

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 11, 2016

Location: Lakewood Town Hall, Duluth, Minnesota

Present: Commissioners Jewell, Boyle, Dahlberg, Stauber, Nelson, and Chair Raukar

Absent: Commissioner Rukavina

Convened: Chair Raukar called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Nelson/Boyle moved to approve the consent agenda without Item #3, Acquisition of Right of Way – Reclaim Overlay, Culvert Replacement and Sidewalk Construction on CR 284/Ugstad Road (Proctor) [16-454]. The motion passed. (6-0, Rukavina absent)

- Minutes of October 4, 2016
- Request to Apply for HUD Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program [16-452]
- Regional Landfill Phases 1 and 1A Closure Design, Bidding, Construction Management and Certification Services Contract [16-453]
- Award of Bid – Lubricating Oils, Greases, Coolants and Fluids [16-463]
- Toward Zero Deaths Agreement with the City of Duluth [16-455]

Health & Human Services Committee

Boyle/Nelson moved to authorize the Public Health and Human Services Department to hire two (2.0) FTE Social Workers to support the Sixth Judicial District and work as part of the Opioid and Clinical Case Management Initiative. The positions will be funded from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration grant in the amount of \$75,000 for each position for a total of \$150,000 per year for three years (2016-2018). [16-456]. St. Louis County Interim Public Health & Human Services Director Linnea Mirsch indicated that 1.0 FTE will be split between St. Louis and Carlton Counties. After further discussion, the motion passed. (6-0, Rukavina absent)

Public Works & Transportation Committee

Stauber/Nelson moved to authorize the Public Works Director to proceed with the acquisition of the necessary lands and temporary easements for County Project CP 0284-157146; and further, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 282.04, Subd. 4, the St. Louis County Board authorizes the County Auditor to grant highway easements across tax forfeited lands for the necessary permanent highway easements and temporary construction easements for the project. [16-454]. St. Louis County Public Works Director Jim Foldesi said this project is part of a regional package that results in better pricing from contractors. The motion passed. (6-0, Rukavina absent)

Raukar/Stauber moved to award a bid to Ulland Brothers, Inc., of Cloquet, MN, in the amount of \$372,900.00 for project CP 0769-229625 TST, Approach Grading and Bridge No. 69K39 (County Bridge 709), located on CR 769 between CSAH 74 and the dead end, length 0.07 mile, Willow Valley Township. [16-457]. The motion passed. (6-0, Rukavina absent)

Stauber/Nelson moved to award a bid to Ulland Brothers, Inc., of Cloquet, MN, in the amount of \$493,306.60 for project CP 0000-215963, SAP 69-600-044, Bituminous Paving and Grading, located on the Rice Lake Dam Road in the city of Rice Lake, length 0.90 mile, Rice Lake. [16-457]. St. Louis County Public works Director Jim Foldesi said St. Louis County is administering the funds on behalf of the City of Rice Lake. The motion passed. (6-0, Rukavina absent)

Finance & Budget Committee

Nelson/Raukar moved to authorize the appropriate county officials to enter into a site acquisition agreement with the City of Virginia, MN, for the AEOA/RMHC facility project with provisions included for the city to hold the property for the county's future purchase for a maximum of four (4) years from the date of the executed agreement at a fee of \$7,500 per year up to a maximum of \$30,000 which shall be applied to the full purchase price of \$150,000 if the building project secures funding to completion. The holding fees are non-refundable in the event that project funding is not available within the stipulated timeframe. The holding fee expenses are payable from Fund 400, Agency 400040, and are eligible for reimbursement from the 2014 State of Minnesota Capital Appropriation. [16-458]. St. Louis County Property Management Director Tony Mancuso said the site is acceptable for both the Arrowhead Opportunity Agency and Range Mental Health Center. The motion passed. (5-1-1, Dahlberg nay, Rukavina absent)

Nelson/Jewell moved to authorize the purchase of property in the amount of \$200,000 from the City of Cook, MN, for the construction of a joint public works facility. [16-459]. The motion passed. (6-0, Rukavina absent)

Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee

Nelson/Jewell moved to reappoint Mr. Don Potter to the Cook-Orr Healthcare District Board of Directors to represent unorganized townships in the Cook Hospital Healthcare District for a three (3) year term beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2019. [16-460]. The motion passed. (6-0, Rukavina absent)

Jewell/Stauber moved to appoint John Schifsky of Duluth, MN, to the Arrowhead Library System Board of Directors for a three (3) year term beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2019. [16-461]. The motion passed. (6-0, Rukavina absent)

Nelson/Boyle moved to approve the adoption of the Social Media Policy. [16-462]. St. Louis County Human Resource Director Jim Gottschald said the policy gives the county the ability to establish consistent guidelines as it relates to county use of social media and indicated that the policy was revised so it is consistent with the St. Louis County Legislative Policy. The motion passed. (6-0, Rukavina absent)

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Jewell commented on the Toward Zero Deaths Agreement with the City of Duluth and said gun-related deaths surpass highway deaths. Commissioner Jewell expressed concern about the lack of action to decrease gun-related deaths.

Commissioner Nelson said the Iron Range Drug Court recently celebrated their tenth year of operation and applauded the efforts of the Drug Court.

Commissioner Stauber commented on an ATV trail opening event that took place last week at the Elephant Lake Lodge and said the county was well represented.

Commissioner Jewell stepped out of the meeting from 11:40 a.m. to 11:43 a.m.

Commissioner Nelson indicated that a resolution would be coming to the Board in the future regarding an access site on Little Grand Lake. Previously the St. Louis County Board approved purchase of the site by the Minnesota DNR with the stipulation that the site remain open to the public. However, the Minnesota DNR used the site as an aquatic management area and denied public access to the lake. The Minnesota DNR is asking the County to take the site back and Grand Lake Township has expressed interest in acquiring the site for public access. Commissioner Nelson urged the Board to consider returning the site to Grand Lake Township.

Commissioner Stauber said he supports returning the site to Grand Lake Township.

At 11:45 a.m., Nelson/Jewell moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. The motion passed. (6-0, Rukavina absent)



~~Steve Raukar, Chair of the County Board~~
Frank Jewell, vice-chair



Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board