

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

April 6, 2021

Location: Government Services Center, Duluth, Minnesota

Present: Commissioners Jewell, Boyle, Grimm, McDonald, Musolf, Nelson and Chair Jugovich

Absent: None

Convened: Chair Jugovich called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

Commissioners Frank Jewell and Ashley Grimm participated by WebEx.

---

## CONSENT AGENDA

Nelson/McDonald moved to approve the consent agenda. Item #12, Conveyance of State Tax Forfeited Land to City of Hermantown [21-159R] was removed from the consent agenda for separate consideration. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed. (7-0)

- Minutes of March 23, 2021
- Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program Grant Application [21-148]
- Essentia Health Duluth Farm To School Program Funding And Related Contracting [21-149]
- Agreement with the Wisconsin Central, Ltd. to Renew the Crossing Surfaces at Railroad Crossing DOT 251850G and DOT 251905S (Hermantown) [21-150]
- Subgrant Agreement with South St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District for Rice Lake Road Project [21-151]
- Grant Agreement to Accept Local Bridge Replacement Program Grant Funds and Authorize Reimbursements in Connection to Bridge 324 Reconstruction Project [21-152]
- Abatement List for Board Approval [21-153]
- Premise Permit Application for Lawful Gambling (Fredenberg Township) [21-154]
- Certification of Property Assessed Clean Energy (MinnPace) Financing for Energy Improvements [21-155]
- Advertisement to the St. Louis County Board of Adjustment [21-156]
- Advertisement to the St. Louis County Planning Commission [21-157]
- Transferring Ownership of 2008 Haulmax Trailer to Arrowhead Regional Corrections [21-158]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Perrault Homestead [21-160]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Abrahamson Non-Homestead [21-161]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Peterson Homestead [21-162]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Peterson Non-Homestead [21-163]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Cadwell Homestead [21-164]
- Repurchase of State Tax Forfeited Land – Begay Homestead [21-165]

---

## **Public Works & Transportation Committee**

McDonald/Musolf moved to award a bid to Redstone Construction, Mora, MN, in the amount of \$969,625.50 for project CP 0600-317610/SAP 069-598-066, Approach Grading and Bridge Construction on Bridge No. 69A63 (County Bridge 324), located on County Road 600 between County Road 948 and County State Aid Highway 115. [21-166]. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Nelson moved to authorize an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation to accept Motor Vehicle Leased Sales Tax (MVLST) Bridge grant funds and commit to the use of St. Louis County local funds for costs of the project which exceeds the grant; that the St. Louis County Board does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with Minn. Stat. §174.50, and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate, and will return to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund any amount appropriated for the bridge but not required; and further, that the proper County officers are authorized to execute a grant agreement (MnDOT Agreement No. 1045309) and any amendments thereto with the Commissioner of Transportation concerning the above-referenced grant.

MVLST Bridge Funds (Acct #329) \$271,727.71

Federal TA Funds \$760,000.00

County Local Funds \$74,215.94

TOTAL \$1,105,943.65

Further, that whereas Federal-aid funds are being used to participate in the cost of the project, the Minnesota State Transportation Fund grant shall be deposited directly into the Federal-aid agency account and that the records of the County (City) shall so state. [21-167]. St. Louis County Public Works Director Jim Foldesi commented that Federal Bridge Off-System (BROS) and Minnesota Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Leased Sales Tax (MVLST) account for the majority of the project funding; St. Louis County's portion is approximately \$74,000. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed. (7-0)

---

## **Environment & Natural Resources Committee**

Musolf/Nelson moved that the St. Louis County Board approve a conveyance of state tax forfeited land to the City of Hermantown subject to payment of a \$250 Department of Revenue fee, \$250 administrative fee, \$1.65 deed tax, \$25 deed fee, and \$46 recording fee for a total of \$572.65. [21-159R]. Commissioner Nelson questioned why fees were included even though the parcel is completely encumbered by the road right-of-way. Commissioner Nelson asked that administration review the request to ensure everything is correct. After further discussion, a roll call vote was taken; the motion passed without recommendation. (7-0)

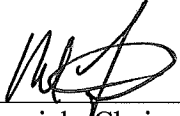
---

## **COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Commissioner McDonald attended a meeting last Thursday in Morcom Township relating to rural broadband in the area. Paul Bunyan Communications is able to bring broadband to the area due to the Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant Program. Commissioner McDonald publicly thanked the Morcom Town Board and Town Clerk Sasha Lehto for their efforts relating to the project.

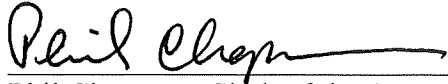
Commissioner Musolf said that a similar broadband meeting was held in his district with the City of Rice Lake, Lakewood Township and Gnesen Township. Commissioner Musolf commented that people are excited to get the project started.

At 10:01 a.m., Boyle/Musolf moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed. (7-0)



---

Mike Jugovich, Chair of the County Board



---

Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board