

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 3, 2021

Location: Government Services Center, Duluth, Minnesota

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

Absent: Commissioner Grimm

Convened: Chair Jugovich called the meeting to order at 11:31 a.m.

Commissioner Grimm entered the meeting at 11:32 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Minutes of July 27, 2021
- Cooperative Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation to Complete Pedestrian Improvements on CSAH 138 [21-328]
- Execute a Grant Agreement with the State of Minnesota and Cooperative Agreement with Voyageur Country ATV Club for Various Segment Improvements [21-329]
- Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation FY 2022 Regional Trails Grant Application – Four ATV Club Trail Improvements to Various Segments [21-330]
- Abatement List for Board Approval [21-331]
- Right of Way Easement Across State Tax Forfeited Land to William T. Foreman (Grand Lake Twp 52-16) [21-332]
- Adjoining Owner Sales [21-333]
- Public Sale of State Tax Forfeited Properties [21-334]

Time Specific Presentation

At 11:33 a.m., St. Louis County Deputy Administrator Brian Fritsinger gave the Committee a brief overview of the proposed renovation of the County Board Room. Deputy Administrator Fritsinger said that the proposed layout was preliminary and county administration was open to feedback from Commissioners. St. Louis County Property Management Director Jerry Hall commented that a study found that lumens emitted from the current lighting in the County Board Room was well below Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards. In addition, to blend in with the historic architecture of the Courthouse, woodwork will be color matched with existing woodwork.

Public Works & Transportation Committee

McDonald/Nelson moved that Board Resolution No. 21-290, adopted on May 11, 2021, to hereby be amended as follows: To increase the total cost of liquid calcium chloride delivered and applied cost to \$1,070,000.00 plus increase alternates to a cost of \$147,000.00 for new total cost of \$1,217,000.00. [21-335]. St Louis County Public Works Director Jim Foldesi said that dry conditions have caused safety

issues due to limited visibility from dust clouds. Funding is available in the Public Works budget due to cost savings realized from new cutting blade technology; the new blades are lasting much longer than anticipated. Commissioner Nelson noted that additional chloride will only help once we get moisture, so we may not see immediate results. After further discussion, the motion passed. (7-0)

McDonald/Musolf moved that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the estimated purchase of salt at the State of Minnesota Contract price from Morton Salt, Inc., of Chicago, IL, for a maximum delivered cost of \$1,199,570.00, payable from Fund 200, Agency 207021, Object 651700; and further, authorizes the purchase of brine at the State of Minnesota Contract price Envirotech Services, Inc., of Denver, CO, and KTech Specialty Coatings, Inc., of Ashley, IN, at the estimated delivered cost of \$75,000.00, payable from Fund 200, Agency 207001, Object 651700. [21-336]. Director Foldesi commented that there was a modest price increase, and the agreement allows the county to keep the flexible quantity in place. The motion passed. (7-0)

Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee


Jugovich/Jewell moved that, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 163.11, the County Board hereby revokes the following right-of-way, which shall revert to Halden Township: All of the public road right-of-way lying north of the intersection of Savanna Road/County Road 186 and Floodwood Road in the Town of Halden, St. Louis County, specifically revoking the portion of Savanna Road/County Road 186 beginning at the southern-most part of parcels 390-0010-00330 in the west and 390-0010-00120 in the east and running north until Savanna Road/County Road 186's terminus; and further, that the Clerk of the County Board shall send two (2) certified copies of this Resolution to the Halden Township Board of Supervisors. [21-337]. St. Louis County Senior Attorney Chris Pinkert said that an amended petition was filed because the petitioner purchased additional parcels. Attorney Pinkert noted that a public hearing was held on August 2, 2021, at the Halden Town Hall, and no one in attendance at the public hearing objected to the proposed revocation. The motion passed. (7-0)

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Jewell exited the meeting at 12:16 p.m.

Commissioner Nelson briefly discussed customer service and the need for the county to re-emphasize the importance of providing customer service to citizens.

At 12:19 p.m., Grimm/Boyle moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. The motion passed. (6-0, Jewell absent)



Mike Jugovich, Chair of the County Board



Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board