

**CONSENT AGENDA**  
**FOR THE MEETING**  
**OF**  
**ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**July 27, 2021**

**Proctor City Hall  
100 Pionk Drive  
Proctor, Minnesota**

**All matters listed under the consent agenda are considered routine and/or noncontroversial 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.**

**RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL:**

**Minutes for July 13, 2021.**

**Health & Human Services Committee – Commissioner Boyle, Chair**

1. Authorize Targeted Case Management (TCM) contracted services with certain providers for the remainder of CY 2021 for adult and children's mental health services. *[21-305R]*

**Public Works & Transportation Committee – Commissioner McDonald, Chair**

2. Cooperative agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation to develop a Railroad Crossing Safety Plan for railroad crossings located in St. Louis County. *[21-306]*
3. Agreement with the City of Proctor for the reconstruction of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (CP 0000-617698/SAP 069-596-017) whereby the City of Proctor will pay the project cost with Local Road Improvement Program funds and local City funds as listed in the Schedule of Prices in the Proposal/Plan Package and will reimburse St. Louis County for the administration services as stated in the agreement. *[21-307]*

**Finance & Budget Committee – Commissioner Nelson, Chair**

4. Abatement list for Board approval. *[21-308]*

**Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee – Commissioner Jewell, Chair**

5. Easement over property jointly owned by St. Louis County and the City of Hibbing granted to Lonson Properties, LLC, to correct an encroachment of its dealership parking lot, upon total payment of \$1,983.45. *[21-309]*
6. Accept the diversity, equity and inclusion strategic planning services proposal submitted by the Center for Economic Inclusion of St. Paul, MN, and authorize an agreement in the amount of \$149,200 for consulting services for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Leadership Group during a 16-month term. *[21-311]*

## **ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD**

### **Consent Agenda**

**July 23, 2021**

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7. Appoint William (Tom) Coombe to the St. Louis County Board of Adjustment for the remainder of a term ending December 31, 2023. *[21-312]*
8. Appoint William (Tom) Coombe to the St. Louis County Planning Commissioner for the remainder of a term ending December 31, 2023. *[21-313]*

### **Environment & Natural Resources Committee – Commissioner Musolf, Chair**

9. Request free conveyance of state tax forfeited lands located in Sections 1, 2, 11, and 12, Township 52 North, Range 17 West (New Independence Township), to be converted into county fee land for use as part of the integrated waste management facility in Canyon, MN, upon payment of a \$250 application fee. *[21-310]*
10. Appraisal report for an informal sale of timber (contract C19210105), as submitted by the Land Commissioner.

**Official Proceedings of the County Board of Commissioners**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLVED, That the official proceedings of the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners for the meeting of July 13, 2021, are hereby approved.

**Extension of Adult and Children's Mental Health Contracts**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, Contracted Targeted Case Management (TCM) providers help adults and children with mental illness to remain safe and as independent as possible by providing a full range of community mental health services; and

WHEREAS, The Public Health and Human Services Department has contracted with providers for many years to provide needed community mental health services in St. Louis County; and

WHEREAS, Children may be at risk of out-of-home placement, placed out of the home or at risk of placement failure, requiring intensive services for children with emotional disturbances who have significant difficulties in the home, school, or community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the following TCM contracted services with the providers indicated below for the remainder of CY 2021.

**1. Children's MH-TCM**

- Human Development Center
- Range Mental Health Center

The county share is paid from Fund 230, Agency 232008, Object 601600

**2. Adult MH-TCM**

- Human Development Center
- Accend Services
- Mental Health Resources
- Northland Counseling Center
- Range Mental Health Center
- Web Med Mental Health Services

The county share is paid from Fund 230, Agency 232006, Object 604400

**Cooperative Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation to  
Develop a Railroad Crossing Safety Plan for Railroad Crossings Located on  
County Roads in St. Louis County**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, St. Louis County owns and maintains approximately 3,000 miles of county roads on which there are 122 active at-grade railroad crossings; and

WHEREAS, While crashes at railroad crossings involving a train are rare, they have a higher likelihood of resulting in injury or death as compared to other crash types; and

WHEREAS, A concerning realization is that railroad crossings controlled by signals and gates still experience crashes involving trains, and railroad crossings controlled by a STOP sign are overrepresented in the crash data; and

