

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, MINNESOTA,
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2015**

The Board of County Commissioners of the County of St. Louis, Minnesota, met this 8th day of September 2015, at 9:44 a.m., at the Morse Town Hall, Ely, Minnesota, with the following members present: Commissioners Frank Jewell, Patrick Boyle, Chris Dahlberg, Tom Rukavina, Keith Nelson, Steve Raukar, and Chair Pete Stauber - 7. Absent: None - 0.

Chair Stauber asked for a moment of silence to pray for the safety of service men and women, their families, and for all innocent victims of war and acts of terrorism, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Chair Stauber then opened the meeting to persons who wanted to address the Board concerning issues not on the agenda. Sally Lammi, of Embarrass, submitted a petition to the Board requesting a rerouting of the southern end of County Road (CR) 715/Whiskey Road in Biwabik and discussed concerns she has regarding the closing of CR 715. Harold Langowski, of Embarrass, discussed concerns regarding the closing of CR 715 and the impact on Highway 68. Anna Adamiak, of Embarrass, brought forward concerns she has regarding Highway 68. Steve Koch, of Orr, thanked the Board for considering an All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) permit process and ordinance. Mark Anderson, of Crane Lake, discussed the positive impacts to northern businesses due to the approval of the ATV permit process and ordinance. Gretchen Janssen, of Crane Lake, discussed the positive impacts on local businesses. Bruce Beste, of Crane Lake, discussed the benefits of the ATV permit process and ordinance and the impact to the Voyageur Country ATV Club. Gene Wright, of Embarrass, asked for consideration in connecting various trails near Embarrass. Carla Koch, of Orr, thanked the Board for considering an ATV permit process and ordinance and Commissioner Rukavina for keeping the lines of communications open.

Commissioner Dahlberg, supported by Commissioner Boyle, moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner Nelson, supported by Commissioner Raukar, moved 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 and his continuous dedication to the transportation needs of St. Louis County and Minnesota. After further discussion, the motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays. Resolution No. 15-568.

The Board recessed at 10:19 a.m. and reconvened at 10:31 a.m. with all members present.

Former St. Louis County Commissioner Mike Forsman thanked the Board for renaming the Ely Joint Public Work Facility in his honor.

Commissioner Nelson, supported by Commissioner Jewell, moved to consider a resolution authorizing the acceptance of three (3) Mill & Overlay projects in Winton; the item has not been to Committee of the Whole. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner Rukavina, supported by Commissioner Raukar, moved to award a bid to Mesabi Bituminous, of Gilbert, MN, in the amount of \$94,036.00 for combined projects: A.) CP 0117-272831(Low), Trunk Highway 169 to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 118; B.) CP 0118-272832(Tied) TST, CSAH 117 to 520' West; and C.) CP 0945-272829(Tied) TST, CSAH 118 to Co. Line. St. Louis County Public Works Director Jim Foldesi discussed the bid process. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays. Resolution No. 15-569.

Commissioner Nelson, supported by Commissioner Jewell, moved that the St. Louis County Board, acting on behalf of unorganized townships for the purpose of road and bridge maintenance and construction, adopt and certify a maximum levy of \$1,582,000 for the year 2016 to be levied only in such unorganized townships. Commissioner Rukavina questioned increases to the levy made since 2012 and stated that he will not support the motion. After further discussion, the motion passed; six yeas, one nay (Rukavina). Resolution No. 15-570.

Commissioner Nelson, supported by Commissioner Raukar, moved that the County Auditor is authorized to spread local levies up to the authorized amount, for the furnishing of fire protection and/or first responder services in unorganized townships. Morse Township Chair Terry Soderberg distributed maps to the Board and asked the Board to consider awarding the bid for Unorganized Township 65-14 and the northern portion of Unorganized Township 61-12 to the Morse-Fall Lake Rural Protection Association. St. Louis County Auditor Don Dicklich explained that the Auditor's Office is doing an analysis of all fire protection and first responder contracts to ensure that taxpayers are being treated fairly. St. Louis County Assistant Administrator Gary Eckenberg explained the past process of awarding contracts for fire protection and first responder services in unorganized territories. Commissioner Boyle stepped out of the meeting from 11:23 a.m. to 11:24 a.m. Commissioner Jewell stepped out of the meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 11:32 a.m. After further discussion, the motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays. Resolution No. 15-571.

