



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

July 9, 2013
Immediately following the Board Meeting, which begins at 9:30 A.M.
Rice Lake Town Hall, 4107 W. Beyer Road, Duluth, MN

Directions: The Rice Lake Town Hall is located at the corner of Howard Gnesen Road and West Beyer Road, two miles north of the intersection of Martin Road and Howard Gnesen Road.

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 July 2, 2013

Public Works & Transportation Committee – Commissioner Forsman, Chair

1. Acceptance of Flood Grant for Storm Project – Culvert Replacement and Slope Repair on CSAH 61/North Shore Drive (Duluth Township) [13-282]

Finance & Budget Committee – Commissioner Raukar, Chair

2. Abatement List for Board Approval [13-283]
3. Free Conveyance of Surplus Land to Fairbanks Township [13-284]

Central Management & Inter-Governmental Committee – Commissioner Jewell, Chair

4. Position Reallocation of Environmental Health Specialist Supervisor and Solid Waste Worker Intermediate Positions to Planner I [13-285]

Public Safety & Corrections Committee – Commissioner O’Neil, Chair

5. Fund Balance Transfer and Expenditure for ARMER Related Equipment [13-286]

ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Finance & Budget Committee – Commissioner Raukar, Chair

6. Establish Public Hearing to Consider Allegation of Liquor Law Violation – Wilbert Café and El Toro Lounge, Cotton Township – Tuesday, August 13, 2013, 9:45 a.m., Fredenberg Town Hall, Duluth, MN [13-287]

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 Forsman, Chair

1. **Award of Bids: Culvert Replacement on CSAH 13/Midway Road (Hermantown) [13-288]**
Resolution awarding the project to low bidder Utility Systems of America, Inc. of Eveleth, MN.

Finance & Budget Committee – Commissioner Raukar, Chair

1. **2013 Second Quarter Budget Changes [13-289]**
Resolution authorizing transfers and budgetary changes required during the second quarter of 2013.

2. **Resolution on a Wheelage Tax Authorization for St. Louis County [13-290]**
Two resolutions are offered for County Board consideration regarding implementation of a wheelage tax.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS:

At this time, Commissioners may introduce items for discussion or report on past and future activities.

ADJOURNED:

Because the Board will not meet until July 30, 2013, the County Board may reconvene to address these agenda items.

NEXT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING DATES:

July 30, 2013 **Floodwood City Hall, 111 West 8th Avenue, Floodwood, MN**
August 6, 2013 **Commissioners' Conference Room, Courthouse, Duluth, MN**
August 13, 2013 **Fredenberg Town Hall, 5104 Fish Lake Road, 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 Property Management (218-725-5085) early so necessary arrangements can be made.*

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, July 2, 2013

Location: St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth, Minnesota

Present: Commissioners Jewell, Forsman, Stauber, Nelson, Raukar, and Chair Dahlberg

Absent: Commissioner O'Neil

Convened: Chair Dahlberg called the meeting to order at 2:42 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Raukar/Forsman moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed. (6-0)

- Minutes of June 25, 2013
- Acceptance of Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program Grant [13-258]
- Recommendation to State of Minnesota on Health Plans Serving St. Louis County [13-259]
- Special Sale to the State of Minnesota [13-260]
- Award of Bid: Class I Demolition Waste Haulage Contract [13-261]
- Class I Demolition Waste Disposal Contract – General Waste, Inc. [13-262]
- Purchase of Two Dump Bodies with Hydraulic Systems and Snow Fighting Equipment [13-263]
- Property Lease Agreement for Cul-de-Sac on CR 789/Merritt Avenue (Iron Junction) [13-264]
- Agreement with Fayal Township for Intersection Redesign on CSAH 96/Ely Lake Drive [13-265]
- Acceptance of Flood Grant for Storm Project – Bridge on CSAH 56/Morris Thomas Road (Hermantown) [13-266]
- Acceptance of Flood Grant for Storm Project – Bridge on TR 2903 (Rice Lake Township) [13-267]
- Acceptance of Flood Grant for Storm Project – Bridge on CR 211 (Meadowlands Township) [13-268]
- Acceptance of Flood Grant for Storm Project – Bridge on CR 192 (Van Buren Township) [13-269]
- Execute 2013 HUD Contracts – CDBG, HOME and ESG Entitlement Grants [13-270]
- Master Space and Power Lease Agreement for Data Communications [13-271]
- Request for Sponsorship of Snowmobile Trail Grooming Equipment Purchase – Pequaywan Area Trailblazers Club [13-272]
- 2013 St. Louis County Hazard Mitigation Plan [13-273]

- Establish a Public Hearing to Amend St. Louis County Zoning Ordinance No. 46, Zoning Maps – Tuesday, August 6, 2013, 9:40 a.m., St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth, MN. [13-274]
 - Establish a Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of the Proposed Amendments to St. Louis County Ordinance No. 60, Subdivision Regulations – Tuesday, August 6, 2013, 9:35 a.m., St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth, MN. [13-275]
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REGULAR AGENDA

Environment & Natural Resources

Nelson/Forsman moved to direct County Administration and the Land & Minerals Department to develop a trails approval policy that would include a minimum requirement of an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for any proposed trail over tax forfeited lands; a comprehensive approach to trail planning that engages all potential user groups; and final approval by the County Board. [13-280] After lengthy discussion, Commissioner Nelson withdrew the motion.

Commissioner Nelson if the public wished to address the Committee on the issue. Kristin Larsen asked which trails are included in the resolution and does the resolution include forest access routes? Commissioner Nelson responded that the resolution he brought forward referred to all trails.

Raukar/Jewell moved to direct County Administration and the Land & Minerals Department to develop a comprehensive trails approval policy for any proposed trail over tax-forfeited lands. Commissioner Stauber amended the motion to direct County Administration and the Land & Minerals Department to develop a comprehensive trails approval policy for any proposed trail over tax-forfeited lands and engages all potential user groups. [13-280] After further discussion, the amended motion passed without recommendation. (6-0)

Finance & Budget

Raukar/Stauber moved to authorize the purchase of Property and Related Insurance coverage on major structures, equipment, amended contents and boiler and machinery from the Chubb Group of Insurance Companies through Otis-Magie Insurance Agency at a premium of \$215,254 for the period July 24, 2013 through July 24, 2014. [13-280] Bob Heimbach (Otis-Magie) and Donna Viskoe (Senior Buyer, St. Louis County) discussed the policy. The motion passed. (5-0, Jewell, O'Neil absent)

Public Works Director Jim Foldesi presented information regarding Wheelage Tax and Local Option Sales Tax for Transportation.

At 4:02 p.m. Commissioner Raukar exited the meeting.

Commissioner Nelson, supported by Commissioner Forsman, offered a resolution to delay authorization of a wheelage tax until June 1, 2014, to allow for a full examination of possible additional legislation during the next legislative session, future budgetary impacts and appropriate usages of such a tax if imposed upon the citizens of St. Louis County. After

further discussion, Commissioner Nelson withdrew the motion and requested that the resolution be placed on the July 9, 2013 Committee of the Whole agenda.

