

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

May 7, 2024

Location: St. Louis County Courthouse, Duluth, Minnesota

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

Absent: Commissioner McDonald

Convened: Chair Nelson called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m.

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## CONSENT AGENDA

Boyle/Harala moved to approve the consent agenda. Item #4, St. Louis County Heritage and Arts Center (Depot) Construction Manager at Risk [24-206] was removed from the consent agenda for separate consideration. The motion passed. (6-0, McDonald absent)

- Minutes of April 30, 2024
- Authorization to Accept the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program (FHPAP) Grant Award and Enter into Contracts with Community Partners [24-203]
- Authorization to Accept Response Sustainability Grant Funding to Add 1.0 FTE Planner to Carry Out Public Health Emergency Preparedness Programming [24-204]
- Acquisition of Right-of-Way – Culvert Replacement Project on CR 696 (St. Louis River Road) at the Border Between the City of Proctor and the City of Duluth; CP 0696-798245 [24-205]
- St. Louis County Jail Fire Alarm Upgrades [24-207]

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## Health & Human Services Committee

Boyle/Harala moved that the St Louis County Board authorizes the reallocation of a 1.0 FTE Information Specialist I position (Position Code 0411-024, Pay Grade B04, Step 1) to a 1.0 FTE Social Programs Coordinator position (Pay Grade B18, Step 1) in the Public Health and Human Services Department, resulting in an annual increase of \$17,292 to be accounted for in Fund 230, Agency 232005, Object 610100.stated. [24-208]. Public Health and Human Services Director Linnea Mirsch commented that state policy changes in administration of disability programs have impacted workflow. Director Mirsch noted that this position is reimbursed at 40%. After further discussion, the motion passed. (6-0, McDonald absent)

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## Time Specific Presentations

From 10:30 a.m. to 11:04 a.m., Shaye Moris, President/CEO, Second Harvest Northland, gave a presentation regarding Nourish the Northland Project/Campaign.

From 11:04 a.m. to 11:52 a.m., Sumair Sheikh, Executive Director, and Caitlin Krebs, Director of Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Housing Opportunity Fund, gave a presentation regarding the LISC Housing Opportunity Fund.

At 11:52 a.m., the Committee took a short break. At 12:09 p.m., the Board reconvened with all members present except Commissioner McDonald.

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### **Public Works & Transportation Committee**

Musolf/Jugovich moved to award a bid to Ulland Brothers, Inc., Cloquet, MN, in the amount of \$1,165,300 for project CP 0223-674639, SAP 069-596-018, SP 6908-71, Grading, Bituminous Surfacing, Signing, and Lighting for TH 2 at Munger Shaw Road (County Road 223). [24-209]. The motion passed. (6-0, McDonald absent)

Jugovich/Nelson moved to award a bid to KGM Contractors, Inc., Angora, MN, in the amount of \$523,741 for project CP 0025-572154, SP 069-625-021, STBG 6924(130) (Br 618), County Bridge construction and approaches located on County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 25 between CSAH 66 and CR 791 over McNiven Creek, 6.8 miles N. of Buhl, MN. [24-210]. The motion passed. (6-0, McDonald absent)

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### **Finance & Budget Committee**

Harala/Boyle moved that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate County officials to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Johnson Wilson Constructors, Duluth, MN, for Construction Manager at Risk preconstruction services at a cost not to exceed \$30,000, payable from Fund 400, Agency 400024 with funds transferred from Fund 403, Agency 403001. [24-206]. Deputy Administrator Brian Fritsinger commented that the overall project consists of multiple projects and noted that the HVAC system is aging. The overall project is estimated to be \$16 million and construction costs have increased due to inflation. Commissioner Nelson said the county needs to identify a funding source and asked that the Board wait until the legislative session is over to see if there is a Northern Lights Express (NLX) funding package before making a decision. Property Management Director Jerry Hall said a Construction Manager at Risk would give the Board a more accurate estimate and the engineer would help ensure the project fits the budget. County Attorney Kim Maki was asked if the Board could table the resolution. Attorney Maki responded that the Board has two options: they could remove the item from the agenda and return it to county administration, or they could pass the resolution and direct county administration to bring the item forward at a future meeting. After further discussion, the motion passed without recommendation for consideration at the May 28, 2024 Board meeting. The motion passed. (6-0, McDonald absent)

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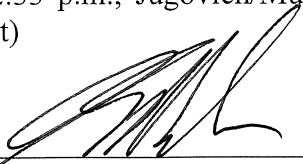
### **COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Commissioner Harala shared a piece of artwork her son gave her called The Pickle Fish Moon and reminded everyone to remember Mother's Day during the fishing opener.

Commissioner Musolf noted that the location of next week's Board meeting has been changed from Rice Lake City Hall to the Courthouse in Duluth due to the ISD #709 Special Election.

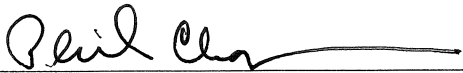
Chair Nelson encouraged Commissioners to continue their lobbying efforts at the capital. Chair Nelson said he will be attending an East Central Development Association meeting regarding the Northern Lights Express (NLX) project.

At 12:33 p.m., Jugovich/Mysolf moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. (6-0, McDonald absent)



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Keith Nelson, Chair of the County Board



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Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board