



*** AMENDED AGENDA**

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

Tuesday, September 8, 2015, 9:30 A.M.

**Morse Town Hall
911 South Central Avenue
Ely, Minnesota**

**PETE STAUBER, Chair
Fifth District**

**FRANK JEWELL
First District**

**PATRICK BOYLE
Second District**

**CHRIS DAHLBERG
Third District**

**TOM RUKAVINA
Fourth District**

**KEITH NELSON
Sixth District**

**STEVE RAUKAR, Vice-Chair
Seventh District**

County Auditor
Donald Dicklich

County Administrator
Kevin Gray

County Attorney
Mark Rubin

Clerk of the Board
Phil Chapman

The St. Louis County Board of Commissioners welcomes you to this meeting. This agenda contains a brief description of each item to be considered. The Board encourages your participation. If you wish to speak on an item contained in the agenda, you will be allowed to address the Board when a motion is on the floor. If you wish to speak on a matter that does not appear on the agenda, you may do so during the public comment period at the beginning of the meeting. Except as otherwise provided by the Standing Rules of the County Board, no action shall be taken on any item not appearing in the agenda.

When addressing the Board, please sign in at the podium and state your name and address for the record. Please address the Board as a whole through the Chair. Comments to individual Commissioners or staff are not permitted. The St. Louis County Board promotes adherence to civility in conducting the business of the County. Civility will provide increased opportunities for civil discourse in order to find positive resolutions to the issue before the Board. Tools of civility include: pay attention, listen, be inclusive, do not gossip, show respect, be agreeable, apologize, give constructive criticism and take responsibility [County Board Resolution No. 560, adopted on September 9, 2003]. Speakers will be limited to five (5) minutes.

****In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for this meeting should notify Property Management 72 hours prior to the meeting at (218)725-5085.****

All supporting documentation is available for public review in the County Auditor's Office, 100 North 5th Avenue West - Room No. 214, St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth, MN, during regular business hours 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. Agenda is also available on our website at <http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/GOVERNMENT/BoardofCommissioners.aspx>

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9:30 A.M. Moment of Silence
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

AT THIS TIME CITIZENS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA. [Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes each.]

FOR ITEMS LISTED ON THE BOARD AGENDA OR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA, CITIZENS WILL BE ALLOWED TO ADDRESS THE BOARD AT THE TIME A MOTION IS ON THE FLOOR.

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed on 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.

REGULAR AGENDA

Public Works & Transportation Committee – Commissioner Raukar, Chair

1. Naming the Ely Joint Public Works Facility for former Commissioner Mike Forsman. **{15-398} [Without recommendation.]**
2. Quote accepted from Mesabi Bituminous, Inc., of Gilbert, MN, for a tied mill and overlay project in the City of Winton. **{15-405} [Has not been to committee; requires consent of the Board to be considered.]**

Finance & Budget Committee – Commissioner Nelson, Chair

3. Certify and adopt the 2016 Unorganized Township Road Maintenance levy. **{15-399}**
4. Fire Protection/First Responder Services contracts authorized for specific unorganized territories and approve the local levies for these services for the year 2016. **{15-394} [Without recommendation.]**

Health & Human Services Committee – Commissioner Boyle, Chair

5. Request for reconsideration of health plans selected by the State of Minnesota. **{15-406} [Has not been to committee; requires consent of the Board to be considered.]**

Environment & Natural Resources Committee – Commissioner Rukavina, Chair

- *6. Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program Technical Assistance Grant Application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority – Sand Lake Association. **{15-420} [Has not been to committee; requires consent of the Board to be considered.]**

ADJOURNED:

BOARD LETTER NO. 15 – 398

PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE NO. 1

SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 BOARD AGENDA NO. 1

DATE: September 1, 2015 **RE:** Naming the Ely Joint Public Works Facility for Former Commissioner Mike Forsman

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to rename the Ely Joint Public Works Facility as the “Michael D. Forsman Public Works Facility” in honor of former St. Louis County Commissioner Mike Forsman.