Dahlberg/Stauber moved to pass a resolution of support for a State of Minnesota 2014 Capital Appropriation request for the Sheriff's Volunteer Rescue Squad storage and meeting space project for \$837,500 and indicate it as the top St. Louis County bonding priority. This appropriation would finance up to 50% of the joint project cost, allowing this investment to be made in 2014. [13-277] Deputy Administrator Linnea Mirsch and Undersheriff Dave Phillips discussed the resolution. The motion passed. (5-0, O'Neil, Raukar absent)

Dahlberg/Nelson moved to approve a five-year agreement for miscellaneous electrical services valued at less than \$50,000 per service, accessible to all departments located throughout St. Louis County for the period July 9, 2013 through July 9, 2014, and rescind Resolution No. 13-298, dated May 14, 2013. [13-281] After further discussion, the motion passed without recommendation. (4-0, Forsman, O'Neil, Raukar absent)

Central Management & Inter-Governmental

Dahlberg/Nelson moved to appoint Commissioner Frank Jewell as the alternate representative on the Duluth International Airport Joint Zoning Board, replacing Mr. Eckenberg, to the term expiring on December 31, 2013. The motion passed. (5-0, O'Neil, Raukar absent)

Public Safety and Corrections

Jewell/Stauber moved to authorize a contract with Arrowhead Regional Corrections of up to \$187,376.40 for the period July 15, 2013 to December 31, 2014 for the purposes of expanding the Duluth Bethel Female Offender Program. The motion passed. (5-0, Raukar, O'Neil absent)

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS

-None

At 5:08 p.m., Jewell/Nelson moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. (5-0, O'Neil, Raukar absent)

Chris Dahlberg, Chair of the County Board

Phil Chapman, Interim Clerk of the County Board

BOARD LETTER NO. 13 - 282

PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 1

BOARD AGENDA NO.

DATE: July 9, 2013

RE: Acceptance of Flood Grant for Storm Project – Culvert Replacement and Slope Repair on CSAH 61/North Shore Drive (Duluth Township)

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

James T. Foldesi
Public Works Director/Highway Engineer

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:

Provide a safe, well maintained road and bridge system.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize an agreement accepting a Minnesota State Transportation Flood grant and committing to the use of State Aid funds, to pay for that portion of the cost of culvert replacement and slope repair in Duluth Township which exceeds the grant amount.

BACKGROUND:

Bids for culvert replacement and slope repair on County State Aid Highway 61/North Shore Drive in Duluth Township (Storm WO 173268; SAP 69-661-017) were let on June 27, 2013. The project was awarded on July 2 to Northland Constructors of Duluth in the amount of \$1,333,568.60 (Resolution No. 13-411). Final approval of a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Flood Bond for this project was received on June 28, 2013. The grant will offset \$1,333,568.60 in State Aid Funds which were anticipated for this project.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation, which accepts Minnesota State Transportation Flood Bond funds, and commit to the use of State Aid Funds for costs of Project SAP 69-661-017 which exceed the grant amount.

Acceptance of Flood Grant for Storm Project – Culvert Replacement and Slope Repair on CSAH 61/North Shore Drive (Duluth Township)

BY COMMISSIONER _____

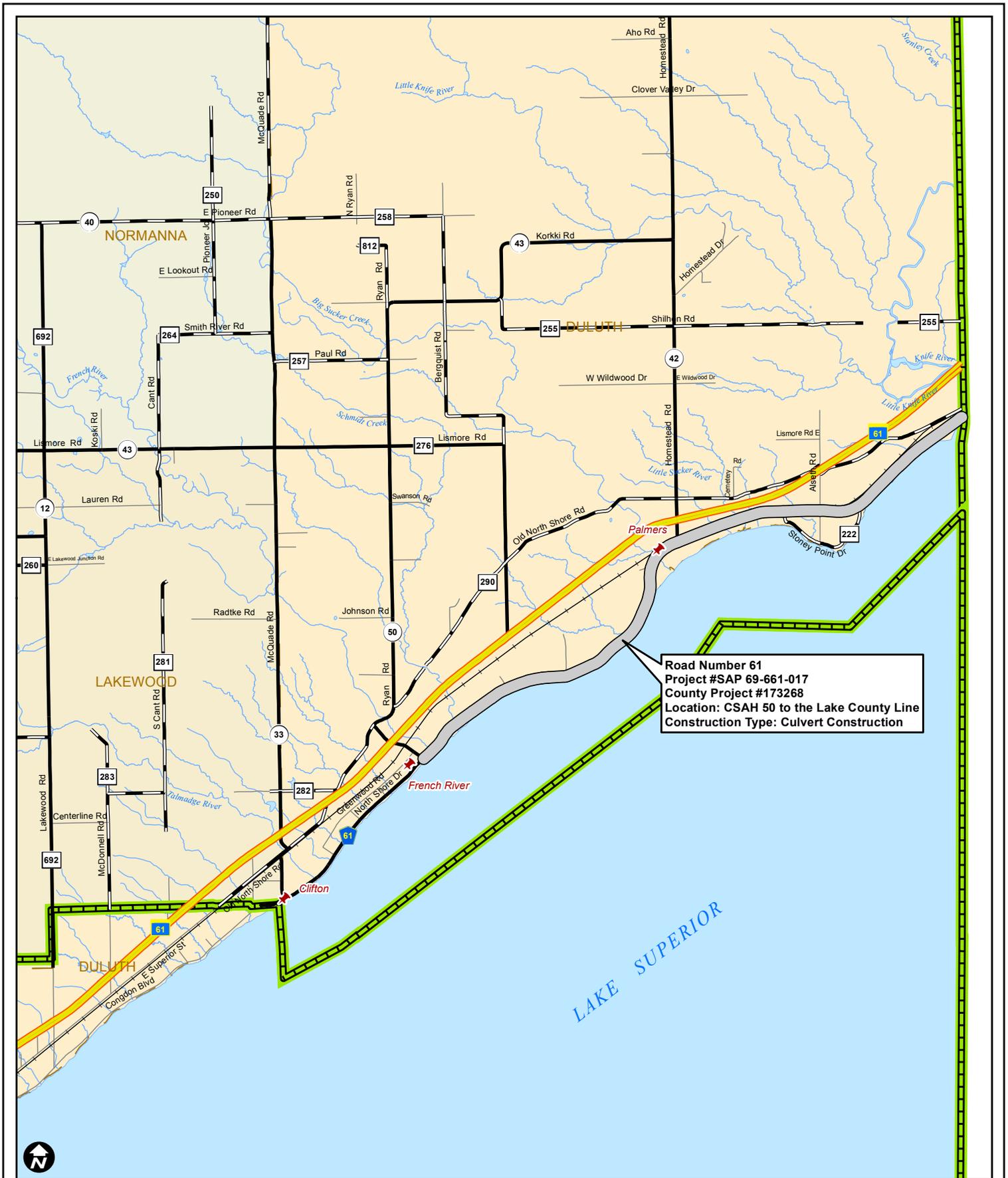
WHEREAS, St. Louis County has applied to the Minnesota Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund for culvert replacement and slope repair of project SAP 69-661-017 on County State Aid Highway 61 /North Shore Drive in Duluth Township; and

WHEREAS, The Commissioner of Transportation has given notice that funding for this project is available in the amount of \$1,333,568.60.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board agrees to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with Minn. Stat., Section 174.50, Subd. 5, (3), 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 culvert replacement and slope repair but not required.