The Board recessed at 11:41 a.m. and reconvened at 11:53 a.m. with all members present.

Commissioner Boyle, supported by Commissioner Nelson, moved to consider a resolution requesting reconsideration of health plans selected by the State of Minnesota; the item has not been to Committee of the Whole. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner Boyle, supported by Commissioner Rukavina, moved 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 MinnesotaCare. St. Louis County Administrator Kevin Gray discussed additional costs that St. Louis County would incur because of the change in health plans and said that St. Louis County Attorney Mark Rubin will represent St. Louis County. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays. Resolution No. 15-572.

Commissioner Nelson, supported by Commissioner Jewell, moved to consider a resolution authorizing 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; the item has not been to Committee of the Whole. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner Rukavina, supported by Commissioner Nelson, moved to authorize the County Environmental Services Department and the appropriate county officials to submit a Small Community Technical Assistance Grant application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority for \$60,000 on behalf of the Sand Lake Association. St. Louis County Environmental Services Director Mark St. Lawrence discussed the grant application and stated that there would not be any financial commitment from St. Louis County. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays. Resolution No. 15-573.

The following Board and contract files were created resulting from documents received at this Board meeting:

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, Mark Weber, Land and Minerals Director, and Donald Dicklich, County Auditor/Treasurer, submitting Board Letter No. 15-383, Legal Services for the Sale of Shoreland Lease Lots – Hanft Fride, P. A.—60186

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, Mark Weber, Land and Minerals Director, and Donald Dicklich, County Auditor/Treasurer, submitting Board Letter No. 15-384, State Tax Forfeited Lease – Shoreland Lease Lots.—60187

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and Sherry Rodriguez, County Veterans Service Officer, submitting Board Letter No. 15-391, Acceptance of County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant.—60188

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and Barbara Hayden, Planning and Community Development Director, submitting Board Letter No. 15-397, Establish a Public Hearing to Consider Additional Tax Abatement for Hermantown Marketplace Project (Hermantown).—60189

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and Barbara Hayden, Planning and Community Development Director, submitting Board Letter No. 15-400, HRA 2016 Proposed Levy.—60190

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, submitting Board Letter No. 15-401, Appointment to Arrowhead Library System Board of Directors.—60191

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and Donald Dicklich, County Auditor/Treasurer, submitting Board Letter No. 15-402, St. Louis County Election Canvassing Board Appointments.—60192

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, submitting Board Letter No. 15-404, Establishing Appointments to the Camp Esquagama Advisory Group.—60193

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, submitting Board Letter No. 15-396, Application and Acceptance of the 2015 Port Security Grant.—60194

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and James Foldesi, County Engineer/Public Works Director, submitting Board Letter No. 15-388, Award of Bid: Gasohol, Fuel Oil and Diesel Fuel (Bid #5264).—60195

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, submitting Board Letter No. 15-398, Naming the Ely Joint Public Works Facility for Former Commissioner Mike Forsman.—60196

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and Donald Dicklich, County Auditor/Treasurer, submitting Board Letter No. 15-394, Fire Protection/First Responder Services Contracts for Unorganized Territories – 2016.—60197

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and James Foldesi, Public Works Director/Highway Engineer, submitting Board Letter No. 15-399, Unorganized Township Road Levy – FY 2016.—60198

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and Ann Busche, Public Health and Human Services Director, submitting Board Letter No. 15-406, Request for Reconsideration of Health Plans Selected by the State.—60199

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and Mark St. Lawrence, Environmental Services Director, submitting Board Letter No. 15-420, Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program Technical Assistance Grant Application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority – Sand Lake Association.—60200

Terry Soderberg, Morse Town Board Chair, submitting Township Resolution 2015-06-01 adopted June 17, 2015, and maps regarding fire protection/first responder services in Unorganized Townships 61-12 and 61-13.—60201

