

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

November 24, 2015

Location: Hibbing City Council Chambers, Hibbing, Minnesota  
Present: Commissioners Jewell, Boyle, Dahlberg, Rukavina, Nelson, Raukar, and Chair Stauber  
Absent: None  
Convened: Chair Stauber called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

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## CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Minutes of November 10, 2015
- Public Sale of State Tax Forfeited Properties on February 11, 2016 [15-509]
- Public Sale of Shoreland Lease Lots [15-510]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Jacobs, Burritt, Schlotec [15-511]
- Rescind St. Louis County Board Resolution No. 15-454 [15-512]
- Utility Easement across State Tax Forfeited Land to Lake Country Power (Unorganized Township 53-16) [15-513]
- Withdrawal of State Tax Forfeited Land from Memorial Forest Status [15-514]
- Award of Bids: Mainline Dynamic Warning Systems Project [15-515]
- Cooperative Agreement with the Cities of Duluth and Hermantown – Shared Costs of Traffic Signal Timing Plan Update Project [15-516]
- Amendment to Professional Services Agreement with Alliant Engineering, Inc. [15-517]
- Agreement with the Cities of Proctor and Duluth – Pavement Rehabilitation of Boundary Avenue [15-518]
- Abatement List for Board Approval [15-519]
- Violation of St. Louis County Ordinance No. 28 – Pine Point Lodge & Resort, Inc. (Crane Lake Township) [15-520]
- NEMESIS System Development and Training Services [15-521]
- National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Grant [15-522]

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## Establishment of Public Hearings

Nelson/Rukavina moved to establish a public hearing at 9:50 a.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 2015, in the St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth, MN, for the purpose of considering the suspension/revocation of liquor licenses for failure to pay real estate or personal property taxes when due, pursuant to St. Louis County Ordinance No. 28. [15-523]. The motion passed. (7-0)

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## Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Nelson/Jewell moved to support the proposed sale of state tax forfeited land to the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and authorizes the Land and Minerals Department to proceed with an appraisal

of all lands in accordance with State of Minnesota Land Acquisition Reporting Procedures. [15-524]. St. Louis County Land Commissioner Mark Weber and Fond du Lac Band Natural Resources Manager Tom Howes discussed the sale process. Commissioner Boyle stated that he was abstaining from the vote due to his working relationship with the Fond du Lac Band. The motion passed. (6-0, Boyle abstain)

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### **Public Works & Transportation Committee**

Stauber/Raukar moved to award a bid to Ulland Brothers, Inc., of Cloquet, MN, in the amount of \$2,053,219.34 for combined project: A.) CP 0014-94576 TST, SAP 069-614-016 (Low); CSAH 14 (Thompson Hill Road) from 532' WSW of CR 898 to CSAH 14 (West Skyline Parkway), length 2.076 miles; and B.) CP 0982-248043 TST (Tied) CR 982 (Old Miller Trunk) from CSAH 13 (Midway Road) to CSAH 15 (Munger Shaw Road), length 3.416 miles; and C.) CP 0483-276897 (Tied) CR 483 (South Pike Lake Road) from East Junction CR 982 (Old Miller Trunk) to West Junction CR 982 (Old Miller Trunk), length 0.397 miles, City of Proctor, Midway, Grand Lake and Canosia Townships. [15-525]. Commissioner Jewell stepped out of the meeting from 11:28 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The motion passed. (7-0)

Rukavina/Raukar moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., of Angora, MN, in the amount of \$3,357,452.96 for combined project: A.) CP 0024-216090 TST, SAP 069-624-022 (Low): CSAH 24 (Crane Lake Road) from CSAH 23 (Orr Buyck Road) to Crane Lake, length 11.367 miles; and B.) CP 0024-272429 TST (Tied) CSAH 24 (Crane Lake Road) from CSAH 23 (Orr Buyck Road) to Crane Lake, length 11.467 miles, Portage Township. [15-525]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Nelson/Raukar moved to award a bid to Ulland Brothers, Inc., of Cloquet, MN, in the amount of \$823,629.15 for combined project: A.) CP 0447-153451 TST (Low); CR 447 (Tamminen Road) from TH 37 to CR 452 (Iron Junction Road), length 0.984 miles; and B.) CP 0447-269850 TST (Tied) CR 447 (Tamminen Road) from TH 37 to CR 452 (Iron Junction Road), length 0.984 miles; and C.) CP 0452-153452 TST (Tied) CR 452 (Iron Junction Road) from CSAH 25 (Hwy 25) to CSAH 137 (Spirit Lake Road), length 2.007 miles; and D.) CP 0452-269852 TST (Tied) CR 452 (Iron Junction Road) from CSAH 25 (Hwy 25) to CSAH 137 (Spirit Lake Road), length 2.007 miles, Cherry Township. [15-525]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Rukavina/Raukar moved to award a bid to Redstone Construction, LLC, of Mora, MN, in the amount of \$859,352.75 for Project: CP 0180-213069 TST, Bridge 69A34 located on CR 180 Between TH 53 and CR 601, length 0.1 miles, Leiding Township. [15-525]. Chair Stauber stepped out of the meeting from 11:51 a.m. to 11:53 a.m. The motion passed. (7-0)

