

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 14, 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 10:29 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Minutes of July 7, 2015
- Cancellation of Contracts for Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Richards Salvage, Beyer, Baker [15-306]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Jacobs, Engelstad, North Shore Bank of Commerce [15-307]
- Cooperative Agreement with City of Cook for Reconstruction of Bridge 747 on Municipal Route 10 (Cook) [15-308]
- Hibbing Courthouse HVAC Control System Replacement – Phase II [15-309]
- Abatement List for Board Approval [15-310]

Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Rukavina/Jewell moved to approve the 2014 and 2015 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Aid and authorize the appropriate county officials 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; total funds of \$845,617. The St. Louis County Board will continue this project application process for Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid for future years provided the State of Minnesota continues to fund the program [15-311]. St. Louis County Planning Director Barb Hayden provided the Committee with an overview of the review process. Nelson/Stauber moved to divide the question and consider each proposal individually. The motion failed; two yeas (Nelson, Stauber), five nays (Jewell, Boyle, Dahlberg, Rukavina, Raukar). Commissioner Nelson requested a Point of Order regarding the vote to divide the question as he felt that dividing the question was non-debatable and a majority vote was unnecessary. The Committee of the Whole meeting recessed from 10:49 a.m. to 10:53 a.m. After the Committee re-convened, St. Louis County Attorney Mark Rubin stated that according to Robert's Rules of Order a motion to divide the question requires a second, debate, and a majority vote. Commissioner Jewell stepped out of the meeting from 11:06 a.m. to 11:09 a.m. The following representatives discussed AIS proposals: Jeff Lovgren, of the Sportsmen's Club of Lake Vermilion, Anita Provinzino, District Administrator of the North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District, and Doug Jensen, Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator of Minnesota Sea Grant. Chair Stauber stepped out of the meeting from 11:27 a.m. to 11:29 a.m. Jewell/Dahlberg moved to amend the motion to exclude funding for both of the Natural Resources Research Institute

proposals (\$61,541 and \$64,740). Commissioner Boyle stepped out of the meeting from 11:50 a.m. to 11:52 a.m. After further discussion, Commissioner Jewell withdrew the amendment. Dahlberg/Nelson moved to amend the original motion to decrease funding for both of the Natural Resources Research Institute proposals by \$25,000, move the balance of \$76,281 into administration, and provide \$50,000 of funding for the City of Babbitt proposal.

At 12:14 p.m., the Committee of the Whole recessed. At 12:42 p.m., the Committee of the Whole reconvened with all members present.

After further Commissioner discussion, a roll-call vote was taken. The motion failed; three yeas (Dahlberg, Nelson, Stauber), four nays (Jewell, Boyle, Rukavina, Raukar). Nelson/Boyle moved to amend the original motion to increase funding the Izaak Walton League of America – Minnesota Division by \$35,000. After further discussion, Commissioner Nelson withdrew the amendment. Nelson/Dahlberg moved to amend the original motion to provide \$50,000 funding for the City of Babbitt proposal. The motion passed; five yeas (Jewell, Dahlberg, Nelson, Rukavina, Stauber), two nays (Boyle, Raukar). Stauber/Dahlberg moved to amend the original motion to include additional wording that when state funding for the program is discontinued, the funding does not fall upon the taxpayers for continuation of the program. The motion passed (7-0). Boyle/Rukavina moved to pass the original motion without recommendation. The motion passed (6-1, Raukar). The amended motion passed (6-1, Raukar).

At 1:08 p.m., Executive Director Keith Carlson, and Steve Novak of the Minnesota Inter-County Association, presented the 2015 Legislative End-Of-Session report to the Committee. Commissioner Rukavina stepped out of the meeting from 1:08 p.m. to 1:11 p.m. Commissioner Dahlberg stepped out of the meeting from 1:25 p.m. to 1:28 p.m.