Project Contract No. 5254 between the County of St. Louis and Mutch's Forestry Service, LLC, Grand Rapids, MN, for Low Resolution Inventory II for a two-year period of August 17, 2015 through December 22, 2017.—15-927

Service Contract No. 5257 A, C, D, E between the County of St. Louis and Northern Lights Surveying Company, Virginia, MN, for recovery, restoration and perpetuation of corners of the Public Land Survey System.—15-928

Service Contract No. 5257 B, F between the County of St. Louis and Hayes Surveying and Mapping PC, Grand Marais, MN, for recovery, restoration and perpetuation of corners of the Public Land Survey System.—15-929

Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program Grant Agreement between St. Louis County and North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District in the amount of \$60,000 for the period August 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016.—15-930

Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program Grant Agreement between St. Louis County and Sportsmen's Club of Lake Vermilion, Inc., in the amount of \$285,885 for the period August 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016.—15-931

Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program Grant Agreement between St. Louis County and Wildlife Forever in the amount of \$107,000 for the period August 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016.—15-932

Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program Grant Agreement between St. Louis County and the City of Babbitt in the amount of \$50,000 for the period August 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016.—15-933

Amendment No. 1 to the Minnesota Department of Human Services Northeast Minnesota Project to End Long-Term Homelessness Grant No. 74284 extending the term from July 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 and increasing the grant amount by \$52,500.—15-934

Amendment No. 2 to the Minnesota Department of Human Services Northeast Minnesota Project to End Long-Term Homelessness Grant No. 34551 extending the term from June 30, 2015 to December 31, 2015 an increasing the grant amount by \$362,231.50.—15-935

Minnesota Department of Health Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV) Grant Project Agreement Time and Money Amendment #2 between St. Louis County and the Carlton-Cook-Lake-St. Louis Community Health Board extending the term from March 31, 2015 to September 30, 2016 and increasing the grant amount of \$70,000.—15-936

Cooperative Maintenance Agreement between St. Louis County and the Town of White for road maintenance and shared facilities.—15-937

State of Minnesota Agency Agreement, MnDOT Agreement No. 10000866, between the Department of Transportation and St. Louis County for Federal Participation in Preliminary Engineering for SP 069-591-004, MP SRTS 8815(280), Safe Routes to School Pilot Study Force Account Agreement.—15-938

Professional Services Contract between the County of St. Louis and NSF International, Ann Arbor, MI, for audit services for ISO 14001 Environmental Management Standard (EMS) Registration Services and Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Forest Management Certification for the period of 2015 through 2019.—15-939

Second Amendment to Purchase Agreement between St. Louis County and Realty Associates, a partnership, and John Thomas and Thomas Vecchi d/b/a Realty Associates, extending the closing date from July 31, 2015, to on or before December 31, 2015.—15-940

Upon motion by Commissioner Dahlberg, supported by Commissioner Boyle, resolutions numbered 15-546 through 15-567, as submitted on the consent agenda, were unanimously adopted as follows:

BY COMMISSIONER DAHLBERG:

WHEREAS, The Registrar of Titles is authorized to require Registered Land Survey No. 128 pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 508.47; and

WHEREAS, The County Surveyor and Examiner of Titles have approved Registered Land Survey No. 128; and

WHEREAS, The final prints have been submitted for filing;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board grants final approval to Registered Land Survey No. 128 located in parts of Government Lots 1, 5 & 6 and part of Lot 5, Block 1 of Homer's Lots, all in Section 18, Township 62 North, Range 12 West, 4th Principal Meridian (Morse Township).

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-546

WHEREAS, Boyd J. and R. Wendell Snyder have requested an access easement across state tax forfeited land; and

WHEREAS, There are no reasonable alternatives to obtain access to the property; and

WHEREAS, Exercising the easement will not cause significant adverse environmental or natural resource management impacts and will not conflict with public use of land; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.04, Subd. 4a, authorizes the St. Louis County Auditor to grant easements across state tax forfeited land for such purposes;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the County Auditor to grant a non-exclusive access easement to Boyd J. and R. Wendell Snyder across state tax forfeited lands as described in County Board File No. 60012;

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the granting of this easement is conditioned upon payment of \$140 land use fee, \$50 administration fee, and \$46 recording fee, for a total of \$236 to be deposited into Fund 240 (Forfeited Tax Fund).