BACKGROUND:

Throughout his 20-year tenure on the St. Louis County Board, Commissioner Mike Forsman was a strong advocate for transportation projects and funding. He made countless trips to St. Paul and Washington, D.C., testifying and working to gain support not just for St. Louis County infrastructure needs, but for all of Minnesota.

Commissioner Forsman built a close working relationship with Congressman James Oberstar and sought to follow the late congressman’s example of focusing on the importance of transportation, often citing a favorite line of Representative Oberstar that “there are no Democratic roads and there are no Republican roads.”

Commissioner Forsman was a longtime Board Member of the Transportation Alliance, from 1998-2013, supporting and participating in numerous Alliance-sponsored events, including the annual Transportation Day at the state capitol, the Washington, D.C. Fly-in and the Alliance Annual Meeting/Construction Forecast event. He held officer roles including Secretary in 2009, Vice-president in 2010 and President in 2011. He also served on the Alliance Executive Committee from 2009-2012 and the Legislative Committee from 1998 through 2014.

He chaired the County Board’s Public Works Committee for 10 of his 20 years on the Board, most recently from 2010-13, which included the tremendous work that resulted from the 2012 flood that devastated parts of our and neighboring counties. Other transportation-related committees on which he served include the Arrowhead Regional Transportation Advisory Committee, the ARDC Trunk Highway 53 Corridor Study, the AMC District 1 Policy Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the St. Louis/Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority.

In addition to advocating for state and federal funding for transportation needs, Commissioner Forsman also prioritized the use of local dollars. His voting record as a commissioner includes supporting some unpopular levy increases in order to generate needed funds for local road and bridge projects throughout the county.

Commissioner Forsman did not seek reelection, and retired at the end of his last term in 2014. But, before retiring, he was honored as the 2014 recipient of the “William Koniarski Transportation Advocate Award,” from the Minnesota Transportation Alliance. This award is presented periodically to an individual or unit of government from the public sector that has shown outstanding leadership and commitment on behalf of improving Minnesota’s transportation infrastructure.

Therefore, it is absolutely fitting to honor this tireless transportation advocate by renaming the joint Public Works facility located in his home town of Ely, MN, as the “Michael D. Forsman Public Works Facility.”

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board rename the Ely Joint Public Works Facility as the “Michael D. Forsman Public Works Facility” in honor of former St. Louis County Commissioner Mike Forsman, recognizing his continuous dedication to the transportation needs of St. Louis County and the state of Minnesota.

**Naming the Ely Joint Public Works Facility for Former
Commissioner Mike Forsman**

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, Throughout his 20-year tenure on the St. Louis County Board, Commissioner Mike Forsman was a strong advocate for transportation projects and funding, making countless trips to St. Paul and Washington, D.C., testifying and working to gain support not just for St. Louis County infrastructure needs, but for all of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Forsman was a longtime Board Member of the Transportation Alliance, from 1998-2013, supporting and participating in numerous Alliance-sponsored events, including the annual Transportation Day at the state capitol, the Washington, D.C. Fly-in and the Alliance Annual Meeting/Construction Forecast event; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Forsman chaired the County Board's Public Works Committee for 10 of his 20 years on the Board, most recently from 2010-13, which included the tremendous work resulting from the 2012 flood that devastated parts of our region, as well as other transportation-related committees including the Arrowhead Regional Transportation Advisory Committee, the ARDC Trunk Highway 53 Corridor Study, the AMC District 1 Policy Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the St. Louis/Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board hereby renames the Ely Joint Public Works Facility as the "Michael D. Forsman Public Works Facility" in honor of former St. Louis County Commissioner Mike Forsman and his continuous dedication to the transportation needs of St. Louis County and Minnesota.