A discussion was held regarding a potential lease to Hibbing Taconite Company on state tax forfeited land located in Balkan Township. St. Louis County Land Commissioner Mark Weber and representatives from Hibbing Taconite Company discussed possible lease options. Commissioner Dahlberg stepped out of the meeting from 2:05 p.m. to 2:16 p.m. Nelson/ Rukavina moved to authorize the St. Louis County Land Department and St. Louis County Administration to negotiate a short-term lease with the option to enter into a long-term lease or sell the property upon obtaining approval from the state legislature. After further discussion, Commissioner Nelson withdrew the motion. Commissioner Jewell exited the meeting at 2:20 p.m. Nelson/ Rukavina moved to authorize the St. Louis County Land Department and St. Louis County Administration to negotiate a short-term lease with the option to enter into a long-term lease or sell the property upon obtaining approval from the state legislature. The motion passed. (6-0, Jewell absent)

Commissioner Rukavina stepped out of the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Public Works & Transportation Committee

Raukar/Nelson moved to award a bid to Dallco, Inc., of Brook Park, MN, for \$623,377.26 for project CP 0492-213057 TST Bridge 69A26, Approach Grading and Bridge 69A26 (County Bridge 303) located on CR 492 (East Anton Road) between CR 467 (Heino Road) and TH 53, length 0.1 Miles, Angora Township [15-312]. The motion passed. (5-0, Jewell, Rukavina absent)

Nelson/Raukar moved to award a bid to Dallco, Inc., of Brook Park, MN, for \$637,781.90 for project CP 0431-213066 TST Bridge 69A25, Approach Grading and Bridge 69A25 (County Bridge 323)

located on CR 431 (Short Road) between CR 948 (Johnson Road) and CSAH 115, length 0.07 Miles, Owens Township [15-312]. The motion passed. (5-0, Jewell, Rukavina absent)

Raukar/Nelson moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., of Angora, MN, in the amount of \$427,803.71 for combined projects, Cities of Hibbing and Mt. Iron and Cherry Township, Culvert Replacement: A.) CP 0005-218488(Low), CSAH 5, approximately 0.53 miles south of CSAH 84, length 0.01 mile; B.) CP 0447-248012 Tied CR 447 (Tamminen Road) from TH 37 to CR 452 (Iron Junction Road), length 1.0 mile; C.) CP 0452-248039 Tied CR 452 (Iron Junction Road) from CSAH 25 to CR 447 (Tamminen Road), length 1.0 mile; and D.) CP 0103-225772 Tied CSAH 103 (Mud Lake Road) approximately 1.4 miles east of CSAH 102 (Mineral Avenue), length 0.01 mile [15-312]. The motion passed. (5-0, Jewell, Rukavina absent)

Commissioner Rukavina returned to the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

Finance & Budget Committee

Nelson/Dahlberg moved to reduce the Public Works Department's requirement for proof of insurance from \$500,000 per individual and \$1.5 million for all claims arising out of a single occurrence, to the requested \$300,000 per individual and \$1.0 million for all claims arising out of a single occurrence, for the "Heck of the North" bicycle ride to be held on August 22-23, 2015, and accept the tort liability gap of \$500,000 for this event [15-313]. After further discussion, Commissioner Nelson withdrew the motion. Nelson/Stauber moved to table discussion until the July 28, 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting. The motion passed. (6-0, Jewell absent)

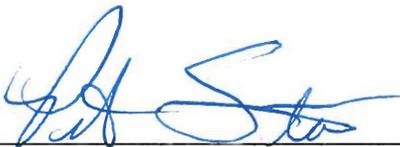
Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee

Rukavina/Nelson moved to reappoint Mr. Julian Brzoznowski to the Cook-Orr Healthcare District Board of Directors to represent unorganized townships in the Cook-Orr Healthcare District for a three (3) year term beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2018 [15-314]. The motion passed. (6-0, Jewell absent)

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Chair Stauber discussed a situation in which a Duluth Township citizen is interested in serving on the Arrowhead Library Board; however, the citizen is ineligible for consideration because of an Arrowhead Library Board bylaw requiring that the member reside in the City of Duluth.

At 3:05 p.m., Raukar/Nelson moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. The motion passed. (6-0, Jewell absent)



Pete Stauber, Chair of the County Board



Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board