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-547

WHEREAS, Minnesota Session Laws, 2012, Chapter 236, Section 28, authorizes St. Louis County to sell state tax forfeited shoreland lots currently under lease; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County is in need of contracted legal services to represent its interests in the shoreland lease lot sale process;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the appropriate county officials are authorized to enter into an agreement with Hanft Fride, Professional Association, Duluth, MN, to provide legal services through December 31, 2017 for the shoreland lease lot sale process, not to exceed \$130,000, payable from Fund 290, Agency 290003 (Lake Shore Lease Sale Fund).

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-548

WHEREAS, Minnesota Session Laws, 2012, Chapter 236, Section 28, authorizes St. Louis County to sell state tax forfeited shoreland lots currently under lease; and

WHEREAS, The leaseholder may elect not to purchase the leased parcel, and instead continue in the annual lease program with the county, not to exceed the lifetime of the leaseholder; and

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Land and Minerals Department recommends entering into a lease agreement with shoreland leaseholders subject to the terms and conditions set forth in County Board File No. 60187;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the County Auditor to enter into an annual lease agreement with shoreland leaseholders subject to the terms and conditions set forth in County Board File No. 60187.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-549

WHEREAS, On July 15, 2015, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) notified

the Environmental Services Department that funding is available to assist in Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS) program administration and the upgrade of substandard SSTS for low-income residents; and

WHEREAS, On August 11, 2015, the St. Louis County Board adopted Resolution No. 15-497, authorizing submission of the grant application; and

WHEREAS, On August 24, 2015, the MPCA awarded St. Louis County \$67,378 in grant funding under the FY16 SSTS Clean Water Fund Grant that will be distributed to the county as part of the Natural Resources Block Grant administered by the Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the Environmental Services Department to accept \$67,378 in grant funding from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to assist with Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems program administration and the upgrade of substandard SSTS for low-income residents, to be accounted for in Fund 616, Agency 616999, Grant 61601/02, Grant Year 2016.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-550

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department's 2015 budget includes replacement of grader blades, cutting edges, plow shoes, pick blades, bits, and carbide blades; and

WHEREAS, The Purchasing Division issued a Request for Bids for this purchase; and

WHEREAS, H & L Mesabi of Hibbing, MN, submitted the low bid meeting specifications for Category 1 and Category 2 (grader blades, wing blades, one way blades and snow plow and wing shoes) in the amount of \$140,217.23; and

WHEREAS, Winter Equipment of Willoughby, OH, submitted the low bid meeting specifications for Category 3 (pick blades and pick bits) in the amount of \$35,070.28; and

WHEREAS, Valk Manufacturing, New Kingstown, PA, submitted the low bid meeting specifications for Category 4 (carbide insert cutting edges) in the amount of \$26,655.96; and

WHEREAS, Complete bids were not received for Category 5 items (JOMA blades), therefore, the Minnesota State Contract will be used in the estimated amount of \$50,000;

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

Categories 1 and 2 (grader blades, wing blades, one way blades, plow shoes and wing shoes) from H & L Mesabi of Hibbing, MN, in the amount of \$140,217.23;

Category 3 (pick blades and pick bits) from Winter Equipment of Willoughby, OH, in the amount of \$35,070.28;

Category 4 (carbide insert cutting edges) from Valk Manufacturing of New Kingstown, PA, in the amount of \$26,655.96;

Category 5 (JOMA blades) from the Minnesota State Contract for an estimated amount of \$50,000.