RESOLVED FURTHER, The appropriate county officials are authorized to execute a grant agreement with the Minnesota Commissioner of Transportation concerning the above-referenced grant.

Acct 266 Flood Bond Funds \$1,333,568.60 Construction



Road Number 61
Project #SAP 69-661-017
County Project #173268
Location: CSAH 50 to the Lake County Line
Construction Type: Culvert Construction

St. Louis County 2013 Road & Bridge Construction

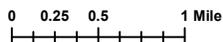
Map Components

2013 Road & Bridge Construction

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

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

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



BOARD LETTER NO. 13 - 283

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 2

BOARD AGENDA NO.

DATE: July 9, 2013 **RE:** Abatement List for Board Approval

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

Mark Monacelli, 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. 861, dated November 30, 1993, 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 abatements.

Abatement List for Board Approval

BY COMMISSIONER _____

RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the applications for abatements, correction of assessed valuations and taxes plus penalty and interest, and any additional accrual, identified in County Board File No. 59577.

Abatements Submitted for Approval by the St. Louis County Board
on 7/9/2013

<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>	
580	10	1918	0	14839	AASENG, RICHARD	R	Wuori	Jan Jackson	HOMESTEAD	2013	600.06
20	200	550	0	14840	ALBERG, ALLAN	R	Chisholm	Chris Link	HOMESTEAD	2013	630.12
360	9999	99999	9925	14860	ALLETE, INC	P	Floodwood T.	Lana Anderson	VALUATION	2013	234.70
375	10	2706	0	14841	ARMSTRONG, JOHNATHAN	R	Gnesen	Noah Mittlefehldt	HOMESTEAD	2013	311.94
10	2650	455	0	14842	BEAUCLAIR, JOAN	R	City of Duluth	Bemen Carlson	HOMESTEAD	2013	333.72
250	20	1408	0	14843	BECKMANN, OLAF	R	Beatty	Beth Sokoloski	HOMESTEAD	2013	785.60
175	55	485	0	14844	CARRON, DAVID	R	Mt. Iron	Brian Grahek	VALUATION	2013	83.72
235	30	3500	0	14845	ERICKSON, JOSHUA	R	Balkan	Brian Grahek	HOMESTEAD	2013	614.26
10	1922	40	0	14862	GULLAND, ERIC	R	City of Duluth	Bemen Carlson	HOMESTEAD	2013	224.76
180	20	90	0	14848	KNUTSON, LORETTA	R	Orr	Beth Sokoloski	HOMESTEAD	2011	14.00
180	20	90	0	14847	KNUTSON, LORETTA	R	Orr	Beth Sokoloski	HOMESTEAD	2012	25.10
180	20	90	0	14846	KNUTSON, LORETTA	R	Orr	Beth Sokoloski	HOMESTEAD	2013	33.78
180	20	100	0	14851	KNUTSON, LORETTA	R	Orr	Beth Sokoloski	HOMESTEAD	2011	574.36
180	20	100	0	14850	KNUTSON, LORETTA	R	Orr	Beth Sokoloski	HOMESTEAD	2012	611.26
180	20	100	0	14849	KNUTSON, LORETTA	R	Orr	Beth Sokoloski	HOMESTEAD	2013	469.80
380	10	5672	0	14852	LINDBERG, TIM	R	Grand Lake	Steve Walczynski	HOMESTEAD	2013	187.88
435	10	1391	0	14853	MOBRATEN, ALBIN	R	McDavitt	Dave Jarvela	HOMESTEAD	2013	147.74
465	77	190	0	14854	NICKERSON, CHAD	R	Morse	Ben Thomas	VALUATION	2013	146.82
370	38	50	0	14855	POCKET, RICHARD	R	French	John Hultstrand	HOMESTEAD	2013	459.02
425	30	1892	0	14856	QUAAS, RICHARD	R	Leiding	Beth Sokoloski	HOMESTEAD	2013	383.70
140	30	182	0	14863	RUSCO, NICOLLE	R	Hibbing	Bruce Sandberg	HOMESTEAD	2013	576.66
295	17	840	0	14857	TAKALA FARMS INC	R	Clinton	Dave Jarvela	HOMESTEAD	2013	600.10
275	19	1450	0	14858	TURTINEN, LARRY	R	Brevator	Jan Jackson	HOMESTEAD	2013	341.64
10	4670	1110	0	14864	UNDEBERG, MEGAN	R	City of Duluth	Bemen Carlson	HOMESTEAD	2013	344.62
10	880	890	0	14865	VERBICK, RYAN	R	City of Duluth	Bemen Carlson	HOMESTEAD	2013	366.42
140	220	1520	0	14859	WHITE, KENNETH	R	Hibbing	Bruce Sandberg	HOMESTEAD	2013	735.34
10	1880	170	0	14866	WILCOX, ASHLEY	R	City of Duluth	Bemen Carlson	HOMESTEAD	2013	217.92

BOARD LETTER NO. 13 - 284

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 3

BOARD AGENDA NO.

DATE: July 9, 2013

RE: Free Conveyance of Surplus Land
to Fairbanks Township

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

Tony Mancuso, Director
Property Management

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:

Facilitate county fee land purchase, sale and easement activities.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize a free conveyance of surplus county fee owned land to Fairbanks Township.

BACKGROUND:

The Fairbanks-Ault Township Cemetery is close to capacity and additional property for expansion is necessary. St. Louis County has a depleted two acre gravel pit (purchased in 1925) which has been requested by the Fairbanks Town Board for this purpose. The gravel pit is located across County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 44 from the cemetery. A township landowner with suitable land to the east and adjacent to the existing cemetery has indicated a willingness to negotiate a land swap between his acreage and the presently-owned county acreage. A land swap is being considered since the gravel pit property is not ideal for this purpose. This option would require that the conveyance to Fairbanks Township not be subject to a reversion clause.

The property has been reviewed by county departments and there is no objection to this transfer. The site is non-conforming and would not be offered for public sale. Necessary right of way on CSAH 44 has been reserved.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize the transfer of the above described county fee land to Fairbanks Township for public use, pursuant to Minn. Stat. Section 465.035. A \$500 land transfer administrative fee will be paid by Fairbanks Township directed into Fund 100, Agency 128014, Object 583100.

Free Conveyance of Surplus Land to Fairbanks Township

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Property Management Team has reviewed the free conveyance request made by Fairbanks Township for county fee land to be used for public purposes and does not object to this conveyance and use. Said property is legally described as follows.

Beginning at a point thirty-three (33.0 Ft) west of the Northeast corner of the Southeast quarter of the Southwest quarter (SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$) of Section thirty-four (34) Township Fifty-six (56) North, Range Twelve (12) West; thence south and parallel to the north and south quarter line of said Section 34, a distance of 417.4 feet, thence west 208.7 feet, thence north and parallel to the North and South Quarter line a distance of 417.4 feet; thence east 208.7 feet, to the point of beginning.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate county officials to execute the necessary documents to transfer county fee land for public use to Fairbanks Township, pursuant to Minn. Stat. Section 465.035. A \$500 land transfer administrative fee will be paid by Fairbanks Township directed into Fund 100, Agency 128014, Object 583100.

