

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 14, 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 10:10 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Minutes of May 7, 2024
- Acquisition of Right-of-Way - Replacement of County Bridge 382 over the Cloquet River in Ault Township; CP 0044-726786 [24-211]
- Abatement List for Board Approval [24-212]

Finance & Budget Committee

Harala/Nelson moved that the St. Louis County Board hereby approves the continued expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds through contract amendments with the listed schools and Districts extending the time frame of County ARPA funds through July 31, 2026, with additional county contributions, totaling 70% of the cost of ongoing mentors in 2024-25 school year and 40% of the cost of ongoing mentors in the 2025-26 school year; that \$78,673.04 will be paid to support the coordination of the program through July 31, 2026; that the school districts may adjust their budgets within each other as long as it does not exceed the grand total; and further, that the amount authorized in Board Resolution No. 21-427 and Board Resolution No. 22-444 may be moved between agencies so that remaining funds offset these contract amendments. [24-213]. County Administrator Kevin Gray noted that additional discussion regarding the program will take place during next week's Board workshop. The motion passed without recommendation. (7-0)

Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee

McDonald/Jugovich moved that the St. Louis County Board appoints the following individuals to serve as the Special Board of Appeal and Equalization for Assessment Year 2024:

- District 1 John Vigen, Duluth
- District 2 Lynn Nephew, Duluth
- District 3 Sherri Puckett, Duluth
- District 4 Steve Abrahamson, Tower
- District 5 Tim Peterson, Hermantown
- District 6 Dawn Cole, Eveleth
- District 7 James Marx, Hibbing;

and further, that the Special Board of Appeal and Equalization is delegated all powers and duties of the County Board of Appeal and Equalization to: report the results of their deliberations back to the St. Louis County Board in the form of minutes kept by the Clerk of the County Board; is directed to hold at least one meeting day in Duluth and one day in Virginia, Minnesota; is to be compensated at the rate of \$300 per meeting day, payable from Assessor's Department Fund 100, Agency 118001, Object #635300 - Non-employee fees and be reimbursed for mileage and expenses at the current CONUS rate from Assessor's Department Object #635500 - Non-employee travel; and directed to convene at 10:00 AM, June 18, 2024, in Duluth, MN. [24-214]. Commissioner McDonald commented that there are some new members on the Board and thanked the people who had previously served on the Board. County Administrator Kevin Gray noted that the first meeting will be held in Duluth on June 18, 2024. The motion passed. (7-0)

Public Safety & Corrections Committee

Grimm/Boyle moved that the St. Louis County Board approves the reallocation of a vacant 1.0 FTE Information Specialist III position Civil Service Basic Unit, \$3,745.63/mo. at Grade B14, Step 1, position code 0420-063, to the Information Specialist II (Civil Service Basic Unit, \$3,318.25/mo. at Grade B10, Step 1) in the Sheriff's Office, payable from Fund 100, Agency 137002, Object 610100. [24-215]. Administrator Gray said that since the change is more than two job grades, Board approval is required. The motion passed. (7-0)

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

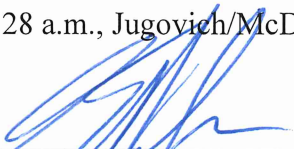
Commissioner Boyle noted that a special levy election for ISD #709 is being held today and encouraged residents to vote. Commissioner Boyle said that Commissioners Harala and Chair Nelson will be discussing the Northern Light Express (NLX) project at today's Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Commissioner Jugovich said the former Mine View building is being moved to the fairgrounds today. In addition, construction of the 4-H building is moving along and will be a wonderful addition to the fairgrounds.

Chair Nelson said having a commercial kitchen in the 4-H building will be a great addition to assist with emergency evacuations. Chair Nelson commented that every year he reads about accidents in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and encouraged visitors to be vigilant.

Commissioner McDonald said people in Crane Lake are pleased with the replacement of the county dock in Crane Lake and mentioned that a soft opening will take place this weekend for a new restaurant in Ely called The Frisky Otter.

At 10:28 a.m., Jugovich/McDonald moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. (7-0)



Keith Nelson, Chair of the County Board



Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board