The total purchase of \$251,943.47 is payable from Fund 200, Agency 207001, Object 657000.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-551

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department's 2015 equipment budget includes the replacement of a 110,000 lb. capacity equipment trailer; and

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department and Purchasing Division presented specifications and requested State of Minnesota Contract pricing for the Towmaster T-110 equipment trailer due to its quality, department experience, savings in inventory, operator familiarity, and local support; and

WHEREAS, Titan Machinery, Inc., of Duluth, MN, provided State Contract pricing in the amount of \$83,469.65, plus 6.5% state sales tax, plus vehicle excise tax for a total purchase price of \$88,915.18;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the purchase of one (1) Towmaster T-110 equipment trailer from Titan Machinery, Inc., of Duluth, MN, for the total purchase price of \$88,915.18, payable from Fund 407, Agency 407001, Object 665900.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-552

WHEREAS, The Purchasing Division solicits bids annually for the purchase of fuels for use throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, The Purchasing Division received bids from six (6) different vendors; and

WHEREAS, Each location and fuel type is treated as a separate bid award providing the county with the lowest cost;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the Purchasing Division to purchase fuels from the vendor with the lowest net cost as indicated on Bid Tabulation – 5264 found in County Board File No. 60195.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-553

WHEREAS, Prior to the determination of the location for the relocated County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 102 certain then-property owners executed easements for drainage pipes to drain nearby properties; and

WHEREAS, Once the location of the relocated CSAH 102 was finalized, the involved parties determined that the original easements would have to be released and new easements granted; and

WHEREAS, The new set of easements will allow the installation of a large drainage pipe under the relocated CSAH 102 to provide drainage from the shopping center properties and the CSAH 102 driving surface into a drainage pond owned and maintained by the Mt. Iron Development Authority;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the proper county officials to execute two (2) drainage/pipe easements to be negotiated by the County Attorney's Office in connection with the relocation of County State Aid Highway 102 in Mt. Iron, MN.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-554

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

CP 0310-3741, BR 484, for project materials for a bridge on County Road 310 in Clinton Township, length 0.1 miles; and

WHEREAS, Said bids were received in the St. Louis County Public Works Facility in Duluth, MN, and the low responsible bid determined;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the bid for Concrete Culverts:

<u>LOW BID</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Hancock Concrete Products	17 Atlantic Ave.	\$124,854.76

Concrete Culverts

Hancock, MN 56244

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the appropriate county officials are authorized to approve the contractor's bid for the above listed project payable from Fund 200, Agency 203395, Object 651000, for Concrete Culverts.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-555

WHEREAS, During the 2013 Legislative Session, the structure of the County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant program was modified and state funding increased to provide an annual base grant to all 87 Minnesota counties in the amount of \$7,500, plus an additional allocation based on each county's veteran population to be used for the purpose of enhancing the benefits programs and services provided to Minnesota veterans; and

WHEREAS, On July 28, 2015, St. Louis County received notice from the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) that the County Veterans Office Operational Enhancement Grant was allocated in the amount of a \$7,500 base grant and an additional \$10,000 based upon the estimated veteran population residing in the county; and

WHEREAS, Counties have until June 30, 2016 to spend the allocated money on qualified items, and by that date, the funds must be spent, documentation of the qualified expenditures received by the MDVA, and any unused funds returned; and

WHEREAS, In order to access the grant funding, a certified County Board Resolution and signed Grant Contract must be received by the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate county officials to enter into a grant contract with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs to conduct the County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant, in the amount of \$17,500;

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the grant must be used to provide outreach to the county's veterans; assist in the reintegration of combat veterans into society; to collaborate with other social service agencies, educational institutions, and other community organizations for the purposes of enhancing services offered to veterans; to reduce homelessness among veterans; and to enhance the operations of the County Veterans Service Office, as specified in Minnesota Laws 2013, Chapter 142, Article 4; and that this Grant should not be used to supplant or replace other funding;

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the St. Louis County Veterans Service Office 2015 proposed budget is amended to include receipt of \$17,500 from the MNDVA, with funds deposited into Fund 100, Agency 124999, Grant 12403, Year 2015.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-556

WHEREAS, The alley level of the Duluth Government Services Center (GSC) parking ramp has been experiencing ground water discharge which has damaged the parking surface and creates a safety issue in the winter along with potential degradation of the subsurface base of the lot; and

WHEREAS, After investigation by local engineers, a "drain field" system was proposed for installation under the concrete parking surface to divert the incoming water to the storm sewer system; and