FAIRBANKS TOWNSHIP

PO Box 1 3345 Brimson Toimi Road
Brimson MN 55602
Clerk: 218-848-2622
township1@frontiernet.net

RECEIVED

MAR 15 2013

March 14, 2013

St. Louis County
Tony Mancuso, Director
Property Management Department
100 North 5th Avenue West, Room 2
Duluth MN 55802-1209

RE: Request for free conveyance
PID 335-0010-05750

Dear Mr. Mancuso,

Fairbanks Township requests the free conveyance of a two-acre parcel of county-owned land that is across Highway 44 from the existing Brimson Cemetery. This land would be used for a public cemetery expansion. We would like, however, to have the option of using this land for a possible exchange with a landowner who is directly adjacent to the present cemetery. We respectfully request that this conveyance be done without a reversion clause.

If you have questions, please call or email me.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Kathleen E. Unger, Clerk

cc: Fairbanks Township Board of Supervisors

enc. Fairbanks Township Resolution 03132013
Request to Purchase Real Estate Owned by St. Louis County



Request to Purchase Real Estate Owned By St. Louis County

Saint Louis County
Property Management Department
100 N. 5th Ave. W., Room 2
Duluth, MN 55802-1209
(218) 725-5085

REQUESTING PARTY'S INFORMATION			
FULL NAME: <i>TOWN of FAIRBANKS</i>		TODAY'S DATE: <i>March 14, 2013</i>	
STREET ADDRESS: <i>PO Box 1 3345 Brimson - Tuima Road</i>		PHONE NUMBER - DAY: <i>218-848-2622</i>	
CITY: <i>BRIMSON</i>	STATE: MN	ZIP CODE: <i>55602</i>	PHONE NUMBER - NIGHT: <i>218-848-2622</i>

PARCEL INFORMATION			
PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: <i>335-0010-05750</i>	SECTION: <i>34</i>	TOWNSHIP: <i>56N-</i>	RANGE: <i>12W</i>
ADDRESS / LOCATION: <i>Highway 44 Across from Brimson Cemetery</i>	LEGAL DESCRIPTION:		

GENERAL INFORMATION AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. State of Minnesota Statute §373.01 allows counties to sell real estate provided:
 - a. The sale is advertised three consecutive weeks in the official newspaper for the county, and once in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the property is located.
The notice shall state the time and place of considering proposals and contain the legal description
 - b. Unimproved real estate (raw land) may be sold at the County Board meeting in a public auction forum.
 - c. Improved land will be sold by sealed bids only.
 - d. All mineral rights will be reserved by the County.
 - e. The County may set a minimum value, and the County Board may, in the interest of the County, reject all bids.
 - f. All requests for the purchase of tax forfeit lands will be forwarded to the St. Louis County Land Department.
2. Please complete this form including all the information you have on the property and mail to the address listed at the top of the form. All applicable County departments will review the request and if it is deemed that the property has no present or anticipated need by the County, it will be available for sale following the state mandate listed above. Parties submitting requests will be notified of the counties intention for the property within 60 days of receiving the request.

SAINT LOUIS COUNTY USE ONLY

- REVIEWED BY ALL COUNTY DEPARTMENTS
- MINIMUM BID VALUE
- RESPONSE LETTER TO PARTY MAKING INQUIRY
- LETTER TO ADJOINING PROPERTY OWNERS

RESOLUTION # 03132013
Fairbanks Township
St. Louis County, Minnesota

**BRIMSON CEMETERY EXPANSION THROUGH
LAND CONVEYANCE FROM ST. LOUIS COUNTY**

WHEREAS the Fairbanks Township Board is considering, expansion of its portion of the existing Brimson Cemetery due to a lack of sufficient burial plots available to Township resident families and others;

WHEREAS the County has a two-acre parcel across Highway 44 from the existing cemetery that is potentially available for conveyance, pursuant to Statute 465.035 that allows for transfer of property between governments for public purposes; and

WHEREAS a township landowner with suitable land to the east and adjacent to the existing cemetery has indicated he is willing to negotiate a land swap between his acreage and the presently-owned county acreage;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairbanks Township Board will request from St. Louis County a land conveyance, free of charge except for administrative costs of \$500, without a reversion clause that would return the land back to the county if the township did not use it within a certain period of time, on PID 335-0010-05750; and

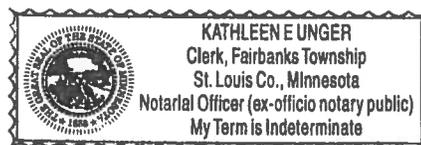
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Fairbanks Township Board will enter into discussions and negotiations with the said landowner of PID 335-0010-05780 for the purposes of an equitable land exchange to expand the Township's portion of the Brimson Cemetery;

Adopted this 13th day of March, 2013

BY THE BOARD

Scott A. Tyo
Scott Tyo
Town Chair/Supervisor

Attest: Kathleen E. Unger
Kathleen E. Unger
Town Clerk

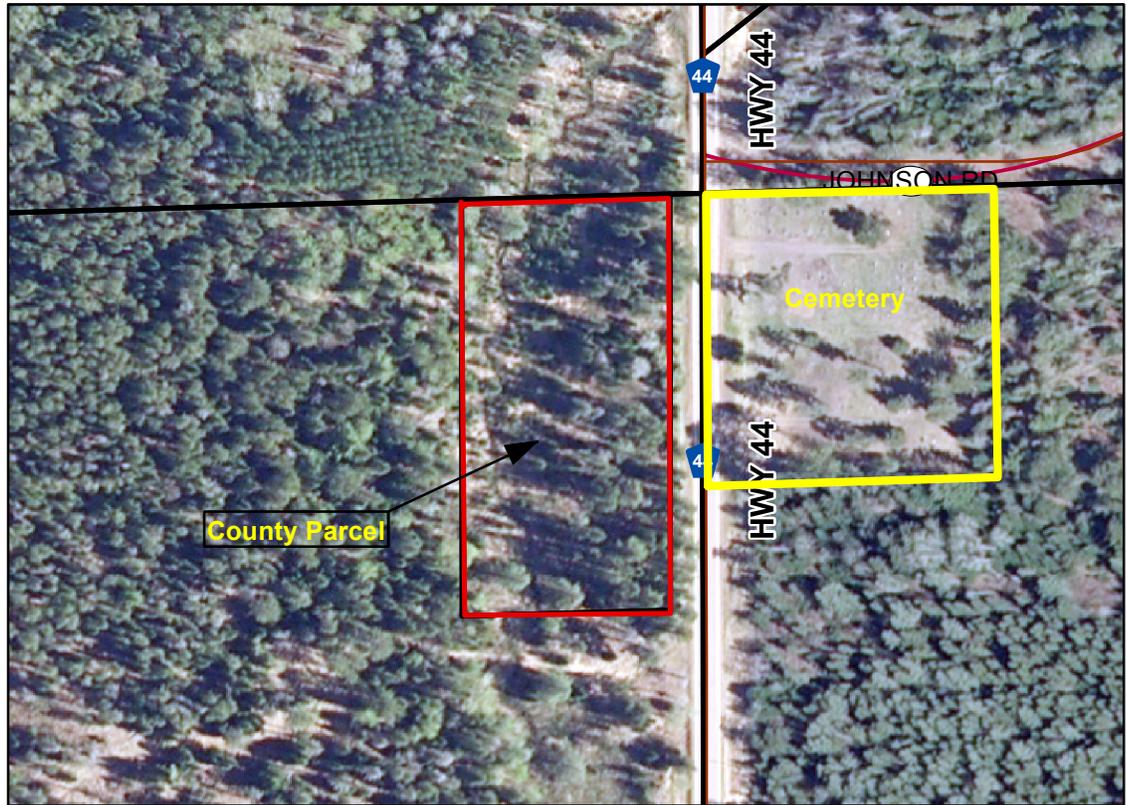
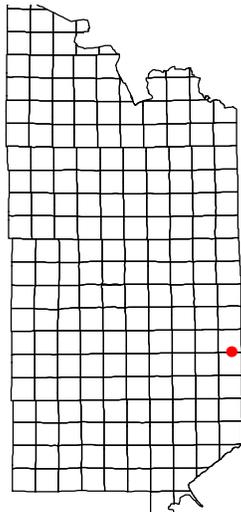




