

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, MINNESOTA,  
HELD ON JUNE 11, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of the County of St. Louis, Minnesota, met this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 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.

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

At 10:02 a.m., a public hearing was conducted, pursuant to Resolution No. 24-283, adopted May 28, 2024, to consider the issuance of an Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License to The Outpost LLC dba The Outpost, Gnesen Township. St. Louis County Attorney Kim Maki gave the initial presentation and submitted a packet that included documentation of required notices, minutes from the Liquor Licensing Committee meeting, proof of paid property taxes, and required documents for the license to the Clerk of the County Board. Chair Nelson asked Andrew Knutson, of The Outpost LLC, if he had read all liquor license requirements and if he will abide by them; the applicant responded yes. Chair Nelson asked if there were any governmental entities, supporters or opponents, or citizens who wished to speak regarding the proposed action; no one requested the opportunity to speak. At 10:06 a.m., Commissioner Musolf, supported by Commissioner Jugovich, moved to close the public hearing. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner Musolf, supported by Commissioner Jugovich, moved that an Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License shall be issued to The Outpost LLC dba The Outpost, Gnesen Township, located in Area 3, and in accordance with the St. Louis County Fee Schedule, the annual fee is \$500; further, that said liquor license shall be effective through June 30, 2024, and is approved contingent upon payment of real estate taxes when due; and further, that if the named license holder sells the licensed place of business, the County Board may, at its discretion and after an investigation, transfer the license to a new owner, but without pro-rated refund of license fee to the license holder. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays. Resolution No. 24-317.

Commissioner Harala, supported by Commissioner Boyle, moved to consider a resolution to establish a public hearing to consider the issuance of an Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License to GUR PETRO LLC dba Swan Lake Liquor, New Independence Township; the item had not been to Committee of the Whole. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner Jugovich, supported by Commissioner Harala, moved that the St. Louis County Board establishes a public hearing on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 10:05 a.m. at the Chisholm City Hall, 316 W. Lake Street, Chisholm, MN, regarding the application for an Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License by GUR PETRO LLC dba Swan Lake Liquor, New Independence Township. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays. Resolution No. 24-318.

Commissioner Harala, supported by Commissioner McDonald, moved to consider a resolution to establish a public hearing to consider the issuance of an Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License to Lagertha II L.L.C. dba Viking Bar, Morcom Township; the item had not been to Committee of the Whole. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner McDonald, supported by Commissioner Jugovich, moved that the St. Louis County Board establishes a public hearing on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 10:10 a.m. at the Chisholm City Hall, 316 W. Lake Street, Chisholm, MN, regarding the application for an Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License for Lagertha II L.L.C. dba Viking Bar, Morcom Township. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays. Resolution No. 24-319.

Commissioner Harala, supported by Commissioner Musolf, moved to consider a resolution to accept Legislative Appropriation of a \$2 Million MPCA Grant for Advanced PFAS Leachate Treatment at the Regional Landfill; the item had not been to Committee of the Whole. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner Nelson, supported by Commissioner Musolf, moved that the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate County officials to execute a contract with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for \$2,000,000 in State appropriated funding and the Director of Environmental Services to subsequently accept the funding via the SWIFT (Statewide Integrated Financial Tools) system to supplement the construction of the advanced PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) leachate treatment system, Fund 600, Agency 602100, Grant 60004, Year 2024; and further, that the matching funds for this grant will be provided from the ARPA allocation Fund 239, Agency 239200. Environmental Services Director, David Fink commented that the process to access the funds has been a challenge and thanked Senator Hauschild for his assistance to ensure that the county was able to receive the funds prior to the deadline. After further discussion, the motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays. Resolution No. 24-320.

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

Jeremy Craker, Information Technology Director, submitting Request for Board Action No. 24-245, Annual IT Standard Equipment Order – Computers, Laptops, Tablets.—62188

Kimberly Maki, County Attorney, and James Gottschald, Human Resources and Administration Director, submitting Request for Board Action No. 24-246, Assistant County Attorneys Unit for Lateral Hires Memorandum of Understanding.—62189

Julie Marinucci, Land and Minerals Director, and Nancy Nilsen, County Auditor/Treasurer, submitting Request for Board Action No. 24-244, Reclassification of State Tax-Forfeited Lands to Non-Conservation and Repurchase of State Tax-Forfeited Land – Hauck (Non-Homestead).—62190

Nancy Nilsen, County Auditor/Treasurer, submitting Request for Board Action No. 24-248, Establish Public Hearing to Consider Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License (GUR PETRO LLC dba Swan Lake Liquor, New Independence Township).—62191