WHEREAS, Bids were opened on August 12, 2015 with KTM Paving of Hermantown, MN, providing the low responsible bid;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate county officials to enter into an agreement with KTM Paving of Hermantown, MN, in the amount of \$203,548.21 for repair of the alley level of the Government Services Center parking

ramp, payable from the General Fund, Fund 100 designated for parking, transferred to Fund 100, Agency 128010.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-557

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. 60032.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-558

WHEREAS, County Board Resolution No. 02-187, adopted March 1, 2002, approved a tax abatement financing policy as authorized under Minn. Stat. §§ 469.1812 through 469.1815 (2000) and any amendment thereto, which requires that a public hearing be conducted prior to approving a tax abatement; and

WHEREAS, On March 10, 2015, by County Board Resolution No. 15-139, the St. Louis County Board authorized up to \$400,000 in tax abatement financing for the public infrastructure in the Hermantown Marketplace Project; and

WHEREAS, The City of Hermantown, MN, has requested St. Louis County to consider an additional \$100,000 for a total of \$500,000 tax abatement to cover additional costs for the project;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, at 9:40 a.m., at the Hermantown City Council Chambers, Hermantown, MN, to solicit public input prior to considering the proposed additional tax abatement.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-559

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) must establish a maximum proposed property tax levy and have this amount certified by the St. Louis County Board by September 15, 2015;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board certifies the St. Louis County Housing and Redevelopment Authority maximum property tax levy for 2016 in the amount of \$208,940.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-560

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the provisions of Minn. Stat. § 340A, as amended, and Rules and Regulations adopted by this Board under St. Louis County Ordinance No. 28, dated May 22, 1978, as amended, the following application for intoxicating liquor licenses is hereby approved, on file in the office of the County Auditor, identified as County Board File No. 60027; and

WHEREAS, Said licenses are approved contingent upon license holder paying real estate or personal property taxes when due; and

WHEREAS, If named license holder sells their licensed place of business, the County Board may, at its discretion and after an investigation, transfer the licenses to a new owner but without pro-rated refund of the license fees to the license holder;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That said licenses shall be effective through June 30, 2016:

Myrtle Lake Resort, LLC d/b/a Myrtle Lake Resort, LLC, Portage Township, On-Sale Intoxicating and Sunday On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor, new.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-561

WHEREAS, A sustained increase in labor relations and collective bargaining workload necessitates reassignment of higher level management responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, Human Resources has determined that reallocation of a vacant Assistant Human Resources Director to Human Resources Manager and reallocation of a Senior Human Resources Advisor to Human Resources Manager will assist in this sustained increase in higher level workload; and

WHEREAS, County Fiscal Policies specify that any position change greater than three pay grades must go to the County Board for approval; and

WHEREAS, The reallocations will result in no change in funding for the Human Resources Department;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the reallocation of a vacant Assistant Human Resources Director position (Pay Grade 33) and a Senior Human Resources Advisor position (Pay Grade 25) to two (2) Human Resources Manager positions (Pay Grade 29) in the Human Resources Department, Fund 100, Agency 123001.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-562

RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board appoints Virginia Katz of Duluth, MN, to the Arrowhead Library System Board of Directors for a term expiring on December 31, 2015.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-563

WHEREAS, Due to the special election mandated by Governor Dayton to fill the vacancy to House Representative District 3A, it is necessary that the St. Louis County Board appoint two members of the County Board to the St. Louis County Election Canvassing Board; and

WHEREAS, The two members selected by the county board cannot be candidates for election to a county office in 2015;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board appoints the following two members as representatives to the County Election Canvassing Board with terms expiring on December 31, 2015:

Commissioner Jewell
Commissioner Rukavina

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-564

WHEREAS, Due to the special election mandated by Governor Dayton to fill the vacancy to House Representative District 3A, it is necessary that the St. Louis County Board appoint election judges to serve on the County Absentee Board and the County Mail Ballot Board;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the following eligible voters are appointed as election judges during 2015 to serve on the County Absentee Board and the County Mail 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;

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the County Auditor and/or Elections Supervisor may make appointments to vacancies should they occur.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-565