**St. Louis County Fee Owned Land, Fairbanks Township Request
St. Louis County Property Management Dept.**

Parcel Code: 335-0010-05750
Address: 2349 Hwy # 44
Area: 2 Acres.
Commissioner District # 4

Legal Description: 2 acres in the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4
Section 34, T56N, R12W



Parcel Specifications: The parcel is two (2) acres in size; a drawing attached to the deed indicates a 2 acre gravel pit. The parcel is 417.4' in length along Hwy. # 44 and 208.7' in depth from the road right of way. There is a small stream that flows north and south thru the entire parcel near the back of said parcel. Setback from the stream is 100 feet and setback from Hwy # 44 centerline is 85 feet. With these two setbacks there is no physical room for a structure on this property.

Acquisition History: Parcel was acquired by the St. Louis County in April of 1925. Parcel acquired for gravel pit purposes.

Zoning: Parcel is zoned MUNS-4 zoning which requires 4.5 acres and 300 feet of frontage. Although this is a lot of record it was used for gravel pit purposes. Property does not appear to ever have had a structure on it. Stream setback is 100 feet and the setback from the road centerline is 85 feet. It does not appear that this lot could be developed with these limitations.

Value Determination: Current assessed value is \$4,200 for the two acres. Sales and assessed values from surrounding properties indicate a value of \$1,500 for this parcel and probably lower because of its limited utility.

Reason for Sale Consideration: Fairbanks Township has requested a free conveyance of this property for use in the expansion of the Brimson - Ault Cemetery. They are working with the owner of the property that surrounds both the County Fee parcel and the existing cemetery and may trade this parcel for additional land adjacent to the cemetery.

Recommendation: It is recommended to convey this property to Fairbanks Township to be used for or exchanged for additional property for cemetery expansion; a \$500 administrative fee would be required of Fairbanks Township. St. Louis County has owned this property since 1925 and no practical County use of this property is apparent. Using this property for a cemetery or in exchange for cemetery property will serve the residents of Fairbanks and Ault Townships.

Mark J. Hudson
Right of Way Agent

BOARD LETTER NO. 13 - 285

CENTRAL MANAGEMENT & INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 4

BOARD AGENDA NO.

DATE: July 9, 2013

RE: Position Reallocation of
Environmental Health
Specialist Supervisor and Solid
Waste Worker Intermediate
Positions to Planner I

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

Ted Troolin, Director
Environmental Services

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:

To pursue effective and efficient waste management programs to enhance services to residents and businesses.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to reallocate vacant a 0.5 full time equivalent (FTE) Environmental Health Specialist Supervisor and a 0.5 Solid Waste Worker Intermediate positions to a Planner I position, 1.0 FTE.

BACKGROUND:

When a vacancy occurs in the Environmental Services Department, a review is conducted to determine if the position should be filled as is, or reallocated to a level more aligned with the needs of the department and its customers. A recent review has determined that portions of current vacant positions should be reallocated to a Planner I position. This reallocation will allow expansion of waste reduction and recycling activities, assist development of improved data management programs, and support program oversight responsibilities.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize the reallocation of a 0.5 FTE Environmental Health Specialist Supervisor (Pay Grade 24) and a 0.5 FTE Solid Waste Worker Intermediate (Pay Grade 9) to a Planner I (Pay Grade 20) position in the Environmental Services Department, to be accounted for in Fund 600, Agency 601003, Object 610100.

Position Reallocation of Environmental Health Specialist Supervisor and Solid Waste Worker Intermediate Positions to Planner I

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, Review of current vacancies in Environmental Health Specialist Supervisor and Solid Waste Intermediate positions has determined that a reallocation to a Planner I would improve the department's abilities to upgrade local recycle programs, improve data management programs, and improve overall program oversight; and

WHEREAS, County Board approval is required because one 0.5 FTE of this reallocation is more than three pay grades below the proposed reallocation class;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the reallocation of a 0.5 FTE Environmental Health Specialist Supervisor (Pay Grade 24) and a 0.5 FTE Solid Waste Worker Intermediate (Pay Grade 9) to a Planner I (Pay Grade 20) position in the Environmental Services Department, to be accounted for in Fund 600, Agency 601003, Object 610100.

BOARD LETTER NO. 13 - 286

PUBLIC SAFETY & CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 5

BOARD AGENDA NO.

DATE: July 9, 2013 **RE:** Fund Balance Transfer and
Expenditure for ARMER
Related Equipment

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

Ross Litman
Sheriff

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:

To enhance public safety.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize the transfer and expenditure of funds for the purchase of equipment for the Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER) system.

BACKGROUND:

All St. Louis County Public Safety agencies transitioned to the ARMER radio system on December 31, 2012. Due to site acquisition, environmental, and other issues, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) was not able to complete 10 sites in and around St. Louis County. In order for the transition to occur, the county provided seven temporary sites for needed coverage. MnDOT is now working on completing all permanent sites and upon completion, the Sheriff's Office will purchase and install the equipment needed for its radio system additions.

Since the ARMER sites had not been completed, the County Board approved the designation of savings for public safety and specifically the ARMER completion. Currently there is \$769,063 in the Public Safety fund, and the Sheriff's Office is expecting to expend \$569,063 in 2013. The remaining \$200,000 will be carried over into 2014 as the state will not be able to finish 4-5 sites this year.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize the transfer and expenditure of \$569,063 from fund balance assigned for Public Safety, Fund 100, Agency 999999, Object 311047, to Fund 100, Agency 136001, Objects 629900 and 665900.

Fund Balance Transfer and Expenditure for ARMER Related Equipment

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, Minnesota Department of Transportation is working on completion of permanent tower sites for the Public Safety Communications Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER) Network; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County will be able to complete the ARMER project by the end of 2014;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the transfer and expenditure of funds for the purchase of equipment for the Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER) system in the amount of \$569,063 currently in Fund 100, Agency 999999, Object 311047, to Fund 100, Agency 136001, Objects 629900 and 665900.