Construction: Mill & Overlay
Funding: Fund 444, Agency 444042, Object 652806

QUOTES:

Mesabi Bituminous, Gilbert, MN	\$94,036.00
KGM Contractors, Angora, MN	Declined to submit

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board award the tied projects as follows:

CP 0117-272831(Low) TST; CP 0118-272832(Tied) TST; CP 0945-272829(Tied) TST to Mesabi Bituminous of Gilbert, MN in the amount of \$94,036.00, payable from Fund 444, Agency 444040, 444041, and 444042, Object 652806

Acceptance of Quote: Tied Mill and Overlay Projects (Winton)

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, Quotes were solicited by the St. Louis County Public Works Department for the following tied project:

- A.) CP 0117-272831(Low) TST, CSAH 117 in Winton,
- B.) CP 0118-272832(Tied) TST, CSAH 118 in Winton,
- C.) CP 0945-272829(Tied) TST, CR 945 in Winton.

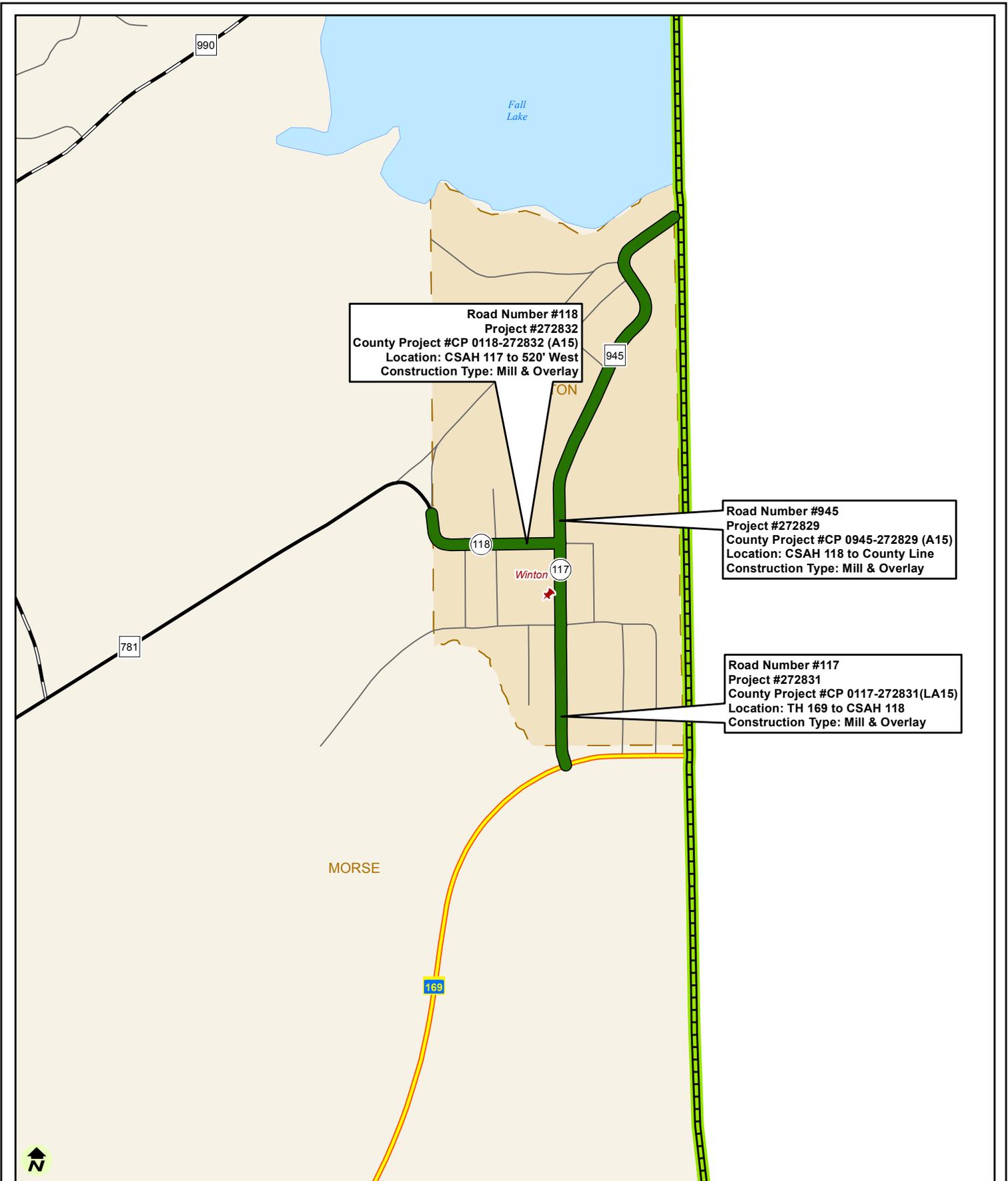
WHEREAS, Quotes were received in the Public Works Garage in Virginia, MN, on August 31, 2015, and the low responsible quote determined;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the award on the above project as follows:

<u>LOW QUOTE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Mesabi Bituminous	P.O. Box 728 Gilbert, MN 54741	\$94,036.00

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 as follows:

CP 0117-272831(Low) TST: Fund 444, Agency 444040, Object 652806	\$30,092.00
CP 0118-272832(Tied) TST: Fund 444, Agency 444041, Object 652806	\$13,164.00
CP 09454-272829(Tied) TST: Fund 444, Agency 444042, Object 652806	\$50,780.00

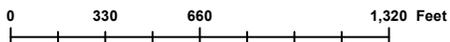


Road Number #118
Project #272832
County Project #CP 0118-272832 (A15)
Location: CSAH 117 to 520' West
Construction Type: Mill & Overlay

Road Number #945
Project #272829
County Project #CP 0945-272829 (A15)
Location: CSAH 118 to County Line
Construction Type: Mill & Overlay

Road Number #117
Project #272831
County Project #CP 0117-272831(LA15)
Location: TH 169 to CSAH 118
Construction Type: Mill & Overlay

St. Louis County 2015 Road & Bridge Construction



Map Components		
2015 Road & Bridge Construction	— County Road - Paved	— Township Boundary
— Mill & Overlay	— County Road - Gravel	★ City/Town
— Interstate Highway	— Local Road/City Street	— Lake
— U.S./State Highway	— Railroad	— Commissioner District

BOARD LETTER NO. 15 - 399

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE NO. 1

SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 BOARD AGENDA NO. 3

DATE: September 1, 2015 **RE:** Unorganized Township Road
Levy – FY 2016

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 adopt a levy for the purpose of road and bridge maintenance and construction in unorganized townships.

BACKGROUND:

Minnesota Laws 1995, Chapter 47 authorizes the county to pool unorganized town road levies pursuant to Minn. Stat. §163.06. These levies are for the purpose of road and bridge maintenance and construction.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the county to act on behalf of the unorganized townships for the purpose of road and bridge maintenance and construction and adopt a levy of \$1,582,000 for 2016.

Unorganized Township Road Levy – FY 2016

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, Minnesota Laws 1995, Chapter 47, authorizes St. Louis County to pool unorganized town road levies pursuant to Minn. Stat. §163.06;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board, acting on behalf of unorganized townships for the purpose of road and bridge maintenance and construction, adopts and certifies a maximum levy of \$1,582,000 for the year 2016 to be levied only in such unorganized townships.

BOARD LETTER NO. 15 – 394

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE CONSENT NO. 14

SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 BOARD AGENDA NO. 4

DATE: September 1, 2015 **RE:** Fire Protection/First Responder
Services Contract for
Unorganized Territories - 2016

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

Donald Dicklich
County Auditor/Treasurer

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:

To provide efficient, effective government.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize the County Auditor to spread local levies for the provision of fire protection and first responder services in unorganized territories within the county.

BACKGROUND:

Under state statute (Minn. Stat. § 365.243), the St. Louis County Board has the authority to enter into contractual agreements to obtain fire protection and first responder services for unorganized territories within the county. In addition, the statute authorizes the County Board to levy a tax to finance these services. The attached resolution lists all of the legally organized corporations that have requested to contract with St. Louis County to provide fire protection and/or first responder services to specific unorganized territories for 2016.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize the County Auditor to spread local levies for the provision of fire protection and/or first responder services to identified unorganized territories within the county beginning January 1, 2016, and to authorize the agreements with the listed corporations for the provision of these services. The funds will be accounted for in Fund 148, Agency 148001, Object 699100.