Raukar/Nelson moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., of Angora, MN, in the amount of \$457,774.91 for Project: CP 0082-215031 TST, SAP 069-682-003, Bridge 69K37 located on CSAH 82 (Heino Road) between TH 73 and CR 491 (Roini Road) over Gilmore Creek, length 0.123 miles, Sturgeon Township. [15-525]. The motion passed. (7-0)

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### **Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee**

Jewell/Boyle moved to endorse the following revisions to the Minnesota County Program Aid formula as crafted by the AMC County Program Aid Work Group:

- A funding increase of \$40 million;

- The creation of a funding floor that guarantees each county \$350,000 in tax base equalization aid ("TBEA");
- Adjustments to the TBEA formula factors to slow down counties loss of TBEA funding, including: an increase of the per capita factor to \$190 and a decrease of the county adjusted net tax capacity (ANTC) factor to 9 percent;
- The elimination of special funds and transition aid; and
- The creation of a 5% cap on annual CPA losses; ensuring no county will lose more than 5% of its funding each year.

The St. Louis County Board of Commissioners, consistent with the provisions above, also endorses \$17 million in new state funding for a state takeover of the county costs associated with funding the non-federal share of the Indian Child Welfare Act. [15-526]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Rukavina/Boyle moved that the St. Louis County Board calls upon our elected officials in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives to oppose the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and any similar trade deals if they fail to restructure the misguided and failed policies of the past; and further, that the St. Louis County Board calls upon our elected officials in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives to support new trade deals such as the TPP only if they will:

- Exclude investor-to-state dispute settlement (ISDS) and other provisions that favor foreign companies over domestic ones and undermine public choices;
- Ensure that countries cannot undercut U.S. based producers with weaker labor and environmental laws and enforcement;
- Ensure that the U.S. will engage in robust enforcement of trade rules, including labor and environmental rules;
- Include strong rule of origin to promote economic growth and job creation in the U.S.;
- Promote high standards of protection for workplaces, products, and natural resources rather than promoting a race to the bottom; and
- Put the interests of people and the planet over the interests of private profit. [15-527].

Commissioner Dahlberg stepped out of the meeting from 12:01 p.m. to 12:14 p.m. Commissioner Raukar stepped out of the meeting from 12:24 p.m. to 12:28 p.m. MN House Representative Jason Metsa, George Sundstrom, and Mary Thuerer spoke to the resolution. After further discussion, the motion passed without recommendation to the December 15, 2015 Board meeting. (7-0)

Commissioner Jewell exited the meeting at 12:56 p.m.

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## **COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Commissioner Nelson talked about a local dairy farm losing a milk-producing heifer to timber wolves and the fact that federal trappers were unable to assist with the problem due to lack of federal funding for continuation of the program. Commissioner Nelson said he would be sending federal elected officials a letter urging the federal government to fund the program.

Commissioner Boyle discussed a peer group meeting he attended regarding a locally owned methadone clinic.

Commissioner Dahlberg gave the Committee an update regarding a recent NEMESIS group meeting he attended.

Commissioner Rukavina discussed concerns that he had regarding the lack of broadband that is affecting various areas throughout St. Louis County.

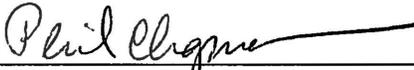
Chair Stauber wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels.

At 1:05 p.m., Nelson/Rukavina moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. The motion passed. (6-0, Jewell absent)



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Pete Stauber, Chair of the County Board



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Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board