BOARD LETTER NO. 13 - 287

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 6

BOARD AGENDA NO.

DATE: July 9, 2013

RE: Establish Public Hearing to Consider Allegation of Liquor Law Violation - Wilbert Café & El Toro Lounge (Cotton Township)

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

Donald Dicklich
County Auditor

Mark Rubin
County Attorney

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:

Provide mandated and discretionary licensing services in a timely manner.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to establish a public hearing to consider penalties and/or suspension of the liquor licenses issued to Wilbert, Inc. d/b/a Wilbert Café & El Toro Lounge, Cotton Township, for alleged liquor law violation, sale to minor on June 18, 2013.

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to St. Louis County Ordinance No. 28, Section 13.01, Any liquor license issued pursuant to this Ordinance may be suspended or revoked for up to sixty (60) days, a civil penalty of up to \$2,000 imposed for each violation, or a combination of any of these sanctions may be imposed by the County Board upon cause shown after a hearing. A hearing shall be held pursuant to the provisions of these subdivisions and any other uniform rules for hearings promulgated by the County Board. Cause for revocation or suspension or civil penalty or any combination of these sanctions includes, but is not limited to, the filing of false information on a license application, violation of any liquor laws, regulations or provisions of the Ordinance, or failure to maintain any licenses issued by the Minnesota Department of Health as may be required.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that a public hearing on the matter be scheduled for August 13, 2013, at 9:45 a.m. in the Fredenberg Town Hall, Duluth, Minnesota.

**Establish Public Hearing to Consider Allegation of Liquor Law Violation
(Cotton Township)**

BY COMMISSIONER _____

RESOLVED, That a public hearing will be held at 9:45 a.m. on Tuesday, August 13, 2013, in the Fredenberg Town Hall, Duluth, Minnesota, for the consideration of liquor law violation allegations, sale to minor on June 18, 2013, and, if proven, the suspension or revocation of the liquor licenses issued to Wilbert, Inc. d/b/a Wilbert Café & El Toro Lounge, Cotton Township, and/or the imposition of civil penalties for the violation.

BOARD LETTER NO. 13 - 288

PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE NO. 1

BOARD AGENDA NO.

DATE: July 9, 2013 **RE:** Award of Bids: Culvert
Replacement on CSAH 13/Midway
Road (Hermantown)

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

James T. Foldesi
Public Works Director/Highway Engineer

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:

Provide a safe, well maintained road and bridge system.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to award to the low bidder a culvert project on County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 13/Midway Road in Hermantown.

BACKGROUND:

County staff is authorized under Resolution No. 88-381, dated May 24, 1988, to call for bids on projects which are already included in the budget document. Bids were requested for a culvert replacement project on CSAH 13/Midway Road in Hermantown, MN, funded with Federal Emergency and Flood Bond funds. Bids were received on July 1, 2013, for the project in accordance with the plans and specifications on file in the office of the County Highway Engineer:

Project: SP 69-613-037, ER MN 12(255), Storm WO 162555
Location: CSAH 13 (Midway Road) from CSAH 73 (Old Hwy 61) to TH 2 in
Hermantown, MN, length 5.03 miles (see attached map)
Traffic: 7,332 **PQI:** N.A.
Construction: Lining Centerline Culverts, Salvage and Install Culverts
Funding: Fund 225, Agency 162555, Object 652706
Anticipated Start Date: July 23, 2013
Anticipated Completion Date: September 23, 2013
Engineer's Estimate: \$550,275.00

BIDS:

Utility Systems of America, Inc., Eveleth, MN	\$343,555.00 (-\$206,720.00, -37.57%)
Lametti & Sons, Inc., Hugo, MN	\$437,170.00

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the St. Louis County Board award the bid for SP 69-613-037/Storm WO 162555 to low bidder Utility Systems of America, Inc., of Eveleth, MN in the amount of \$550,275.00, payable from Fund 225, Agency 162555, Object 52706.

Award of Bids: Culvert Replacement on CSAH 13/Midway Road (Hermantown)

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, Bids have been received electronically by St. Louis County Public Works Department for the following project:

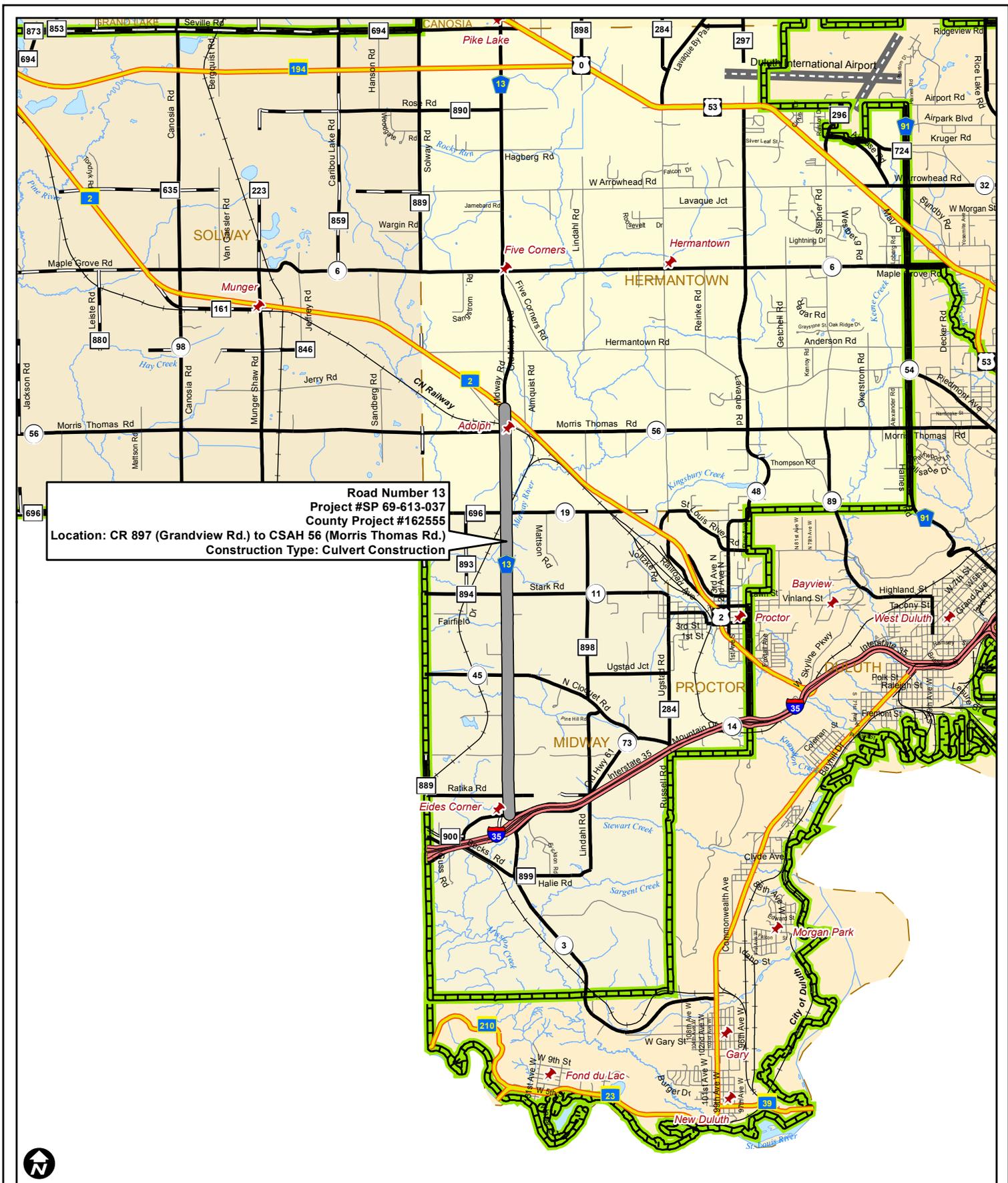
SP 69-613-037, WO 162555 (Storm) on CSAH 13 (Midway Road) from CSAH 73 (Old Hwy 61) to TH 2 in Hermantown, MN, length 5.03 miles.