**Fire Protection/First Responder Services Contracts
for Unorganized Territories - 2016**

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Board is authorized to act on behalf of unorganized townships for purposes of furnishing fire protection and first responder services, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 365.243; and

WHEREAS, The following legally organized corporations under the State of Minnesota have notified St. Louis County of their intent to provide fire protection and/or first responder services in said townships for the year 2016;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate county officials to sign any associated contract documents;

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the County Auditor is hereby authorized to spread local levies up to the authorized amount, for the furnishing of fire protection and/or first responder services in unorganized townships as follows, to be accounted for in Fund 148, Agency 148001, Object 699100:

<u>City of Babbitt</u> Unorganized Townships 61-12 & 61-13	\$81,884
<u>City of Chisholm</u> Unorganized Township 59-21 (part of)	\$15,914
<u>City of Cook</u> Unorganized Township 62-17 Unorganized Township 63-17	\$1,575 \$13,125
<u>City of Floodwood</u> Unorganized Township 52-21	\$16,059
<u>City of Orr</u> Unorganized Township 63-19 Unorganized Township 66-20	\$2,978 \$7,196
<u>Bearville Township Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 62-21	\$4,584
<u>Central Lakes Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 56-17	\$43,050

<u>Colvin Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 55-15 (part of)	\$10,500
<u>Ellsburg Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 55-15 (part of)	\$4,763
<u>Embarrass Region Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 61-14	\$5,843
<u>Evergreen Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Townships 60-19 & 60-20	\$23,100
<u>French Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 59-21 (part of)	\$1,026
<u>Gnesen Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 53-15	\$18,812
<u>Greenwood Township Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 63-15	\$8,400
<u>Lake Kabetogama Area Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Townships 68-19, 69-19, 67-20, 68-20, 67-21 & 68-21	\$31,710
<u>Lakeland Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 57-16	\$61,950
<u>Makinen Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 56-16	\$48,300
<u>Morse-Fall Lake Rural Protection Assoc.</u> Unorganized Townships 64-12, 64-13, 65-13 & 63-14	\$21,000
<u>Northland Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 53-16	\$18,900
<u>Palo Regional Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Townships 56-14, 57-14, and 58-14 (part of)	\$37,800
<u>Pequaywan Lake Volunteer Fire Dept.</u> Unorganized Township 54-13	\$3,780

<u>Pike-Sandy-Britt Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 59-16	\$7,714
Unorganized Township 60-18	\$40,124
<u>Silica Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 55-21	\$47,250

BOARD LETTER NO. 15 – 406

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 BOARD AGENDA NO. 5

DATE: September 8, 2015 **RE:** Request for Reconsideration of
Health Plans Selected by the
State

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

Ann M. Busche, Director
Public Health & Human Services

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOALS:

Adults will be self-sufficient, providing for their own welfare and that of their children.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to exercise its option pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 256B.69, subd. 3a(d) and request reconsideration of the Department of Human Services (DHS) Commissioner's decision of the health plans selected for Prepaid Medical Assistance Program and Minnesota Care.

BACKGROUND:

The Minnesota Department of Human Services contracts with managed care organizations for the delivery of basic health care services for individuals who are on Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare. DHS recently issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for counties throughout the state. Public Health and Human Services Department (PHHS) staff was involved in the development of the question set for the RFP and evaluated the answers provided using a scoring tool provided by the state. Based on those results, the County Board adopted Resolution No. 15-351 recommending Medica and UCare be selected to provide services within St Louis County.

The state subsequently selected Blue Cross Blue Shield and Health Partners, an action that requires the approximately 29,000 individuals within the county that are currently enrolled in PMAP or MinnesotaCare to select a new plan prior to January 1, 2016. It is estimated that the selection of these two health plans will result in \$150,000 to \$275,000 in additional expenses to the local property taxpayers. There appears to be neither regard for nor reimbursement of these additional expenses by the state. In addition, these citizens will experience a potentially painful and confusing application/change process that is a great hardship for them without any explained benefit.