Nancy Nilsen, County Auditor/Treasurer, submitting Request for Board Action No. 24-249, Establish Public Hearing to Consider Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License (Lagertha II L.L.C. dba Viking Bar, Morcom Township).—62192

David Fink, Environmental Services Director, submitting Request for Board Action No. 24-250, Authorization to Accept Legislative Appropriation of \$2 Million Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Grant for Advanced PFAS Leachate Treatment at the Regional Landfill.—62193

Chester Cullen submitting information and photographs regarding the Hutchinson cartway.—62194

Upon motion by Commissioner McDonald, supported by Commissioner Harala, resolutions numbered 24-305 through 24-316, 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 June 4, 2024, are hereby approved.

Adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-305

WHEREAS, Immunizations save lives and prevent serious illness across the age spectrum; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Health has made funds available to the Aitkin-Itasca-Koochiching Community Health Board for purposes of carrying out immunization quality improvement processes for providers; and

WHEREAS, The Aitkin-Itasca-Koochiching Community Health Board wishes to contract with Public Health and Human Services (PHHS) in the amount up to \$25,093 for the time period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, to carry out immunization quality improvement processes for providers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the County Board authorizes PHHS to enter into contract and accept up to \$25,093 from the Aitkin-Itasca-Koochiching Community Health Board for the time period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, for purposes of carrying out immunization quality improvement processes for providers.

BUDGET REFERENCE:

230-233999-545152-23329-99999999-2024

230-233999-610000-23329-99999999-2024

Adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-306

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Public Works Department plans to reconstruct a short segment of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 16 and to replace the existing bridge (County Bridge 611, State Bridge 69563) spanning the West Two River on the town line between Cherry and Lavell Townships, further identified as County Project CP 0016-56744; 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 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 June 11, 2024. No. 24-307

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), in cooperation with St. Louis County, is preparing a project to construct improvements along US 53 at County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 101 (Fayal Road), CSAH 146 (Hat Trick Avenue)/CSAH 149 (Industrial Park Drive) and CSAH 142 (Park Ave./Progress Parkway) in the City of Eveleth in 2025; and

WHEREAS, In preparation for this project, the Minnesota Department of Transportation will be completing tree clearing along US 53 and CSAH 142 (Park Ave./Progress Parkway) in the winter of 2024/2025; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Transportation is responsible for bidding, construction administration/engineering and inspection for the tree clearing project.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That St. Louis County enter into MnDOT Agreement No. 1056779 with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation, for the following purposes:

To provide for payment by the County to the State of the County's share of the costs of the clearing construction and other associated construction to be performed upon, along, and adjacent to Trunk Highway No. 53 from 0.6 miles south of Trunk Highway No. 37 to 0.5 miles south of TH 135 within the corporate under State Project No. 6918-100 (53-011).

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the County Board Chair, County Auditor, Public Works Director and Assistant County Attorney are authorized to execute the Agreement and any amendments to the Agreement.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the St. Louis County project numbers are CP 0142-769529, SP 069-070-081. Funds necessary for payment to the Minnesota Department of Transportation will be payable from Fund 200, Agency 203696, Object 652808.

Adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-308

WHEREAS, On March 11, 2021, the President of the United States signed into law the \$1.9 Trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to provide continued relief from the impact of COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Approximately \$350 billion of the ARPA funding was allotted to assist state, local tribal, and territory governments in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Funds received are required to be used in accordance with the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF) requirements as provided within the guidance issued by the United States Treasury:

- To respond to the public health emergency
- To address its negative economic impacts
- To serve the hardest hit
- To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County has been awarded \$54,536,596 in ARPA funds to be used in accordance with the above requirements; and

WHEREAS, The County Board has allocated up to \$1,000,000 of ARPA funds to be used for youth recreation/park projects; and

WHEREAS, Voices for Ethnic and Multicultural Awareness (VEMA) will host the annual Juneteenth Freedom Day celebration; and

WHEREAS, The organization has submitted documentation seeking funding assistance in the amount of \$2,000 from the County's American Rescue Plan Act Revenue Loss funds to support its project.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the use of up to \$2,000 of American Rescue Plan Act Revenue Loss funding for the VEMA Annual Juneteenth Freedom Day celebration.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That VEMA shall comply and submit all necessary information, documentation and reporting materials required by the County to ensure that the project meets any and all conditions as required under the program.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the appropriate County officials are authorized to enter into an agreement with VEMA for this project with funds for the above project payable from Fund 239, American Rescue Plan Action Revenue Loss.

Adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-309

WHEREAS, In an effort to provide St. Louis County with the best possible pricing on laptop, desktop, and tablet technologies, the Information Technology (IT) Department in coordination with the Purchasing Division have directed all departments that standardized computer purchases will utilize the State of Minnesota Contract Release C-1046(5), contract #160321; and

WHEREAS, One of the goals of the IT Department is to ensure common computing standards are followed throughout the county to ensure application compatibility, security, and supportability; and

WHEREAS, The IT Department has worked with each department to identify their specific computing needs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the Information Technology Department to utilize the State of Minnesota Contract Release C-1046(5), contract #160321, via vendor Now Micro, Inc., for the scheduled replacement order in the estimated amount of \$599,350 payable via funds budgeted within each departmental 2024 budget.

Adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-310

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 an intoxicating liquor license is hereby approved, on file in the office of the County Auditor, identified as County Board File No. 62124.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That said license is approved contingent upon license holder paying real estate or personal property taxes when due.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That if the named license holder sells their licensed place of business, the County Board may, at its discretion and after an investigation, transfer the license to a new owner, but without pro-rated refund of the license fee to the license holder.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That said license shall be effective through June 30, 2025:

Lagertha II L.L.C. dba Viking Bar, Morcom Township, On-Sale & Sunday On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License, transfer.

Adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-311

WHEREAS, St. Louis County serves as the sponsor of various recreational trails that are part of the State of Minnesota Grant-in-Aid Trail System; and

WHEREAS, The construction and maintenance of these trails is funded through the Minnesota Trail Assistance Program Grants issued with the approval of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, The Alborn Dirt Devils ATV Club requested sponsorship of 22 miles of the Alborn/Pengilly Trail; and

WHEREAS, The County typically sponsors trails for a period of five (5) years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes sponsorship of the Alborn Dirt Devils ATV Club and the 22 miles of the Alborn/Pengilly Trail that it manages, for a period of five (5) years at no cost to the County, and authorizes the County Auditor to sign grant applications, agreements, and reimbursement claims to the Minnesota Department of Natural

Resources for construction, maintenance, and administration of the trail.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the St. Louis County Board Chair and/or the County Auditor are authorized to sign all easements, licenses, or other instruments associated with the trail, subject to the approval of the County Attorney.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That this resolution is contingent upon the Alborn Dirt Devils ATV Club being individually named as an insured on the general liability policy covering St. Louis County sponsored State Grant-in-Aid Trails, and the club naming the landowners over whose lands the trails travel as additional insureds on the general liability policy.

Adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-312

WHEREAS, St. Louis County and St. Louis Assistant County Attorneys have negotiated and entered into a labor agreement for 2023-2025; and

WHEREAS, The County Attorney has demonstrated that recruitment of experienced Assistant County Attorneys has been significantly impacted by a limitation of active job seekers within the local labor market, which is representative of the statewide reports by other counties and cities as well as the state public defenders' offices; and

WHEREAS, The present collective bargaining agreement with the St. Louis County Attorneys Unit limits the discretion which the County Attorney can exercise in extending a job offer to an experienced attorney, to no higher than step 1 of the Senior Attorney salary range; and

WHEREAS, The county and Assistant County Attorneys Unit have reached agreement on a Lateral Hires Memorandum of Understanding, where an Assistant County Attorney may be credited with service at their time of hire or rehire for prior qualifying experience in a job determined by the County Attorney and director of human resources to be similar to the work performed by St. Louis County Assistant County Attorneys.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the Memorandum of Understanding with the Assistant County Attorney Unit for Lateral Hires, effective June 11, 2024.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the appropriate county officials are authorized to execute the Memorandum of Understanding, a copy of which is on file in County Board File No. 62189.

RESOLVED FURTHER, No additional funds associated with this proposed Memorandum of Understanding are approved for 2024.

Adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-313

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.241 provides that state tax-forfeited land may be repurchased by the previous owner subject to payment of delinquent taxes and assessments, with penalties, interest, and maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, The applicants, Carol Laakso of Duluth, MN and Theresa Paul of Nolalu, ON, have applied to repurchase state tax-forfeited land legally described as:

Legal: SW1/4 of SW1/4, Section 4, Township 54 North, Range 15 West

Parcel ID No: 661-0010-00590

LDKey: 130722; and

WHEREAS, The applicants are heirs to the owner of record at the time of forfeiture and are eligible to repurchase the property; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.302, subd. 1, provides that the deed must be issued to the record owner of the property at the time of the expiration of the redemption period established under § 281.23, which was Arvid L. Laakso; and