WHEREAS, Bids were opened on July 1, 2013, and the low responsible bid determined;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the award on the above project to the low bidder.

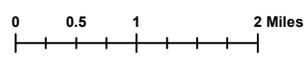
<u>LOW BIDDER</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Utility Systems of America, Inc.	PO Box 706 Eveleth, MN 55734	\$343,555.00

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the appropriate county officials are authorized to approve the Contractor's Performance Bonds and to execute the bonds and contract for the above listed project payable from Fund 225, Agency 162555, Object 652706.



Road Number 13
Project #SP 69-613-037
County Project #162555
Location: CR 897 (Grandview Rd.) to CSAH 56 (Morris Thomas Rd.)
Construction Type: Culvert Construction

St. Louis County 2013 Road & Bridge Construction



Map Components	
2013 Road & Bridge Construction	County/Unorg. Twp. Road - Paved
2013 Road & Bridge Construction	County/Unorg. Twp. Road - Gravel
Interstate Highway	Railroad
U.S./State Highway	Commissioner District
Township Boundary	City/Town
Lake	River/Stream

BOARD LETTER NO. 13 - 289

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE NO. 1

BOARD AGENDA NO.

DATE: July 9, 2013 **RE:** 2013 Second Quarter Budget Changes

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

Donald Dicklich
County Auditor

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:

Provide professional finance and accounting services in keeping with best practices, ensuring that public dollars are used exclusively for authorized public purposes.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize the budgetary revenue and expenditure changes incurred in the second quarter of 2013.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the County Board adopts a resolution which allows for transfers and appropriations within funds for the current budget year. In addition, the 2013 Budget Resolution (No. 659, dated Dec. 11, 2012) requires that increases to the original governmental funds revenue and expenditure budgets cannot be made without County Board approval. The following represents the transfers and budgetary changes requested during the second quarter of 2013.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board approve the 2013 second quarter budget changes.

2013 Second Quarter Budget Changes

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, All increases in original governmental funds revenue and expenditure budgets require County Board approval; and

WHEREAS, Departments anticipate being notified of additional revenues throughout the year and need approval to increase revenue and expenditure budgets; and

WHEREAS, Proposed budget adjustments are levy neutral;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the following budget changes:

1. In the Aid to Other Agencies budget, carry forward from 2012 to 2013 the land apportionment funds which were transferred to Camp Esquagama (per Resolution No. 13-165) (\$51,176.42).
2. Increase the Assessor's FTE complement by one Principle Appraiser and two Real Estate Appraiser II positions at an estimated cost of \$76,117.62 for five months in 2013. This will be funded by an increase in Assessor's revenue of \$70,000, per the Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Hibbing for assessment services (Resolution No. 13-416), with the remaining \$6,117.62 to be transferred from fund balance (\$76,117.62).
3. Use of general fund parking fund balance to increase Property Management's budget for blacktop repairs to the upper Green Lot in downtown Duluth (\$15,306.85).
4. Increase Sheriff's revenue and expense budgets to match actual revenues received for meth-related overtime reimbursed through Northeast Law Enforcement Administrator's Council (NLEAC) (\$3,790.44).
5. Increase Radio Maintenance expense and revenue budget for the State Homeland Security Program (\$12,000.00).
6. Transfer Mine Inspector budget from personnel to operating to cover expense associated with move to the Northland Office Center, Virginia (\$24,660.04).
7. Use of Attorney Trust Accounts-Victim/Witness fund balance to purchase a newspaper subscription for victim/witness lounge (\$122.20).
8. Use of Attorney Trust Accounts-Victim/Witness fund balance to purchase parking passes for victims of crime who have little or no means to pay for parking meters, so they can attend trial (\$100.00).
9. Use of Boundary Waters Drug Task Force forfeiture fund balance to update equipment (\$60,000.00).
10. Increase expense and revenue budget estimates in Emergency Shelter Grant to match actual award (\$19,995.00).
11. Add estimated 2013 revenue and expense budget to the Sheriff's Office drug buy fund (\$25,000.00).

12. Increase miscellaneous revenue and administrative expense budget in HOME Grant for unbudgeted subordination fees charged to clients (\$400.00).
13. Increase revenue and expense budget for Northern Lights Express to reflect additional federal funds received for this project (\$27,792.28).
14. Increase revenue and expense budget in Capital Projects fund to reflect refund received for returning a steam meter to the City of Virginia (\$10.00).
15. Use of Motor Pool fund balance for Duluth Motor Pool exterior restorations (\$17,450.00).
16. Use of Motor Pool fund balance to fund asbestos removal at Duluth Motor Pool (\$12,680.00).
17. Per Resolution No. 13-40 authorizing St. Louis County to enter into an agreement with Lake, Cook, Koochiching, Aitkin, Itasca, and Carlton counties for the hosting and staffing of a regional Electronic Document Management System, increase the Department of Information Technology FTE complement by one Technical Services Analyst II, and establish the revenue and expense budget for this position as part of the regional services for the remainder of 2013 (\$30,108.26).

	Fund	Agency	Object	Grant	Year	Expense Budget	Transfer Out	Accumulation of Fund Balance	Revenue Budget	Transfers In	Use of Fund Balance
1	100	102006	690300			51,176.42					
	100	999999	311107								(51,176.42)
2	100	118001	610000			76,117.62					
	100	118001	551504						(70,000.00)		
	100	999999	331031								(6,117.62)
3	100	999999	311105								(15,306.85)
	100	128010	630901			15,306.85					
4	100	129999	610300			3,790.44					
	100	129999	540515						(3,790.44)		
5	100	136999	540951	13605	2012				(12,000.00)		
	100	136999	695100	13605	2012	12,000.00					
6	100	138001	630900			6,121.79					
	100	138001	637900			512.00					
	100	138001	640300			18,026.25					
	100	138001	610000			(24,660.04)					
7	169	169001	624500			122.20					
	169	999999	311202								(122.20)
8	169	169001	635500			100.00					
	169	999999	311202								(100.00)
9	170	170001	642900			30,000.00					
	170	170001	666100			30,000.00					
	170	999999	331031								(60,000.00)
10	173	173999	540302	17304	2013				(4,374.00)		
	173	173999	610000	17304	2013	4,374.00					
	173	173999	540302	17303	2013				(15,621.00)		

	173	173999	629900	17303	2013	15,621.00		
11	187	187001	583213				(25,000.00)	
	187	187001	642700			25,000.00		
12	270	270999	629900	27002	2013	400.00		
	270	270999	583100	27002	2013		(400.00)	
13	295	295999	540706	29501	2010		(27,792.28)	
	295	295999	629900	29501	2010	27,792.28		
14	400	400033	583100				(10.00)	
	400	400020	663100			10.00		
15	715	715012	630900			17,450.00		
	715	999999	311202					(17,450.00)
16	715	715010	630900			12,680.00		
	715	999999	311202					(12,680.00)
17	100	117003	610000			30,108.26		
	100	117001	552504				(30,108.26)	

BOARD LETTER NO. 13 - 290

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE NO. 2

BOARD AGENDA NO.

