

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

March 3, 2015

Location: St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth, Minnesota

Present: Commissioners Jewell, Boyle, Dahlberg, Rukavina, Nelson, Raukar, and Chair Stauber

Absent: None

Convened: Chair Stauber called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m.

At 11:51 a.m., a discussion was held regarding the Hermantown Marketplace Project tax abatement financing request. The following Hermantown city officials gave a presentation regarding the proposed project and related tax abatement: Administrator John Mulder, Attorney Steve Overom, and Community Development Director Adam Fulton.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Minutes of February 17, 2015
 - Health and Human Service Annual Conference Facility Payment [15-76]
 - Access Easement across State Tax Forfeited Land in the Plat of Linwood (Unorganized Township 56-14) [15-77]
 - Lease Agreement with MN DNR, Division of Forestry, for Eveleth Cold Storage Facility [15-78]
 - Agreement with LHB, Inc. for Construction Administration for the Reconstruction of CR 832 (Floodwood) [15-79]
 - Acceptance of Grant for Bridge 69A21 Bridge Replacement Project (Hermantown) and Rescind Resolution No. 15-38 [15-80]
 - Acceptance of Grant for Bridge 69A19 Bridge Replacement Project (Sturgeon Township) and Rescind Resolution No. 15-39 [15-81]
 - Cooperative Agreement with MnDOT for Fund Exchange between Carlton and St. Louis Counties [15-82]
 - Acceptance of Quotes for Project Materials – Bridge 841 on CR 195/Condor Road (Elmer Township) [15-83]
 - Abatement List for Board Approval [15-84]
-

REGULAR AGENDA

Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Rukavina/Nelson moved to declare support for H.F. No. 1000, a bill that would prohibit the application of a water quality standard for sulfate that applies to certain wild rice waters until the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency designates waters subject to the standards through a rulemaking process required as part of a law passed in 2011 [15-86]. Commissioner Boyle stepped out of the meeting from 12:24 p.m. to 12:25 p.m. Commissioner Dahlberg exited the meeting at 12:27 p.m. Commissioner Jewell stepped out of the meeting from 12:35 p.m. to 12:38 p.m. After further discussion, Commissioner Nelson withdrew his support of the motion. Commissioner Raukar supported the motion. County Attorney Mark Rubin was asked if the item could be tabled; Attorney Rubin recommended withdrawing the motion as it could be brought back to the Committee at a later date. After further discussion, Commissioner Rukavina withdrew the motion; no action taken.

Rukavina/Boyle moved to declare support for special legislation that would expand the boundaries of Morse Township by six (6) sections of Unorganized Township 61-12 [15-87]. Commissioner Jewell stepped out of the meeting from 1:08 p.m. to 1:09 p.m. Commissioner Raukar stepped out of the meeting from 1:09 p.m. to 1:11 p.m. St. Louis County Attorney Mark Rubin recommended that the motion be withdrawn until a public hearing was held. After further discussion, the motion passed without recommendation. (6-0, Dahlberg absent)

Finance & Budget Committee

Nelson/Raukar moved to authorize the purchase of 2015 fleet vehicles from the recommended vendors in accordance with the bid specifications, including State Sales Tax for a total amount of \$1,325,353.07 [15-88]. St. Louis County Procurement Manager Donna Viskoe discussed the contract and noted an increase of awards to local dealerships. Commissioner Jewell stepped out of the office from 1:27 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Chair Stauber stepped out of the meeting from 1:33 p.m. to 1:34 p.m. The motion passed. (6-0, Dahlberg absent)

Nelson/Raukar moved to approve the apportionment of the 2014 Land and Minerals Department proceed according to relevant statutes [15-89].

At 1:41 p.m., the Committee of the Whole recessed.

At 2:55 p.m., the Committee of the Whole re-convened with the following members present: Commissioners Jewell, Boyle, Rukavina, Nelson, Raukar, and Chair Stauber - 6. Absent: Commissioner Dahlberg - 1.

Discussion continued on the motion to approve the 2014 Land and Minerals Department proceeds apportionment. Commissioner Dahlberg entered the meeting at 3:04 p.m. Commissioner Stauber stepped out of the meeting from 3:15 p.m. to 3:16 p.m. St. Louis County Deputy Administrator Linnea Mirsch answered questions regarding the apportionment. After further discussion, the motion passed. (6-1, Dahlberg)

Nelson/Raukar moved to authorize an additional capital payment of \$212,681 to Arrowhead Center to complete the electrical and plumbing projects underway, payable from 2014 Land Department Apportionment; and further, the appropriate county officials are authorized to amend the contract with

Arrowhead Center to reflect this additional capital payment [15-90]. The motion passed. (6-1, Dahlberg)

Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee

Raukar/Nelson moved to re-appoint Tom Coombe and appoint Steve Filipovich to the Planning Commission with terms expiring December 31, 2017 [15-91]. After further discussion, Commissioner Raukar withdrew support for the motion and exited the meeting at 3:54 p.m. Nelson/Rukavina moved to re-appoint Tom Coombe and appoint Steve Filipovich to the Planning Commission with terms expiring December 31, 2017. The motion passed without recommendation. (6-0, Raukar absent)

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

At 3:55 p.m., Nelson/Jewell moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. The motion passed. (6-0, Raukar absent)



Pete Stauber, Chair of the County Board



Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board