

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 9, 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 11:19 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Minutes of June 2, 2015
- Cancellation of Contract for Purchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Nelson [15-255]
- Special Sale – Miltakis [15-256]
- Supplemental Agreement on County Project 0021-243053 for Chip Sealing on CSAH 102 (Mt. Iron) [15-257]

Environmental & Natural Resources Committee

Rukavina/Jewell moved to authorize an adjoining owner land sale of tax forfeited parcels located in the Park Point neighborhood of Duluth, authorize the County Auditor to offer the parcels at private sale to the adjacent property owners for not less than the appraised sale price in accordance with terms set forth in the Land and Minerals Department policy, and that the Land Commissioner shall give at least 30-days notice of its sales to all adjoining owners. The parcels that do not sell at this adjoining owner sale will be offered at public auction [15-258]. Dennis Fink, of Duluth, and Mary Ridella-Wade, of Duluth, discussed concerns they had regarding the proposed sale. Commissioner Nelson and Commissioner Jewell stepped out of the meeting from 11:54 a.m. to 11:56 a.m. Commissioner Raukar stepped out of the meeting at 11:56 a.m.

The meeting recessed at 12:01 p.m. At 12:07 p.m., the meeting re-convened with all Commissioners present.

Commissioner discussion continued regarding the original intent of the St. Louis County Board and the legislation. Jewell/Dahlberg moved to amend the motion striking the fifth “Resolved Further”. The amendment passed. (7-0) Nelson/Jewell offered an amendment to add an additional Resolved Further “That pending results of the auction, all land sales are subject to approval by the St. Louis County Board.” After further discussion, the amendment was withdrawn. The amended motion passed without recommendation. (7-0)

Public Works & Transportation Committee

Rukavina/Raukar moved to award a bid to Redstone Construction, LLC, of Mora, MN, for \$908,512.00 for project CP 0004-213068, SAP 069-604-076 Bridge 69A29, Approach Grading, Bituminous Paving, Guardrail and Bridge 69A29, located on CSAH 4 Between CR 632 and CSAH 16 over Water Hen Creek in Colvin Township [15-259]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Stauber/Rukavina moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., Angora, MN, for \$427,668.25 for project CP 0004-249529, Culvert Replacement and Plant Mixed Bituminous Patches, located on CSAH 4 (Vermilion Trail) from CSAH 274 (Thompson Lake Road) to North District Line, Length 11.24 miles, Gnesen and Unorganized 54-14 Townships [15-259]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Finance & Budget Committee

Raukar/Nelson moved to authorize the appropriate county officials to execute an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Human Services to accept Minnesota State General Obligation Bond Grant funds in the amount of \$1,800,000 for predesign/design activities for a new office facility to house the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Authority and Range Mental Health Center in Virginia, MN [15-260]. After further discussion, the motion passed. (6-1, Dahlberg)

Nelson/Stauber moved to authorize the appropriate county officials to execute an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety to accept Minnesota State General Obligation Bond Grant funds in the amount of \$700,000 for predesign, design, renovation and repurposing of existing space in the former county motor pool building located in Virginia, to be used as an operations and storage facility for the St. Louis County Rescue Squad [15-261]. After further discussion, the motion passed without recommendation. (7-0)

Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee

Jewell/Stauber moved to appoint the following eligible voters as election judges during 2015 to process applications and ballots in the Duluth Courthouse for the Uniformed and Overseas Citizen Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) Ballot Board:

Judge/Staff – Lisa Sweet, 100 N. 5th Ave. W., #214, Duluth, MN 55802

Judge/Staff – Amy Gundersen, 100 N. 5th Ave. W., #214, Duluth, MN 55802

The County Auditor and/or Clerk of the County Board may make election judge appointments to fill vacancies should they occur [15-261]. The motion passed. (7-0)

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Commissioner Nelson thanked Chair Stauber for his leadership in raising the Board's awareness and fundraising relating to the Lt. David Wheat statute that will be displayed at the Duluth International Airport. Commissioner Nelson discussed the dedication event that he attended last Friday.

Commissioner Stauber said that he appreciated the Board's support and said his heroes are veterans, not professional athletes.

Commissioner Jewell mentioned that his dad was a POW in World War II and commented on the human spirit needed to survive as a POW. Commissioner Jewell said the Duluth City Library is holding their annual used book sale over the next couple of days.

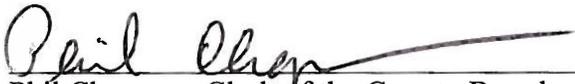
Commissioner Rukavina talked about issues people who are purchasing lake property are experiencing because banks are not accepting the certified appraisals. Commissioner Rukavina said the St. Louis County Land Department is working to resolve the issue with the banks.

Commissioner Nelson said he believed the issue was the appraisals were not getting to the bank in a timely manner.

At 12:48 p.m., Jewell/Dahlberg moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. The motion passed. (7-0)



Pete Stauber, Chair of the County Board



Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board