DATE: July 9, 2013 **RE:** Resolution on a Wheelage Tax
Authorization for St. Louis County

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

James T. Foldesi
Public Works Director/Highway Engineer

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:

To implement the direction of the St. Louis County Board consistent with State of Minnesota statutes.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to make a determination about implementation or delaying of authorization of adopting a wheelage tax for transportation funding purposes, in accordance with state statute.

BACKGROUND:

At its July 2, 2013 Committee of the Whole meeting, the Public Works Department presented an analysis of two new options to assist in funding for road construction projects and other transportation needs in Minnesota's counties. The State Legislature this spring enacted laws that allow greater Minnesota counties to issue a wheelage tax. Metro counties have had the option to levy the wheelage tax since 2007. The state also extended the option for greater Minnesota counties to enact a local option sales tax for transportation purposes of up to ½%. This option can be implemented by board resolution on the first day of any calendar quarter. Because the wheelage tax must be approved by board resolution prior to August 1 of the year preceding implementation, Commissioners began discussion of whether to adopt a wheelage tax for 2014, or delay authorization until after the next Legislative Session.

A wheelage tax is a \$10 per vehicle surcharge added to car tab purchases, with some vehicles being exempt, such as motorcycles, recreational trailers, classic vehicles and trailers. St. Louis County is considering this option to better address its road maintenance needs. The tax would fill gaps in road funding when other current revenue sources, state and federal aid, are not expected to significantly increase in the future. It is estimated the tax would generate an additional \$1.6 million a year in St. Louis County. The law requires all dollars go directly to building roads and bridges.

The issues surrounding a local option sales tax and a wheelage tax were offered to the County Board for consideration. In the case of the wheelage fee, while not a complete

solution to the county's transportation needs, the direct linkage to road maintenance funded by road users through a modest annual fee paid with license fees collected by the state appears to be straightforward and manageable.

For St. Louis County, the opportunity to implement a wheelage fee is the equivalent of a 1.5% levy increase, and would allow the county to double its Gravel Road Investment Program, more than double its Highway Safety Improvement Program, including high visibility striping so important to senior drivers in particular, and increase overall investment in preventative maintenance activities.

For the tax to be implemented by 2014, St. Louis County must notify the Minnesota Department of Public Safety by August 1, 2013. Commissioners will take up the issue again at the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 9, 2013.

RECOMMENDATION:

Commissioners are being provided with two resolutions to consider based upon discussion held at the July 2, 2013 Committee of the Whole meeting. The first option has been requested by Commissioner Raukar, Finance & Budget Chair, which calls for adoption of a wheelage tax, effective January 1, 2014, and requests the State of Minnesota Registrar of Motor Vehicles to collect the tax.

The second option has been proposed by Commissioner Nelson, who has requested that the County Board delay implementation of a wheelage tax until June 1, 2014, to allow completion of the 2014 Legislative Session.

Resolution Authorizing a Wheelage Tax

BY COMMISSIONER RAUKAR

WHEREAS, St. Louis County's transportation infrastructure forms the backbone of the county's economy and has a direct impact on future economic development; and

WHEREAS, Funding for highway and bridge systems in Minnesota has remained stagnant and is failing to keep pace with growing demands; and

WHEREAS, Local governments throughout the state are challenged with maintaining local transportation systems and local property taxes are a regressive form of taxation and sole source of funding for the local county road system; and

WHEREAS, Proceeds generated by a wheelage tax would support critical investments in gravel roads, safety improvements and preventative maintenance on our local and state aid highway systems; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota State Legislature's 2013 Transportation Appropriation Bill (Chapter 117, Article 3, section 4) included expansion of authority for all 87 Minnesota counties to impose a wheelage tax at a \$10 per vehicle rate to provide additional revenue for highways and bridges; and

WHEREAS, A county board may provide for the collection of the wheelage tax by resolution, or it may request that the tax be collected by the state registrar of motor vehicles, and that if the tax is made collectible by the state registrar, it needs to be certified by the county auditor to the registrar no later than August 1 in the year before the calendar year for which the tax is levied; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. 163.051, Subd. 4, provides that the treasurer of each county receiving proceeds from the wheelage tax is to deposit such proceeds in the county road and bridge fund, expenditures from which shall be used for the purposes authorized by law which are highway purposes within the meaning of the Minnesota Constitution, Article 14; and

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Board desires to implement such a wheelage tax and have the state registrar of motor vehicles collect the tax to help improve the quality of the county road system, prolong the useful life of county roads and provide a smoother driving surface and a safer highway system;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the imposition of a wheelage tax as provided for in the Minnesota State Legislature's 2013 Transportation Appropriation Bill (Chapter 117, Article 3, section 4), of \$10 for the year 2014 and subsequent years thereafter, on each motor vehicle, except those specifically exempted by law, which is kept in St. Louis County when not in operation, and which is subject to taxation and registration under Chapter 168.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the county request the State of Minnesota Registrar of Motor Vehicles to collect the tax.

Resolution Delaying Authorization of a Wheelage Tax

BY COMMISSIONER NELSON

WHEREAS, St. Louis County's transportation infrastructure forms the backbone of the county's economy and has a direct impact on future economic development; and

WHEREAS, Funding for highway and bridge systems in Minnesota has remained stagnant and is failing to keep pace with growing demands; and

WHEREAS, local governments throughout the state are challenged with maintaining local transportation systems while the state's gas tax has not been increased since 2008; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota State Legislature's 2013 Transportation Appropriation Bill (Chapter 117, Article 3, section 4) included expansion of authority for all 87 Minnesota counties to impose a wheelage tax at a \$10 per vehicle rate to provide additional revenue for highways and bridges; and

WHEREAS, A county board may provide for the collection of the wheelage tax by resolution, or it may request that the tax be collected by the state registrar of motor vehicles, and that if the tax is made collectible by the state registrar, it needs to be certified by the county auditor to the registrar no later than August 1 in the year before the calendar year for which the tax is levied; and

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Board believes that the budgetary impacts and other issues associated with the imposition of a wheelage tax cannot be fully understood prior to the August 1, 2013 deadline for calendar year 2014;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board determines to delay authorization of a wheelage tax until June 1, 2014, to allow for a full examination of possible additional legislation during the next legislative session, future budgetary impacts and appropriate usages of such a tax if imposed upon the citizens of St. Louis County.