WHEREAS, The 2013 Camp Esquagama management and operations agreement between St. Louis County and the Arrowhead Center, Inc., contains specific language relating to the development of an Advisory Group to assist the contractor in “continuing the tradition of providing an exceptional

youth summer camp experience;” and

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Board wishes to formalize and expand the role and make-up of the Camp Esquagama Advisory Group to consist of seven (7) citizen representatives selected from each Commissioner District to be appointed by that Commissioner, with the approval of the County Board; and

WHEREAS, These seven (7) citizen representatives will be added to the existing County Board appointments to the Camp Esquagama Advisory Group consisting of two (2) Commissioners and the County Auditor, making a total of ten (10) members; and

WHEREAS, The specific charge of the Camp Esquagama Advisory Group will be as follows, according to the management and operations agreement:

- The Camp Esquagama Advisory Group, subject to the final authority of the county, shall assist the contractor to preserve the tradition of Camp Esquagama while transforming the property into a year-round, multi-use space serving all residents of St. Louis County;
- Continue the tradition of providing an exceptional youth summer camp experience;
- Reduce the administrative and financial burdens to the county associated with the Camp; and
- Extend the benefits of the property to a wider variety of St. Louis County residents;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the establishment of the Camp Esquagama Advisory Group with a membership of seven (7) citizen representatives selected from each Commissioner District to be appointed by that Commissioner, with the approval of the County Board;

RESOLVED FURTHER, That these seven (7) citizen representatives will be added to the existing County Board appointments to the Camp Esquagama Advisory Group consisting of two (2) Commissioners and the County Auditor;

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the County Auditor is directed to advertise for seven (7) potential citizen appointees to the Camp Esquagama Advisory Group to obtain a selection of applications from each Commissioner District for appointment consideration.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-566

WHEREAS, The Department of Homeland Security has made funding available to the Port of Duluth/Superior under the FY 2015 Port Security Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, The term of the grant is 36 months and the majority of the work will be done in 2015; and

WHEREAS, The Sheriff’s Office is eligible to receive funding under this grant for investments important to increasing Port Security while strengthening core services;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the application and acceptance of the 2015 Port Security grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$43,879.50, to be accounted for in Fund 100, Agency 129999, Grant 12938, Year 2015, with a match of \$14,626.50 to be accounted for in Fund 100, Agency 129003, Object 665900;

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the appropriate county officials are authorized to execute all agreements and contracts necessary to fulfill the application and acceptance of the 2015 Homeland Security Port Grant as approved by the St. Louis County Attorney.

Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-567

BY COMMISSIONER NELSON:

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.

Unanimously adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-568

BY COMMISSIONER RUKAVINA:

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; and

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 55741	\$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 0945-272829(Tied) TST:		
Fund 444, Agency 444042, Object 652806		\$50,780.00

Unanimously adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-569

BY COMMISSIONER NELSON:

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.

Yeas – Commissioners Jewell, Boyle, Dahlberg, Nelson, Raukar and Chair Stauber – 6
Nays – Commissioner Rukavina – 1
Adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-570

BY COMMISSIONER NELSON:

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	\$1,575
Unorganized Township 63-17	\$13,125
<u>City of Floodwood</u>	
Unorganized Township 52-21	\$16,059
<u>City of Orr</u>	
Unorganized Township 63-19	\$2,978
Unorganized Township 66-20	\$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

Unanimously adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-571

BY COMMISSIONER BOYLE:

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 Prepaid Medical Assistance Program 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 taxpayers;

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 MinnesotaCare.

Unanimously adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-572

BY COMMISSIONER RUKAVINA:

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.

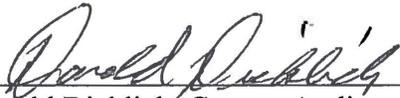
Unanimously adopted September 8, 2015. No. 15-573

At 12:13 p.m., September 8, 2015, Commissioner Boyle, supported by Commissioner Raukar, moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.



Pete Stauber, Chair of the Board
of County Commissioners

Attest:



Donald Dicklich, County Auditor
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board
of County Commissioners

(Seal of the County Auditor)