WHEREAS, Arvid L. Laakso is deceased, and Minn. Stat. § 282.302, subd. 2, provides that the deed must name the record owner's estate as grantee if a record owner is deceased; and

WHEREAS, The applicants have made payment in full to pay the amounts due and owing

under Minn. Stat. § 282.241 to repurchase the non-homestead property; and

WHEREAS, Approving the repurchase will promote the use of lands that will best serve the public interest.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the repurchase application by Carol Laakso of Duluth, MN, and Theresa Paul of Nolalu, ON, on file in County Board File No. 62152, to the Estate of Arvid L. Laakso subject to payments including total taxes and assessments of \$1,497.86, deed fee of \$25, deed tax of \$1.65, and recording fee of \$46, for a total of \$1,570.51 to be deposited into Fund 240 (Tax-Forfeited Land Fund); plus a service fee of \$500 to be deposited into Fund 100 (General Fund).

Adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-314

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.241 provides that state tax-forfeited land may be repurchased by the previous owner subject to payment of delinquent taxes and assessments, with penalties, interest, and maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, The applicants, Allen LeRoy Larson and Jenise Arlena Larson of Duluth, MN, have applied to repurchase state tax-forfeited land legally described as:

Legal: Lot 1, Block 12, NORTONS STEEL PLANT DIVISION OF DULUTH

Parcel ID No: 010-3540-03190

LDKey: 124067; and

WHEREAS, One of the applicants was the owner of record at the time of forfeiture and is eligible to repurchase the property; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.302, subd. 1, provides that the deed must be issued to the record owner of the property at the time of the expiration of the redemption period established under § 281.23, which was Allen Larson; and

WHEREAS, The applicants have made payment in full to pay the amounts due and owing under Minn. Stat. § 282.241 to repurchase the homestead property; and

WHEREAS, Approving the repurchase will promote the use of lands that will best serve the public interest.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board approves the repurchase application by Allen LeRoy Larson and Jenise Arlena Larson of Duluth, MN, on file in County Board File No. 62152, to Allen Larson subject to payments including: total taxes and assessments of \$1,141.55, deed fee of \$25, deed tax of \$1.65, and recording fee of \$46, for a total of \$1,214.20 to be deposited into Fund 240 (Tax-Forfeited Land Fund); plus a service fee of \$500 to be deposited into Fund 100 (General Fund).

Adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-315

WHEREAS, The parcels described in County Board File No. 62190 forfeited to the State of Minnesota for nonpayment of real estate taxes and were previously classified as conservation; and

WHEREAS, The forfeited parcels located inside the boundaries of a municipality or town and Minn. Stat. § 282.01 requires that notice of the classification or reclassification of lands situated within a municipality or town must be transmitted to its governing body; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.241 provides that state tax-forfeited land may be repurchased by the previous owners subject to payment of delinquent taxes and assessments, with penalties, interest, and maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, The applicant, Jody Francine Labernik of St. Cloud, MN, has applied and is eligible to repurchase state tax-forfeited land legally described in County Board File No. 62190; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 282.302, subd. 1, provides that the deed must be issued to the record owners of the property at the time of the expiration of the redemption period established under § 281.23, which were Paul K. Hauck a/k/a Paul Kenneth Hauck and Phyllis M. Hauck; and

WHEREAS, Paul K. Hauck and Phyllis M. Hauck are deceased, and Minn. Stat. § 282.302, subd. 2, provides that the deed must name the record owner's estate as grantee if a record owner is deceased.; and

WHEREAS, The applicant has made payment in full to pay the amounts due and owing under Minn. Stat. § 282.241 to repurchase the non-homestead property.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board reclassifies the tax-forfeited parcels described in County Board File No. 62190 as non-conservation, and a notice of the reclassification shall be transmitted by the Land and Minerals Department to the clerk of the municipality or town in which the parcels are located.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the reclassification of the forfeited parcels will be deemed approved if the County Board does not receive notice of a municipality's or town's disapproval within 60 days of the date on which this resolution is delivered to the clerk of the municipality or town in which the parcel is located, or if the County Board receives affirmative notice from the municipality or town prior to the end of the 60 days of the date on which the resolution is delivered to the clerk.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the St. Louis County Board approves the repurchase application by Jody Francine Labernik of St. Cloud, MN, on file in County Board File No. 62190, to the Estate of Paul K. Hauck a/k/a Paul Kenneth Hauck and the Estate of Phyllis M. Hauck, subject to payments including total taxes and assessments of \$7,645.43, deed fee of \$25, deed tax of \$25.23, and recording fee of \$112, for a total of \$7,807.66 to be deposited into Fund 240 (Tax-Forfeited Land Fund); plus a service fee of \$500 to be deposited into Fund 100 (General Fund).

Adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-316

#### **BY COMMISSIONER MUSOLF:**

WHEREAS, The Outpost LLC dba The Outpost, Gnesen Township, St. Louis County, Minnesota, has applied for an Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 340A.405, Subd. 2(d), requires that a public hearing be held prior to the issuance of an Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License; and

WHEREAS, A public hearing was held on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the County Courthouse, County Board Room, 100 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Duluth, MN, for the purpose of considering the granting of the Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License; and

WHEREAS, With regard to the application for said license, The Outpost LLC has complied in all respects with the requirements of Minnesota Law and St. Louis County Ordinance No. 28; and

WHEREAS, The Liquor Licensing Committee of the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners has considered the nature of the business to be conducted and the propriety of the location and has recommended approval of the application.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That an Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License shall be issued to The Outpost LLC dba The Outpost, Gnesen Township, located in Area 3, and in accordance with the St. Louis County Fee Schedule, the annual fee is \$500.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That said liquor license shall be effective through June 30, 2024.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That said license is approved contingent upon payment of real estate taxes when due.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That if the named license holder sells the licensed place of business, the County Board may, at its discretion and after an investigation, transfer the license to a new owner, but without pro-rated refund of license fee to the license holder.

Unanimously adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-317



**BY COMMISSIONER JUGOVICH:**

RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board establishes a public hearing on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 10:05 a.m. at the Chisholm City Hall, 316 W. Lake Street, Chisholm, MN, regarding the application for an Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License by GUR PETRO LLC dba Swan Lake Liquor, New Independence Township.

Unanimously adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-318

**BY COMMISSIONER McDONALD:**

RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board establishes a public hearing on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 10:10 a.m. at the Chisholm City Hall, 316 W. Lake Street, Chisholm, MN, regarding the application for an Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License for Lagertha II L.L.C. dba Viking Bar, Morcom Township.

Unanimously adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-319

**BY COMMISSIONER NELSON:**

WHEREAS, Upgrades and expansion to the existing St. Louis County Regional Landfill (Landfill) leachate treatment system are required to meet new regulated parametric loading and groundwater standards and to operate efficiently and safely into the future; and

WHEREAS, The Landfill is the only municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill in northeastern Minnesota, providing MSW disposal to the County's Solid Waste Management Area (SWMA); and

WHEREAS, Landfill capacity is projected to last another twenty-three years, based on current fill rates, and potentially an additional fifty based on Landfill expansion options currently being evaluated; and

WHEREAS, Leachate from the Landfill, approximately 5.5 million gallons annually, is currently collected, pumped, and stored in two lined ponds where it is settled, aerated, denitrified and land applied on a 60-acre spray field; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) issued a Landfill permit that requires extensive groundwater monitoring to ensure the leachate treatment system performs as intended, allowing the continuation of land application of leachate as the County's preferred leachate treatment option versus transport to a wastewater facility; and

WHEREAS, The MPCA and the Environmental Protection Agency has added Per – and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) as one of the emerging water contaminants of concern resulting in landfill leachate coming under increased scrutiny and management requirements; and

WHEREAS, To ensure continued onsite application of treated leachate, the County Board previously adopted Resolutions No. 22-427, 23-335 and 24-255 to complete the design and manage the construction of an upgraded leachate treatment system utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds; and

WHEREAS, During the 2021-2022 Minnesota Legislative Session, St. Louis County secured \$2,000,000 in state appropriated funds to be used for the control and treatment of PFAS in landfill leachate; and

WHEREAS, On May 30, 2024, the MPCA notified the Environmental Services Department that the County was to receive the state appropriated funds in the form of a Statewide Integrated Financial Tools (SWIFT) grant for \$2,000,000.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate County officials to execute a contract with the MPCA for \$2,000,000 in State appropriated funding and the Director of Environmental Services to subsequently accept the funding

via the SWIFT system to supplement the construction of the advanced PFAS leachate treatment system; Fund 600, Agency 602100, Grant 60004, Year 2024.


RESOLVED FURTHER, That the matching funds for this grant will be provided from the ARPA allocation Fund 239, Agency 239200.

Unanimously adopted June 11, 2024. No. 24-320

At 10:22 a.m., June 11, 2024, Commissioner Boyle, supported by Commissioner McDonald, 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 *Phil Chapman /*  
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board *Deputy Auditor*  
of County Commissioners

(Seal of the County Auditor)