WHEREAS, This background information, along with St. Louis County's commitment to Minnesota's Towards Zero Deaths initiative, suggests it is time to think differently about the approach to railroad crossing safety; and

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department intends to develop a Railroad Crossing Safety Plan for railroad crossings on county roads to better target investments to improve safety at railroad crossings; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Transportation has committed to contributing \$50,000 towards the development this Railroad Crossing Safety Plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That St. Louis County (Local Agency) enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Transportation for the development of a Railroad Crossing Safety Plan for Railroad Crossings located on county roads in St. Louis County, Minnesota.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the County Board Chair, Public Works Director and the Assistant County Attorney are hereby authorized to execute said agreement and any amendments thereto for and on behalf of the Local Agency.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That funds received from the Minnesota Department of Transportation will be receipted into Fund 220, Agency 220642, Object 532304.

**Agreement with the City of Proctor for a 2nd Street Reconstruction Project**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLVED, That the appropriate county officials are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement, and approve any amendments authorized by the County Attorney, with the City of Proctor for the reconstruction of 2nd Street, whereby the City of Proctor will pay the project cost with Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) funds and local City funds as listed in the Schedule of Prices in the Proposal/Plan Package for the project listed as CP 0000-617698/SAP 069-596-017, and will reimburse St. Louis County the for administration services as stated in the agreement. The funds received from the City of Proctor will be receipted into Fund 220, Agency 220643, Object 551502.

**Abatement List for Board Approval**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the applications for abatement, correction of assessed valuations and taxes plus penalty and interest, and any additional accrual, identified in County Board File No. 61426.

**Granting of Easement to Lonson Properties, LLC**

BY COMMISSIONER:\_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, For many years Hilligoss Chevrolet, Inc., owned and operated Ranger Chevrolet in Hibbing; and

WHEREAS, During its ownership, Hilligoss encroached on property jointly owned by St. Louis County, the City of Hibbing, and the State of Minnesota on which the Hibbing Joint Public Works facility is located by extending its parking lot onto the publicly-owned land; and

WHEREAS, Hilligoss's encroachment was discovered when it was preparing to sell its property and business interests to Lonson Properties, LLC; and

WHEREAS, Lonson Properties, LLC would like to acquire an easement to correct the encroachment; and

WHEREAS, Because the State was unable to grant an easement, the State transferred its ownership interest in the burdened property to the City of Hibbing; and

WHEREAS, The County and Hibbing are prepared to execute an easement allowing Lonson Properties, LLC to maintain its parking lot over the burdened property.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate county officials to execute an easement, and make any amendments approved by the County Attorney, to Lonson Properties, LLC, the legal description of which is set forth in County Board File No. 61407.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the execution of such easement is contingent upon the county's receipt of \$1,983.45, which shall be deposited into Fund 200, Agency 205003, Object 583100.



**St. Louis County Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Leadership Group –  
Award of Proposal to Center for Economic Inclusion**

BY COMMISSIONER\_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, County Administration established a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Leadership Group in recognition that diversity, equity and inclusion are vital to achieving the mission of St. Louis County - to promote health and safety, ensure sound infrastructure, embrace our natural resources, and support an environment where communities prosper; and

WHEREAS, It was determined that the county and its residents would benefit from engaging a consulting partner who specialized in diversity, equity and inclusion strategic planning and in the performance of this type of organizational and economic development community engagement work to ensure the inclusive and equitable support of all county employees and residents; and

WHEREAS, At the conclusion of a Request for Quotes procurement process, it was determined that the Center for Economic Inclusion offered the best alternative in terms of their unique structure, innovation, ability to drive economic equity and overall value.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board accepts the diversity, equity and inclusion strategic planning services proposal submitted by the Center for Economic Inclusion of St. Paul, MN, in the amount of \$149,200 payable from Fund 100, Agency 104001, Object 629900, and authorizes the appropriate county officials to enter into an agreement with the Center for Economic Inclusion for consulting services.

**Committee Vacancy Appointment to the Board of Adjustment**

BY COMMISSIONER\_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Board appoints citizens to serve on the Board of Adjustment; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Adjustment currently has a vacancy to fill the remainder of the term previously held by Sonya Pineo that will expire on December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, There are four (4) applications for filling the vacancy on the Board of Adjustment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board hereby appoints William (Tom) Coombe to its Board of Adjustment for the remainder of a term ending December 31, 2023.

**Committee Vacancy Appointment to the Planning Commission**

BY COMMISSIONER\_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Board appoints citizens to serve on the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission currently has a vacancy to fill the remainder of the term previously held by Sonya Pineo that will expire on December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, There are four (4) applications for filling the vacancy on the St. Louis County Planning Commission.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board hereby appoints William (Tom) Coombe to its Planning Commission for the remainder of a term ending December 31, 2023.

**Request for Free Conveyance of State Tax Forfeited Land to St. Louis County –  
Integrated Waste Management Facility**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The County Board, at the request of the Environmental Services Department, seeks to have approximately 800 acres of state tax forfeited land converted into county fee land for use as part of the integrated waste management facility in Canyon; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 282.01, Subd. 1a(e), non-conservation tax forfeited land may be conveyed without monetary compensation or consideration to a governmental subdivision for an authorized public use.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board hereby requests, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 282.01, Subd. 1a(e), a free conveyance of the state tax forfeited parcels described in County Board File No. \_\_\_\_\_ for use as part of an integrated waste management facility, with the \$250 application fee payable from Fund 600, Agency 608001, Object 669200.

## SLC Integrated Waste Management Facility at Canyon

Parcel ID	Legal Description			Approx Acres
475-0010-00170	S1/2 SE NW	Section 2	T52N-R17W	20
	S1/2 SW NE	Section 2	T52N-R17W	20
	S1/2 SE NE	Section 2	T52N-R17W	20
	NE SW	Section 2	T52N-R17W	40
	NW SE	Section 2	T52N-R17W	40
475-0010-00280	SW SW	Section 2	T52N-R17W	37.69
475-0010-01650	Part of NE NW	Section 11	T52N-R17W	30
	Part of NW NE	Section 11	T52N-R17W	30
	NE NE	Section 11	T52N-R17W	40
475-0010-01810	NENW	Section 12	T52N-R17W	40
	NW NE	Section 12	T52N-R17W	40
	NENE	Section 12	T52N-R17W	40
475-0010-00010	S1/2 SW NW	Section 1	T52N-R17W	20
	S1/2 SE NW	Section 1	T52N-R17W	20
	S1/2 SW NE	Section 1	T52N-R17W	20
	S1/2 SE NE	Section 1	T52N-R17W	20
	SW	Section 1	T52N-R17W	160
	SE	Section 1	T52N-R17W	160
Total				797.69

**Appraisal Report for an Informal Sale of Timber**

BY COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLVED, That the appraisal report for sale of timber, numbered C19210105 as submitted by the Land Commissioner, on file in the Office of the County Auditor, identified as County Board File No. 61414, is approved and the County Auditor is authorized to carry out the recommendation as listed in said appraisal report.

LAND COMMISSIONER'S TRANSMITTAL OF  
APPRAISAL REPORTS TO BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

TO: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Listed below is a tract of timber to be offered for sale from State of Minnesota Tax Forfeited lands. Appraisal report is on file in the Land Commissioner's Office upon request.

\_\_\_\_\_  
LAND COMMISSIONER'S REPRESENTATIVE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

<u>TRACT NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>SEC</u>	<u>TWP</u>	<u>RGE</u>	<u>TIMBER VALUE</u>
1	C19210105	9	56	18	\$11,686.80 (480 CORDS)

TOTAL VALUE OF TRACT: \$11,686.80

The Land Commissioner's appraisal and recommendation as listed above was approved except as noted by the Board of County Commissioners, and the County Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to carry out the recommendation of said report as approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

County Board File No. 61414

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of County Board

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, MINNESOTA,  
HELD ON JULY 13, 2021**

The Board of County Commissioners of the County of St. Louis, Minnesota, met this 13<sup>th</sup> day of July 2021, at 9:31 a.m., at Fortune Bay Resort, Tower, Minnesota, with the following members present: Commissioners Patrick Boyle, Ashley Grimm, Paul McDonald, Keith Musolf, Keith Nelson and Chair Mike Jugovich - 6. Absent: Commissioner Frank Jewell - 1.

Chair Jugovich asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of all victims of violence, foreign and domestic; followed by the pledge of allegiance. Chair Jugovich acknowledged the effort and sacrifices that frontline workers have made during the pandemic.

Commissioner McDonald thanked Jaylen Strong for the tour of the Bois Forte Heritage Center and Cultural Museum and introduced Bois Forte Band Tribal Chairwoman, Kathy Chavers. Chairwoman Chavers welcomed the Board to Bois Forte and commented that these meetings help build bridges and partnerships with Commissioners and residents.

Chair Jugovich opened the meeting to persons who wish to address the Board concerning issues not on the agenda. Sue Drobac, of Tower, said that Greenwood Township is in the process of looking at broadband options. Ms. Drobac said that the estimated project cost is \$6.4 million and asked the county to consider funding \$300,000 of the project. Ms. Drobac noted that Greenwood Township has \$97,000 in a community fund for broadband use. Rich Floyd, of Ely, Eagles Nest Township Supervisor Chair, spoke in opposition of allowing an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) route through Eagles Nest Township. Mr. Floyd cited safety concerns and noted the town board passed a resolution in opposition of the route. Jane Clements, of Ely, commented that she opposed the ATV route through Eagles Nest due to personal safety on the proposed roads. Mark Kawell, of Ely, commented that allowing ATV use on roads through Eagles Nest Township would impact the residents' privacy and be a burden to people who live in the area. John Flaten, of Ely, commented that he did not believe ATVs should be allowed to use the road and noted that there were multiple occasions in which vehicles have gone off the road due to excessive speed. Nick Wognam, of Ely, provided a handout to the Board and proposed that the Taconite Trail be opened, which would allow the ATV trail to bypass roads in Eagles Nest Township. Mr. Wognam noted that the MN Department of Resources (DNR) has the authority to make that change and asked that the County Board pass a resolution requesting that the DNR open that section of the Taconite Trail. Tim Decker, of Ely, said that there are approximately 120 residents that use the proposed roads to enter and exit their property and noted there is heavy opposition to allowing ATV use on the roads in Eagles Nest Township. Robert Stoeher, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) 8<sup>th</sup> District Commander, commented that he appreciated the organization of the Veterans Court. Frank Zobitz, of Tower, asked that the Board support the broadband initiative due to the impact to students and businesses.

Commissioner McDonald, supported by Commissioner Grimm, moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed; six yeas, zero nays, one absent (Jewell).

Commissioner Boyle, supported by Commissioner McDonald, moved to consider a resolution to authorize the County Attorney, or a person designated by the County Attorney, to cast St. Louis



County's vote in favor of confirmation of Purdue Pharma's proposed plan of reorganization; the item had not been to Committee of the Whole. The motion passed; six yeas, zero nays, one absent (Jewell).

Commissioner Boyle, supported by Commissioner Musolf, moved that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the County Attorney, or a person designated by the County Attorney, to cast St. Louis County's vote in favor of confirmation of Purdue Pharma's proposed plan of reorganization. St. Louis County Attorney Mark Rubin commented that this is one defendant of many lawsuits that have been filed. Attorney Rubin said that if the \$5 billion settlement is approved, approximately \$57 million would be distributed to the State of Minnesota; state and local officials would have to agree on how the funds would be distributed throughout the state. Attorney Rubin noted that any settlement funds received would have to be used to abate opioid addiction. After further discussion, the motion passed; six yeas, zero nays, one absent (Jewell). Resolution No. 21-412.

The following Board and contract files were created from documents received by this Board:

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and Nancy Nilsen, County Auditor/Treasurer, submitting Board Letter No. 21-302, Fire Protection/First Responder Services Contracts for Unorganized Territories – CY 2022.—61515

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, submitting Board Letter No. 21-297, Reschedule Location for September 28, 2021 County Board Meeting.—61516

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, Nancy Nilsen, County Auditor/Treasurer, and Julie Marinucci, Land and Minerals Director, submitting Board Letter No. 21-299, Application and Acceptance of IRRR Commercial Redevelopment Grant.—61517

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, Nancy Nilsen, County Auditor/Treasurer, and Julie Marinucci, Land and Minerals Director, submitting Board Letter No. 21-300, Acceptance of IRRR Residential Redevelopment Grant.—61518

Kevin Gray, County Administrator, and Mark Rubin, County Attorney, submitting Board Letter No. 21-304, Vote on Confirmation of Purdue Pharma's Proposed Plan of Reorganization.—61519

Matthew Johnson, Planning & Community Development Director, HRA Executive Director, submitting HRA Board Letter No. 21-05, City of Buhl – Residential Development.—61520

Nick Wognum, Ely, MN, submitting a map of Eagles Nest Township regarding an alternate route for a proposed ATV trail.—61521

Upon motion by Commissioner McDonald, supported by Commissioner Grimm, resolutions numbered 21-400 through 21-411, as submitted on the consent agenda, were unanimously adopted as follows:

**BY COMMISSIONER McDONALD:**

RESOLVED, That the official proceedings of the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners for the meeting of July 6, 2021, are hereby approved.

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-400

WHEREAS, The Eveleth-Gilbert and Virginia school districts merged in 2020 resulting in the creation of the Rock Ridge School District; and

WHEREAS, The Rock Ridge School campus is currently under construction in the City of Eveleth; and

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department entered into discussions with the Minnesota Department of Transportation to consider the need for improvements at the at-grade intersections on US 53 within the City of Eveleth because these intersections will provide access to the Rock Ridge School campus; and

WHEREAS, The discussions between the Public Works Department and the Minnesota Department of Transportation led to a larger vision to improve access to the Rock Ridge School campus which includes improving pedestrian access to the school campus; and

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department identified the need to perform a pedestrian trail study to include evaluation of the need and feasibility, as well as alignment options, to connect the urban/residential areas of Eveleth to the Rock Ridge School campus (CP 0000-592214); and

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department has selected Kimley Horn to assist with the planning and design services to perform this pedestrian trail study.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate County Officials to enter into a professional services agreement, and approve any amendments authorized by the County Attorney, with Kimley Horn to perform a pedestrian trail study within the City of Eveleth. Funds received from the City of Eveleth, Rock Ridge School District, and the Regional Railroad Authority will be receipted Fund 200, Agency 203623, and into the appropriate Object for the entity. Payment for this professional services agreement will be from Fund 200, Agency 203623, Object 626600.

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-401

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Drainage Authority has deemed it necessary to reestablish records for County Ditch 4 including an evaluation for partial abandonment of segments; and

WHEREAS, The Drainage Authority has previously authorized the St. Louis County Public Works Department to seek out consulting and engineering services for those purposes; and

WHEREAS, The Drainage Authority may authorize Public Works to proceed with securing engineering services for a Repair Report and Bid Documents related to repair of County Ditch 4; and

WHEREAS, Public Works requested proposals from five (5) separate engineering consulting firms and identified that having one (1) engineering consultant for all four (4) phases is advantageous; and

WHEREAS, Houston Engineering, Inc., was identified as the preferred consultant using a quality-based selection method; and

WHEREAS, The not-to-exceed cost for engineering services on County Ditch 4 is based on Houston Engineering, Inc.'s, Technical Proposal and Houston Engineering, Inc., will document and bill for all costs expended on authorized phases, with slight variations in price expected due to variable scope of work selected and authorized from the Repair Report; and

WHEREAS, All costs associated with this contract shall be funded through an account set up specific to the drainage system known as County Ditch 4; and

WHEREAS, County Ditch 4 currently has no funds available, but the general ditch fund has funds in excess of the contract amount; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. §§ 103E.655, 103E.725, and 103E.731 provide a mechanism for monies to be borrowed from the general ditch fund for this contract to be reimbursed via collection of assessments.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate county officials to enter into a contract and approve any amendments authorized by the County Attorney's

Office with Houston Engineering, Inc., of Maple Grove, MN, for Engineering Services, with a not-to-exceed price of \$198,440.00 for County Ditch 4, payable from Fund 178, Agency 178104, Object 626600, with funding coming from Fund 178, Agency 999999, Object 311037 (Ditching Fund Balance).

RESOLVED FURTHER, That all costs associated with this contract shall be assessed against those lands benefitted by County Ditch 4 in the manner prescribed in Minn. Stat. § 103E.

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-402

WHEREAS, St. Louis County has in excess of \$556,285,291.00 in property to insure; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County has been purchasing property insurance on a loss limit basis, which is less expensive with lower deductibles than a scheduled buildings type of insurance; and

WHEREAS, The current policy expires on July 24, 2021, and St. Louis County received a proposal from the current insurer, Chubb Group of Insurance Companies, through Otis-Magie Insurance Agency of Duluth, MN, to provide coverage at the rate of \$.06709 per \$100 of value for the coming year.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the purchase of Property and Related Insurance coverage on major structures and equipment, amended contents, and boiler and machinery from Chubb Group of Insurance Companies through Otis-Magie Insurance Agency of Duluth, MN, for the period July 24, 2021, to July 24, 2022, at the annual premium of \$376,579.30 payable from Fund 720 (Property, Casualty, Liability), Agency 720001 (Property, Casualty, Liability), Object 635100 (Insurance).

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Purchasing Division is authorized to add or delete county properties to the policy or increase the base amount on future determination of valuation of county structures during the policy period.

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-403

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Board is authorized to act on behalf of unorganized townships for purposes of furnishing fire protection and/or 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 2022.

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 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>Bearville Township Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 62-21 & 63-21 (Sections 25-36)	\$9,488
<u>Central Lakes Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 56-17	\$47,250
<u>City of Chisholm</u>	
Unorganized Township 59-21	\$17,421
(Everything <u>except</u> 13041 Memory Lane through 13083 Memory Lane)	

<u>Colvin Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 55-14 & 55-15 (Sections 1-21 and 29 & 30)	\$16,170
<u>City of Cook</u>	
Unorganized Townships 62-17 & 63-17	\$14,700
<u>Ellsburg Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 55-15 (Sections 22-28 and 31-36)	\$4,763
<u>Embarrass Region Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 61-14	\$6,774
<u>Evergreen Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Townships 60-19 & 60-20	\$45,427
<u>City of Floodwood</u>	
Unorganized Township 52-21	\$17,583
<u>French Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 59-21 (13041 Memory Lane through 13083 Memory Lane)	\$1,406
<u>Gnesen Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 53-15	\$19,753
<u>Greenwood Township Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 63-15	\$8,400
<u>Lake Kabetogama Area Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Townships 67-20, 67-21, 68-19, 68-20, 68-21 & 69-19	\$36,750
<u>Lakeland Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 57-16	\$73,500
<u>Makinen Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 56-16	\$46,200
<u>Morse-Fall Lake Rural Protection Assoc.</u>	
Unorganized Townships 63-14, 64-12, 64-13, 65-13 & 65-14	\$30,253
<u>Northland Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 53-16	\$18,900
<u>City of Orr</u>	
Unorganized Township 63-19, 63-21 (Sections 1-24), 64-21 (Section 21, NE ¼ of NE ¼), 64-21 (Sections 22-27), 64-21 (Section 28, SW ¼ of SW ¼), 64-21 (Section 29, SE ¼ of SE ¼ & SW ¼ of S/W ¼), 64-21 (Sections 30-36) & 66-20	\$13,461
<u>Palo Regional Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Townships 56-14, 57-14 & 58-14 (Sections 25-36)	\$37,800
<u>Pequaywan Lake Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	
Unorganized Township 54-13	\$6,300
<u>Pike-Sandy-Britt Volunteer Fire Dept.</u>	

Unorganized Townships 59-16 & 60-18	\$57,227
Silica Volunteer Fire Dept.	
Unorganized Township 55-21	\$47,250
<b>Total Levy for Unorganized Township Fire Protection and/or First Responder Services</b>	<b>\$658,660</b>

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-404

WHEREAS, The Iron Range Bench provided notice to the county on June 11, 2021, that the number of court appearances in Hibbing is increasing so that the bench can properly allocate sufficient time to address the needs of very difficult cases, recognizing that the adjustment is placing an additional burden on the parent attorneys, County Attorney's Office, and Public Health and Human Services staff; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of the additional time commitment necessary to prepare for and attend the increased number of hearings, it is recommended that the annualized rate paid to the two (2) parent attorneys providing services in Northern St. Louis County increase each by \$10,000, from \$42,025 to \$52,025.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves contract amendments with the two (2) Northern St. Louis County parent attorneys to provide parent representation for Children In Need of Protection (CHIPS), Termination of Parental Rights (TPR), transfer of legal and physical custody, permanent custody to the agency, temporary legal custody to the agency, and Long Term Foster Care (LTFC) placement hearings, for an additional \$10,000 annually (prorated at \$5,000 for July-December 2021) per contract amendment, payable from the County Attorney's budget, Fund 100, Agency 113002, Object 626100, with funds being transferred from Fund 100, Agency 104001, Object 629900.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the appropriate county officials are authorized to execute amended agreements to contract for these additional services.

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-405

WHEREAS, St. Louis County has established a Section 125 Flexible Spending Program for its employees; and

WHEREAS, On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 was signed into law and allows for an increase to Dependent Care Flexible Spending account elections for the 2021 plan year; and

WHEREAS, The county's Flex Spending Plan Document currently provides for a Dependent Care Flexible Spending limit of \$5,000 for individuals or married couples filing jointly and a \$2,500 limit for married individuals filing separately; and

WHEREAS, The ARPA changes are intended to help employers respond to changes in their employees' financial needs as a result of the COVID-19 public health pandemic; and

WHEREAS, A Plan document amendment is required to allow for the temporary modifications.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That an amendment to the St. Louis County Flexible Spending Program to increase the Dependent Care Flexible Spending limit from \$5,000 to \$10,500 for individuals or married couples filing jointly and from \$2,500 to \$5,250 limit for married individuals filing separately is approved.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That appropriate county officials are hereby authorized to execute the necessary agreements required by the third party plan administrator, SuperiorUSA Corporation, to amend the Plan document as described above.

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-406

WHEREAS, The Culver Township Fire Hall in Brookston is currently under construction due to a remodel; and

WHEREAS, Construction will not be completed in time to hold a County Board meeting on September 28, 2021.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board will adjust its 2021 Board Meeting schedule to reschedule the September 28, 2021 meeting from the Culver Township Fire Hall, Brookston, MN, to the Alborn Community Center, Alborn, MN.

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-407

WHEREAS, A request has been received to purchase gravel from a tax forfeited pit that does not conflict with the needs of the county; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.04, Subd. 1(d), allows for leasing of state tax forfeited land for the purpose of removing gravel and requires any lease involving a consideration of more than \$12,000 per year be offered at public sale.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the County Auditor, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 282.04, to offer at public sale to the highest responsible bidder, a lease of state tax forfeited land described as Section 15, Township 62 North, Range 14 West (Eagles Nest Pit) for the purpose of removing a minimum of 7,500 cubic yards loose volume measure of gravel.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That this lease will be available at the minimum appraised price of \$2.50 per cubic yard, loose volume measure, plus a \$150 administration fee, plus a \$15.20 publication fee, plus a refundable reclamation fee of \$4,687.50, for a minimum total cost of \$23,602.70, subject to terms of the lease with the proceeds being deposited into Fund 240, Forfeited Tax Fund.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That this auction will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 29, 2021, at the St. Louis County Land and Minerals Department, 7820 Highway 135, Virginia, Minnesota, 55792.

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-408

WHEREAS, The Horace Mann High School building is a dilapidated commercial structure located in the city of Biwabik, Minnesota, which forfeited to the state for unpaid taxes in 2019; and

WHEREAS, An inspection by St. Louis County Land and Minerals (SLCLM) staff revealed that the Horace Mann High School building in Biwabik is in poor condition and suitable for demolition; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation (IRRR) Commercial Redevelopment Grant Program provides funding for the demolition of dilapidated commercial structures; and

WHEREAS, SLCLM has worked with the city of Biwabik and IRRR to develop a grant request for partial funding from the Commercial Redevelopment Grant Program of a portion of the Horace Mann High School building demolition cost; and

WHEREAS, The engineering estimate for this demolition work is in the range of \$619,000 to \$781,000 and the grant, if awarded, will cover up to half of the demolition cost, capped at \$150,000.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the application and acceptance of grant funds of up to \$150,000 from the IRRR Commercial Redevelopment Grant Program for funding to cover up to half of the cost of the demolition of the

Horace Mann High School building in Biwabik.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That appropriate county officials are authorized to execute the required agreements, and any amendments approved by the County Attorney, to receive funds, to be accounted for in Fund 178, Agency 178999, Grant 17802.

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-409

WHEREAS, An inspection by St. Louis County Land and Minerals staff has determined that several tax forfeited structures located within the Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation (IRRR) service area are in poor condition and suitable for demolition; and

WHEREAS, The IRRR Residential Redevelopment Grant Program provides funding for the demolition of dilapidated residential structures.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$36,984 from the IRRR for the Residential Redevelopment Grant Program.

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-410

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Board desires to offer for sale, as recommended by the Land Commissioner, certain parcels of land that have forfeited to the State of Minnesota for non-payment of taxes; and

WHEREAS, The parcels, as described in County Board File No. 61473, have been classified as non-conservation as provided for in Minn. Stat. § 282.01; and

WHEREAS, These parcels are not withdrawn from sale pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 85.012, 92.461, 282.01, Subd. 8, and 282.018, and other statutes that require the withholding of state tax forfeited lands from sale; and

WHEREAS, Where approval by the Commissioner of Natural Resources is required by Minn. Stat. § 282, such approvals have been obtained; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.016(c) authorizes the County Auditor to prohibit persons or entities from becoming a purchaser, either personally or as an agent or attorney for another person or entity, of tax forfeited properties offered for sale if the person or entity owns another property within the county for which there are delinquent taxes owing; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.01, Subd. 4(c), authorizes the County Board to provide for the listing and sale of individual parcels by other means, including through a real estate broker, notwithstanding the public sale provisions in Minn. Stat. § 282.01 Subd. 7, where this subdivision shall be liberally construed to encourage the sale and utilization of tax forfeited land in order to eliminate nuisances and dangerous conditions and to increase compliance with land use ordinances; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.01, Subd. 13, authorizes the County Board, or the County Auditor if the auditor has been delegated such authority, to sell tax forfeited lands through an online auction. When an online auction is used to sell tax forfeited lands, the County Auditor shall post a physical notice of the online auction and shall publish a notice of the online auction on its website not less than ten (10) days before the online auction begins, in addition to any other notice required; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.135 authorizes the County Board to delegate to the County Auditor any authority, power, or responsibility relating generally to the administration of tax forfeited land, including developing the necessary policies and procedures to implement the sale of individual tax forfeited parcels by alternative methods as permitted by Minn. Stat. § 282.01, Subd. 4(c).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the County Auditor to offer the state tax forfeited lands described in County Board File No. 61473 for sale at a public online auction, with prohibited purchaser and bidder conditions, starting at the fair market value in accordance with terms set forth in the Land and Minerals Department policy, and in a manner provided for by law where funds from the auction are to be deposited into Fund 240 (Forfeited Tax Fund).

Adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-411

**BY COMMISSIONER BOYLE:**

WHEREAS, In March 2018, St. Louis County sued Purdue Pharma, L.P., and related companies as part of its civil action against certain opioid manufacturers, distributors, and related defendants; and

WHEREAS, In September 2019, Purdue Pharma and related companies filed for bankruptcy in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York; and

WHEREAS, In July 2020, St. Louis County filed a proof of claim in the bankruptcy cases; and

WHEREAS, The debtors have proposed a plan of reorganization that, among other things, governs how the claims of St. Louis County and thousands of other public and private creditors will be treated; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County has a right to vote on confirmation of the proposed plan on or before the voting deadline on July 14, 2021; and

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Board wishes to authorize the County Attorney or a person designated by the County Attorney to cast St. Louis County's vote in favor of confirmation of the proposed plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the County Attorney, or a person designated by the County Attorney, to cast St. Louis County's vote in favor of confirmation of the proposed plan.

Unanimously adopted July 13, 2021. No. 21-412

At 10:14 a.m., July 13, 2021, Commissioner Nelson, supported by Commissioner Boyle, moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed; six yeas, zero nays, one absent (Jewell).

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Mike Jugovich, Chair of the Board  
of County Commissioners

Attest:

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Nancy Nilsen, County Auditor  
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board  
of County Commissioners

(Seal of the County Auditor)