

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

February 6, 2024

Location: St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth, Minnesota

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

Absent: None

Convened: Chair Nelson called the meeting to order at 10:28 a.m.

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## CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Minutes of January 23, 2024
- Engineering Services Agreement with LHB, Inc. for Construction Administration, Inspection, and Construction Staking on CP 0009-565027, SP 069-609-050 [24-54]
- Detour Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for Detouring MNTH 135 Traffic onto CSAH 21 (Hwy. 21), CSAH 26 (Wahlsten Road) under MnDOT Project No. SP 6913-40 and MnDOT Detour Agreement No. 1055356 [24-55]
- Premise Permit Application for Lawful Gambling (Unorganized Township 60-19) [24-56]
- Final Plat Approval of Birch Isle, Sections 26, 34, and 35, Township 53N, Range 15W (Unorganized Township) [24-57]
- Hibbing Transfer Station Operations and Haulage Services [24-58]
- Classification of December 13, 2023 Forfeitures (Conservation) [24-59]
- Classification of December 13, 2023 Forfeitures (Nonconservation) [24-60]

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## Health & Human Services Committee

Boyle/Harala moved that the St. Louis County Board approves the reallocation of a 1.0 FTE Information Specialist I position (Position code 0411-061, Pay Grade B06 Step 1), to a 1.0 FTE Information Specialist II position (Pay Grade B10 Step 1), in the Public Health and Human Services Department, resulting in an annual increase of \$3,958, to be accounted for in Fund 230, Agency 230011, Object 610100. [24-61]. Linnea Mirsch, Director of Public Health and Human Services, commented that the position reallocation affects the front desk staff and is necessary due to increasing work and demands by the state; the positions are reimbursed at 40%. The motion passed. (7-0)

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## Public Works & Transportation Committee

Musolf/McDonald moved that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the purchase of two (2) service truck gear packages from Altec, of Duluth, Minnesota, for a total cost of \$261,070.00, payable from Fund 407, Agency 407001, Object 666300. [24-62]. The motion passed. (7-0)

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## COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Grimm commented on the efforts to unionize by the Advanced Practice Providers (APP) of Essentia Health and noted that she is writing a letter of support and asked if other Commissioners would be willing to sign the letter; Commissioner Grimm inquired if the Board would be interested in doing a resolution of support. Commissioner Grimm commented that she is 5-months pregnant.

Chair Nelson said he was not sure if a resolution supporting the Advances Practice Providers (APP) efforts to unionize was appropriate, but said he would be happy to sign a letter of support.

Commissioner Harala commented that she would be willing to sign a letter of support and thanked Commissioner Jugovich and the Hibbing Chamber of Commerce for hosting a recent Chamber dinner. Commissioner Harala noted that First Witness has recently opened their new building.

Commissioner Jugovich congratulated Team Shuster for winning the 2024 U.S. Men's National Curling Championship.

Commissioner Grimm congratulated Denfeld graduate C.J. Ham for being named to the 2024 National Football League (NFL) Pro Bowl.

Commissioner Musolf indicated that he would be willing to sign a letter of support. Commissioner Musolf passed along best wishes for recovery for residents in Cook County after a fire destroyed Lutsen Lodge last night.

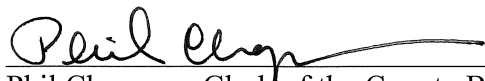
Commissioner McDonald noted that the 1984 Chisholm High Scholl Girls Basketball team will be honored on Thursday night; the team went 27-0 and won the MN State Girl's High School Basketball Championship. Commissioner McDonald mentioned that he would also be willing to sign a letter of support.

At 11:30 a.m., Harala/Musolf moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. (7-0)



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Keith Nelson, Chair of the County Board



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Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board