforts of watercraft inspections.
3	Community Action Duluth	\$ 52,370	\$ 40,000	\$ 20,000	Continued eradication, control, mapping, and monitoring of non-native phragmites in the St. Louis River Estuary.	Recommend partial funding. Continue to support non-native phragmites eradication and control in the St. Louis River Estuary.
4	Grand Lake Township	\$ 22,164	\$ 22,164	\$ 22,164	Caribou Lake does not have any AIS designations and the township would like to keep it that way. Existing zebra mussel population needs to be contained in Pike Lake. The project funded includes inspections on Caribou Lake in Grand Lake Township.	Recommend full funding. Continue to support township prevention efforts of watercraft inspections.
5	Mississippi Headwaters Board	\$ 100,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	Statewide social media and article writing campaign.	Recommend no funding due to statewide initiative. Applicant unable to demonstrate a direct impact and benefit to St. Louis County.

	Applicant	Project Cost	Funding		Description	Notes
			Requested	Recommend		
6	North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District	\$ 514,700	\$ 465,500	\$ 398,600	Managing watercraft inspections, decontaminations and public education on Bear Island, Birch, Burntside, Crane, Ely, Gilbert-Pit, Johnson, Kabetogama, One Pine, Pelican, Shagawa, and Vermilion Lakes.	Recommend partial funding. Continue to support NSWCD AIS prevention efforts of watercraft inspections and decontaminations.
7	U of MN Regents: Sea Grant	\$ 78,805	\$ 72,465	\$ 24,450	Pilot Check-In / Check-Out CD3 hub stations and mobile application. Empower boaters to self-inspect their own watercraft. Pilot project includes installation of hub stations at four public water accesses (St. Louis River Boy Scout and Munger Landings, Island Lake Abbott Rd Landing, and Pike Lake Public Access).	Recommend partial funding. This is a pilot project where proof of concept still being tested.
8	Vermilion Lake Association	\$ 78,091	\$ 42,191	\$ 42,191	AIS prevention program including the following categories as aligned with the SCL AIS Plan: 1. Watercraft inspection and cleaning 2. Public awareness and education 3. Habitat evaluation and threat assessment. 4. Early detection, rapid response, and population management 5. Regional and statewide partnership development.	Recommend full funding. Association is a model for others to follow. Continue to support their AIS prevention efforts.
9	Wildlife Forever	\$ 238,201	\$ 142,000	\$ 98,000	The proposal is to continue the Clean Drain Dry Initiative campaign to provide comprehensive media and outreach programs. The media campaign includes billboards, radio ads, print ads, fuel station and indoor advertising, digital ads, social media, streaming video services ads, and commercials. They also create and produce Clean Drain Dry materials for distribution to local governments and lake associations. Proposal also includes support towards Sea Grant's project.	Recommend partial funding. Funding not to include the access signage/cleaning stations as participating partners have not been identified.
TOTAL		\$ 1,138,746	\$ 853,445	\$ 654,530		



# Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program

St. Louis County, Minnesota

## AIS - 2021 Financial Summary

Total 2021 Award from State of Minnesota	\$ 709,530
Reprogrammed Funds	\$ 20,000
2021 Administrative Funding*	\$ (75,000)
<b>Total Funding Available</b>	<b>\$ 654,530</b>
2021 Funding Request	\$ 853,445
<b>2021 Funding Recommended</b>	<b>\$ 654,530</b>

\*Includes funding to St. Louis County Sheriff Water and Launch Patrol for AIS outreach efforts and Planning and Community Development for planning and program administration.

## AIS Prevention Program - Grant Recipients Awards (2014 - 2020)

Grant Recipient	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL (2014-2020)	2021 Recommendation
1 Burntside Lake Association	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 189,857	\$ 43,075	\$ 26,000	\$ 16,000	\$ 25,100	\$ 300,032	\$ 19,125
2 Canosia Township	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,000	\$ 55,114	\$ 22,500	\$ 15,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 133,614	\$ 30,000
3 City of Babbitt	\$ 55,114	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ 32,625	\$ 137,739	\$ -
4 City of Duluth	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ -
5 Community Action Duluth	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,000	\$ -	\$ 60,000	\$ -	\$ 105,000	\$ 20,000
6 Grand Lake Township	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,900	\$ 15,000	\$ 20,100	\$ 50,000	\$ 22,164
7 Izaak Walton League	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	-	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -
8 North St. Louis SWCD	\$ 60,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 281,600	\$ 391,350	\$ 378,000	\$ 398,600	\$ 1,509,550	\$ 398,600
9 St. Louis River Alliance	\$ -	\$ 118,380	\$ -	\$ 46,900	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ 165,280	\$ -
10 UMN - Research Projects	\$ -	\$ 126,281	\$ -	\$ 95,387	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ 221,668	\$ -
11 UMN - Sea Grant	\$ 11,754	\$ -	\$ 24,817	\$ 19,659	\$ 22,248	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 118,478	\$ 24,450
12 Vermilion Lake Association	\$ -	\$ 23,441	\$ 48,380	\$ 107,000	\$ 59,000	\$ 36,000	\$ 62,537	\$ 336,358	\$ 42,191
13 Wildlife Forever	\$ 107,000	\$ 102,500	\$ 90,177	\$ -	\$ 114,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 98,000	\$ 586,677	\$ 98,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 283,868</b>	<b>\$ 370,602</b>	<b>\$ 419,231</b>	<b>\$ 693,735</b>	<b>\$ 699,998</b>	<b>\$ 625,000</b>	<b>\$ 681,962</b>	<b>\$ 3,774,396</b>	<b>\$ 654,530</b>