For these reasons, and in consultation with the County Administrator and Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, a request for reconsideration was sent to the Department of Human Services by PHHS. The response deadline of August 31 did not

allow the Board to take official action; however, should the Board wish not to exercise its option and request reconsideration, a withdrawal of the request will be made by PHHS.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board exercise its option pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 256B.69, subd. 3a(d) and request reconsideration of the DHS Commissioner's decision of the health plans selected for Prepaid Medical Assistance Program and Minnesota Care.

Request for Reconsideration of Health Plans Selected by the State

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) contracts with managed care organizations for the delivery of basic health care services for individuals who are on Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare; and

WHEREAS, DHS has recently published a Request For Proposals to provide health care services to recipients of Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare in counties throughout the state, including St. Louis County; and

WHEREAS, Representatives of the St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services Department have reviewed and evaluated the answers provided using a scoring tool provided by the state; and

WHEREAS, Based on those results, the County Board adopted Resolution No. 15-351 recommending Medica and UCare be selected to provide services within St. Louis County; and

WHEREAS, The state subsequently selected Blue Cross Blue Shield and Health Partners, an action that requires the approximately 29,000 individuals within the county that are currently enrolled in PMAP or MinnesotaCare to select a new plan prior to January 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that the selection of these two health plans will result in \$150,000 to \$275,000 in additional expenses to the local property tax payers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board exercises its option pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 256B.69, subd. 3a(d) and requests reconsideration of the Department of Human Services' decision of the health plans selected for Prepaid Medical Assistance Program and Minnesota Care.

BOARD LETTER NO. 15 - 420

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 BOARD AGENDA NO. 6

DATE: September 8, 2015 **RE:** Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program Technical Assistance Grant Application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority - Sand Lake Association

FROM: Kevin Z. Gray
County Administrator

Mark St. Lawrence, Director
Environmental Services

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL:

To ensure the policy direction set by the St. Louis County Board is implemented in an effective and efficient manner.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The St. Louis County Board is requested to authorize the Environmental Services Department to apply on behalf of the Sand Lake Association for a \$60,000 Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) from the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (PFA) to fund a Community Assessment Report (CAR) to assess the need for a community sanitary sewer project for properties on Sand Lake.

BACKGROUND:

The Sand Lake Association established a Community Sewer Committee that met with property owners around the lake and found substantial support for exploring a community sanitary sewer system for the area. Because Sand Lake is located in Unorganized Township 60-18, the Association requested that the county prepare and submit an application, on its behalf, to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for placement on the MPCA Project Priority List (PPL). There was no financial obligation associated with submittal of the application, however, placement on the PPL allows the applicant to submit a TAG application to the PFA. Recently, the Department was notified that the Sand Lake project was placed on the PPL.

To proceed, the Association is seeking funds to conduct a CAR. The Association is requesting the Department to prepare and submit an application to the PFA for a TAG grant to fund the CAR. Upon notification that grant funding has been approved, a Request for Proposals will be issued by the Department for the Sand Lake sewer Community Assessment Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the St. Louis County Board authorize an application on behalf of the Sand Lake Association for a \$60,000 Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program Technical Assistance Grant from the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority to fund a Community Assessment Report to assess the need for a community sanitary sewer project for properties on Sand Lake.

**Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program Technical Assistance Grant
Application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority - Sand Lake Association**

BY COMMISSIONER _____

WHEREAS, The Sand Lake Association established a Community Sewer Committee that met with property owners around the lake and found substantial support for exploring a community sanitary sewer system for the area; and

WHEREAS, Since Sand Lake is located in Unorganized Township 60-18, the Association is requesting the Environmental Services Department prepare and submit an application for a Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program Technical Assistance Grant from the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority to fund a Community Assessment Report to assess the need for a community sanitary sewer project for properties on Sand Lake; and

WHEREAS, Under the provisions contained in Minnesota Laws of 2007, Chapter 96, Section 9, the 2007 Legislature amended the Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program under Minn. Stat. § 446A.075, and appropriated funds for this program; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County has been asked to apply on behalf of the Sand Lake Association to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority for funds to be used for eligible technical assistance costs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis Board authorizes the Environmental Services Department to submit a Small Community Technical Assistance Grant application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority.