

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, MINNESOTA,
HELD ON MARCH 5, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of the County of St. Louis, Minnesota, met this 5th day of March 2024, at 10:01 a.m., at the St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth, Minnesota, with the following members present: Commissioners Annie Harala, Patrick Boyle, Ashley Grimm, Paul McDonald, Keith Musolf, Mike Jugovich and Chair Keith Nelson - 7. Absent: None - 0.

Chair Nelson asked for a moment of silence to honor those men and women who serve and protect this great nation and for those individuals adversely affected by conflict or violence both here and abroad; followed by the pledge of allegiance.

A presentation was held in recognition of Procurement Month. St. Louis County Purchasing Director Donna Viskoe commented that Veronica Knaffla received an award for being the Procurement Professional of the Year and Kristi Anton received an award from the Minnesota Chapter of the National Institute of Government Procurement. In addition, the department was recognized for best practices and excellence in achievement. Director Viskoe also recognized the work of Pam Waldriff. Ms. Anton commented that it is a privilege to be part of the purchasing team. Ms. Knaffla said her job gives her the opportunity to work with every department in the county. Dale Minkkinen said it is an honor to work for the county.

Commissioner Harala, supported by Commissioner Grimm, moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner Boyle, supported by Commissioner McDonald, moved to consider a resolution for a bid award for Regional Landfill Construction – Phases 7, 8 and 9; the item had not been to Committee of the Whole. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner Jugovich, supported by Commissioner McDonald, moved that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate County officials to enter into a contract with Ulland Brothers, Inc. of Cloquet, MN, at its total bid price of \$2,916,050.00 for the construction of Phases 7,8, and 9 at the Regional Landfill, payable from Fund 600, Agency 607001, Object 625500 (MSW). St. Louis County Environmental Services Director David Fink commented that expediting approval will allow the contractor to get an early start on the project before road weight restrictions are in place. In addition, Director Fink said the bid also included the installation of geothermal elements, which has never been done in Minnesota. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays. Resolution No. 24-144.

The Land and Minerals Department provided the Board with a committee report. Deputy Land and Minerals Director Jason Meyer commented that the county had \$1.6 million in sales from their 1st quarter timber auction and noted that the Oral Timber Auction will be taking place in May. Director Julie Marinucci commented that the department has been working with the Auditor's Department and the County Attorney's Office regarding process changes and a potential state funded settlement as a result of the Tyler v. Hennepin County court case.

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

Linnea Mirsch, Public Health and Human Resources Director, submitting Request for Board Action No. 24-91, Appointments to the St. Louis County Heading Home Advisory Committee.—62137

David Fink, Environment and Natural Resources Director, submitting Request for Board Action No. 24-99, Award of Bid: Regional Landfill Construction: Phases 7, 8 and 9.—62138

Upon motion by Commissioner Harala, supported by Commissioner Grimm, resolutions numbered 24-130 through 24-143, as submitted on the consent agenda, were unanimously adopted as follows:

BY COMMISSIONER HARALA:

RESOLVED, That the official proceedings of the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners for the meeting of February 27, 2024, are hereby approved.

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-130

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Heading Home Advisory Committee (HHAC) acts as a neutral party in making decisions, in conjunction with funding sources, on behalf of homeless people and those at risk of homelessness in St. Louis County; and

WHEREAS, Members are appointed by the City Council of Duluth and the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County HHAC has one (1) new appointment and two (2) renewal appointments.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board appoints the following applicants to the St. Louis County Heading Home Advisory Committee:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Period</u>
Homeless Advocate	Pablo Romo	Term ends 12/31/2025
Rural Housing Coalition	Angela Neal	Term ends 12/31/2025
Bois Forte	Theresa Drift	Term ends 12/31/2025

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-131

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Public Works Department plans to reconstruct a short segment of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 34 (Howard Gnesen Road) and to replace the existing bridge (County Bridge 37) spanning Amity Creek in the City of Rice Lake, further identified as CP 0034-769494; and

WHEREAS, These improvements consist of replacing the existing bridge with a new bridge at the same location and reconstructing the roadway as determined necessary to provide for the safety and convenience of the public; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the existing highway right-of-way, certain lands are required for this construction, together with temporary construction easements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the Public Works Director, or his designee, to proceed with the acquisition of the necessary lands and temporary easements for this project and to execute, on behalf of the county, any easement documents as may become necessary. Right-of-way acquisition is payable from Fund 200, Agency 203001.

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-132

WHEREAS, The Jean Duluth Building Replacement project is necessary to replace the demolished structure caused by the roof collapse in March 2023; and

WHEREAS, The Public Works and Purchasing Departments determined it is necessary to secure an architectural and engineering consultant to provide professional services to perform design, construction administration and inspection on the project; and

WHEREAS, Proposals were requested and let on January 19, 2024, and the County received five (5) proposals; and

WHEREAS, TKDA, Inc. of Duluth, MN, was selected for the project.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate county officials to enter into an architectural and engineering services agreement, and approve any amendments authorized by the County Attorney, with TKDA, Inc. to provide professional services to perform design, construction administration and inspection on the project.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the total cost of these professional services shall not exceed \$276,180.00, and will be payable from Fund 405, Agency 405203, Object 660265. This project is further identified as MP 0000-853183.

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-133

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Public Works Department plans to reconstruct a short segment of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 6 (Maple Grove Road) and to replace the existing bridge (County Bridge 127, State Bridge 93073) spanning West Rocky Run in Solway Township, further identified as CP 0006-834778; and

WHEREAS, These improvements consist of replacing the existing bridge with a new bridge at the same location and reconstructing the roadway as determined necessary to provide for the safety and convenience of the public; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the existing highway right-of-way, certain lands are required for this construction, together with temporary construction easements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Public Works Director, or his designee, to proceed with the acquisition of the necessary lands and temporary easements for this project and to execute, on behalf of the county, any easement documents as may become necessary. Right-of-way acquisition is payable from Fund 200, Agency 203001.

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-134

WHEREAS, Bids have been received electronically by the St. Louis County Public Works Department for CP 0000-475841 (2024 Maintenance Striping); and

WHEREAS, Bids were opened in the Richard H. Hansen Transportation and Public Works Complex, Duluth, MN, on February 15, 2024, and the low responsible bid was determined.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the award on the above project to the low bidder:

<u>LOW BIDDER</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Fahrner Asphalt Sealers, LLC	6615 US Hwy. 12 West Eau Claire, WI 54703	\$711,482.85

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the appropriate county officials are authorized to approve the contractor's performance bonds and to execute the bonds and contract for the above listed project payable from:

CP 0000-475841 (2024 Maintenance Striping)

Fund 200, Agency 207001, Object 651800 – Local Maintenance, City, Township and Lake County Funds

With additional revenue budgeted for expense:

Canosia Township – Fund 200, Agency 207001, Object 551511 - \$7,617.25

City of Chisholm – Fund 200, Agency 207001, Object 551530 - \$442.80
 City of Duluth – Fund 200, Agency 207001, Object 551501 - \$91,943.60
 City of Hermantown – Fund 200, Agency 207001, Object 551503 - \$31,695.50
 City of Proctor – Fund 200, Agency 207001, Object 551502 - \$492.00
 City of Virginia – Fund 200, Agency 207001, Object 551505 - \$20,779.20
 Lake County – Fund 200, Agency 207001, Object 551508 - \$38,032.50

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-135

WHEREAS, Bids have been received electronically by the St. Louis County Public Works Department for CP 0000-798458 (2024 South Crushing); and

WHEREAS, Bids were opened in the Richard H. Hansen Transportation and Public Works Complex, Duluth, MN, on February 15, 2024, and the low responsible bid was determined.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the award on the above project to the low bidder:

<u>LOW BIDDER</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Hoover Construction Company	PO Box 1007 Virginia, MN 55792	\$498,747.50

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the appropriate county officials are authorized to approve the contractor's performance bonds and to execute the bonds and contract for the above listed project payable from:

CP 0000-798458 (2024 South Crushing)

Fund 200, Agency 201112, Object 650200 – Local Maintenance, City and Township Funds

With additional revenue budgeted for expense:

Alborn Township – Fund 200, Agency 201112, Object 551565 - \$11,725.00
 Industrial Township – Fund, 200, Agency 201112, Object 551554 - \$9,380.00
 Meadowlands Township – Fund 200, Agency 201112, Object 551556 - \$5,025.00
 Arrowhead Township – Fund 200, Agency 201112, Object 551594 - \$5,025.00
 Fine Lakes Township – Fund 200, Agency 201112, Object 551575 - \$2,512.50
 Halden Township – Fund 200, Agency 201112, Object 551569 - \$6,700.00
 Van Buren Township – Fund 200, Agency 201112, Object 551557 - \$4,690.00
 City of Rice Lake – Fund 200, Agency 201112, Object 551521 - \$45,500.00
 City of Floodwood – Fund 200, Agency 201112, Object 551553 - \$4,690.00

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-136

WHEREAS, Bids have been received electronically by the St. Louis County Public Works Department for CP 0000-809450 (Prime), consisting of 7 projects; and

WHEREAS, Bids were opened in the Richard H. Hansen Transportation and Public Works Complex, Duluth, MN, on February 15, 2024, and the low responsible bid was determined.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the award on the above project to the low bidder:

<u>LOW BIDDER</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Mesabi Bituminous, Inc.	4988 Enterprise Trail Gilbert, MN 55741	\$283,540.68

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the appropriate county officials are authorized to approve the contractor's performance bonds and to execute the bonds and contract for the above listed project payable from:

CP 0000-809450 (Prime), consisting of 7 projects

Fund 200, Agency 203686, Object 652800 – Local Funds - \$28,154.12

Fund 204, Agency 204270, Object 652806 – Transportation Sales Tax - \$8,087.00

Fund 220, Agency 220772, Object 652700 – State Aid Funds - \$247,299.56

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-137

WHEREAS, Bids have been received electronically by the St. Louis County Public Works Department for CP 0025-539746, SAP 069-625-020 (Low); CP 0353-730385 (Tied); CP 0657-730386 (Tied); and

WHEREAS, Bids were opened in the Richard H. Hansen Transportation and Public Works Complex, Duluth, MN, on February 15, 2024, and the low responsible bid was determined.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the award on the above project to the low bidder:

<u>LOW BIDDER</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
KGM Contractors, Inc.	9211 Hwy. 53 Angora, MN 55703	\$846,132.35

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the appropriate county officials are authorized to approve the contractor's performance bonds and to execute the bonds and contract for the above listed project payable from:

CP 0025-539746, SAP 069-625-020 (Low):

Fund 220, Agency 220771, Object 652700 – State Aid Funds - \$445,925.75

CP 0353-730385 (Tied):

Fund 200, Agency 203684, Object 652800 – Local Funds - \$227,385.30

CP 0657-730386 (Tied):

Fund 200, Agency 203685, Object 652800 – Local Funds - \$172,821.30

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-138

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Board adopted Resolution No. 23-686 authorizing the purchase of ten tandem axle diesel trucks; and

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department's 2024 equipment budget includes funding for the purchase and installation of ten dump bodies with hydraulic systems and snow removal equipment for trucks purchased separately; and

WHEREAS, Towmaster, LLC of Litchfield, MN, responded with the State of Minnesota contract price for the purchase and installation of ten dump bodies with hydraulic systems and snow removal equipment for \$1,953,986.00.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the purchase and installation of ten (10) dump bodies with hydraulic systems and snow removal equipment from Towmaster, LLC of Litchfield, MN, in accordance with the above-stated State of Minnesota Contract S-863(5) pricing, inclusive of additional fees and taxes, for a total cost of \$1,953,986.00, payable from Fund 407, Agency 407001, Object 666300.

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 124-139

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department's 2024 equipment budget includes funding for the replacement of six heavy equipment trailers; and

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department, in tandem with the Purchasing Division, has solicited proposals for the purchase of six heavy equipment trailers; and

WHEREAS, Proposals were opened in the Richard H. Hansen Transportation and Public Works Complex, Duluth, MN, on January 18, 2024, and the County received seven (7) responses; and

WHEREAS, McCoy Construction and Forestry of Duluth, MN, was selected, and demonstrated the clear capability and capacity to fulfill the purpose of the Request for Proposal (RFP) in a cost-effective manner.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the purchase of six (6) heavy equipment trailers from McCoy Construction and Forestry, of Duluth, MN, inclusive of additional fees and taxes, for a total cost of \$245,383.00, payable from Fund 407, Agency 407001, Object 665900.

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-140

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department's anticipated 2025 equipment budget will be proposed to include funding for ten tandem trucks; and

WHEREAS, To secure an early production slot and ensure delivery in 2025, the Public Works Department is seeking board approval for this purchase now; and

WHEREAS, Nuss Truck & Equipment of Roseville, MN, responded with the State of Minnesota contract price for ten tandem trucks, for \$1,646,737.00.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the purchase of ten (10) 2025 Mack Granite tandem trucks (64FR) from Nuss Truck & Equipment, Inc. of Roseville, MN, in accordance with the above-stated State of Minnesota Contract T-647(5) pricing, inclusive of additional fees and taxes for a total of \$1,646,737.00, payable from Fund 407, Agency 407001, Object 666300 in 2025.

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-141

RESOLVED, That pursuant to the provisions of Minn. Stat. § 340A, as amended, and Rules and Regulations adopted by this Board under St. Louis County Ordinance No. 28, dated May 22, 1978, as amended, the following application for a Temporary On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License is hereby approved, on file in the office of the County Auditor, identified as County Board File No. 62124:

Babbitt Lions Club, Embarrass Township, Temporary On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License, for the dates of August 23 – 25, 2024, renewal.

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-142

WHEREAS, Minnesota Power has offered to donate to St. Louis County approximately 27,000 white pine seedlings having an estimated monetary value of \$7,290; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 465.03 authorizes the County to accept donation of personal property and maintain such property for the benefit of its citizens, provided such acceptance shall be by resolution of the governing body adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members, expressing such terms in full; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Power has no requirements or terms as to the management of the trees after planting; and

WHEREAS, The donation would be a welcome contribution to the Land and Minerals Department's annual tree planting program.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board hereby authorizes the Land Commissioner to accept a donation from Minnesota Power of approximately 27,000 white pine seedlings to be planted on county managed forest lands.

Adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-143

BY COMMISSIONER JUGOVICH:

WHEREAS, St. Louis County operates a Regional Landfill in Virginia, Minnesota, which serves as the primary disposal facility for mixed municipal solid waste generated in the county's Solid Waste Management Area; and

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Regional Landfill will require additional operational

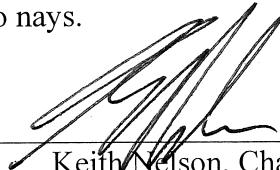
capacity by the fall of 2024; and

WHEREAS, The construction of this project was competitively bid and the lowest responsible total bid of \$2,916,050.00 was received from Ulland Brothers, Inc. of Cloquet, Minnesota.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate County officials to enter into a contract with Ulland Brothers, Inc. at its total bid price of \$2,916,050.00 for the construction of Phases 7,8, and 9 at the Regional Landfill payable from Fund 600, Agency 607001, Object 625500 (MSW).


Unanimously adopted March 5, 2024. No. 24-144

At 10:31 a.m., March 5, 2024, Commissioner Harala, supported by Commissioner Jugovich, moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.



Keith Nelson, Chair of the Board
of County Commissioners

Attest:



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

(Seal of the County Auditor)

