

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, MINNESOTA,
HELD ON MAY 14, 2024**

The Board of County Commissioners of the County of St. Louis, Minnesota, met this 14th day of May 2024, at 10:02 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 Harala, supported by Commissioner Jugovich, moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.

Commissioner McDonald commented that he attended the Western Interstate Region (WIR) conference last week. The partnership aligns well with Northeastern Minnesota and St. Louis County because they share many of the same issues including Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT), outdoor recreation, search and rescue on public lands, and fire risk.

Commissioner Grimm said she attended a MN Inter-County Association (MICA) meeting last week and noted that there are some positive structural changes regarding healthcare including the potential for Medical Assistance billing for juvenile mental health.

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

Town of Normanna thanking the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners for their support for Mediacom LLC's broadband project in Normanna Township.—62170

Bob DeGross, Superintendent, United States Department of Interior, National Park Service, Voyageurs National Park, International Falls, MN, regarding an announcement (press release on May 13, 2024) for a public scoping and review period for a *Frozen Lake Surface Use Plan* for Voyageur's National Park.—62171

Upon motion by Commissioner Harala, supported by Commissioner Jugovich, resolutions numbered 24-265 through 24-272, 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 May 7, 2024, are hereby approved.

Adopted May 14, 2024. No. 24-265

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) awards grant funds to counties to fund services for the homeless and those at risk of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County has applied for and received funding from the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP)

consistently since the 1995-1997 biennium to fund services for the homeless and those at risk of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, The MHFA recently announced another request for proposals with the availability of up to \$27.5M in FHPAP funding to provide supportive services and direct financial assistance to help households who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness to retain their housing or obtain housing; and

WHEREAS, Public Health and Human Services, per Board Resolution No. 24-157, applied for \$416,208 to address known gaps with current sub-grantees (direct assistance, supportive services/staffing and coordinated entry support) as well as additional administrative funding to identify, measure and address racial disparities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the Public Health and Human Services Department to accept up to \$416,208 in MHFA FHPAP grant funding and to enter into contracts with community partners for the June 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025 grant cycle.

BUDGET REFERENCE:

230-232001-530701-23240-99999999-2024

230-232001-629900-23240-99999999-2024

230-232001-610100-23240-99999999-2024

230-232001-607200-23240-99999999-2024

Adopted May 14, 2024. No. 24-266

WHEREAS, The Commissioner of Health created a local and tribal public health emergency preparedness grant program that aligns with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capabilities; and

WHEREAS, The State of Minnesota allocated \$8,400,000 for the current biennium to distribute to local community health boards and tribal public health to carry out emergency preparedness programming through a new, ongoing allocation; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Health allocated \$245,463 to the Carlton-Cook-Lake-St. Louis Community Health Board (CCLStL CHB) annually for the time period of January 16, 2024, through June 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Public Health and Human Services (PHHS) wishes to accept \$127, 956 from the CCLStL CHB for the time period of January 16, 2024, through June 30, 2024, for purposes of carrying out public health emergency preparedness programming; and

WHEREAS, PHHS wishes to add a 1.0 FTE Planner position to the staffing complement for purposes of carrying out public health emergency preparedness programming.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes PHHS to accept up to \$127, 956 from the CCLStL CHB for the time period of January 16, 2024, through June 30, 2024, for purposes of carrying out emergency preparedness programming.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes PHHS to accept ongoing funding allocations for this program through June 30, 2027, and/or until there is a statutory change to this funding allocation.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the addition of a 1.0 FTE Planner position to the PHHS staffing complement for purposes of carrying out public health emergency preparedness programming.

BUDGET REFERENCE: 230-233999-530532-23604-99999999-2024

230-233999-610100-23604-99999999-2024

230-233999-637900-23604-99999999-2024

Adopted May 14, 2024. No. 24-267

WHEREAS, When a vacancy occurs in the Public Health and Human Services Department (PHHS), a review is done to determine if that position should be filled as is or if it should be reallocated to a level more aligned with the needs of the Department and the customers it services; and

WHEREAS, PHHS and the Human Resources Department conducted such a review when the results of the Home and Community Based Division made it clear a vacant Information Specialist I position could be reallocated to meet the significant workload increase needs in Home and Community Based Services as a Social Programs Coordinator to support the new work associated with Community First Services and Supports (CFSS) and the increase in number and acuity of waiver cases and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, County Fiscal Policies specify that any position change greater than three pay grades must go before the County Board for approval.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, 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.

Adopted May 14, 2024. No. 24-268

WHEREAS, The St. Louis County Public Works Department is planning a Culvert Replacement project on County Road 696 (St. Louis River Road) at the border between the City of Proctor and the City of Duluth, further identified as CP 0696-798245; and

WHEREAS, These improvements consist of reconstructing part of 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.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 282.04, Subd. 4, the St. Louis County Board authorizes the County Auditor to grant highway easements across tax-forfeited lands necessary for the project.

Adopted May 14, 2024. No. 24-269

WHEREAS, Bids have been received electronically by the St. Louis County Public Works Department for CP 0223-674639, SAP 069-596-018, SP 6908-71; and

WHEREAS, Bids were opened in the Richard H. Hansen Transportation and Public Works Complex, Duluth, MN, on April 25, 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>
Ulland Brothers, Inc.	PO Box 340 Cloquet, MN 55720	\$1,165,300.00

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 0223-674639, SAP 069-596-018, SP 6908-71

Fund 220, Agency 220767, Object 652700 – Local Partnership Program (LPP) Funds - \$1,040,284.81

Fund 200, Agency 203695, Object 652800 – Local Construction Funds - \$125,015.19

Adopted May 14, 2024. No. 24-270

WHEREAS, Bids have been received electronically by the St. Louis County Public Works Department for CP 0025-572154, SP 069-625-021, STBG 6924(130) (Br 618); and

WHEREAS, Bids were opened in the Richard H. Hansen Transportation and Public Works Complex, Duluth, MN, on April 11, 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	\$523,741.00

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 0025-572154, SP 069-625-021, STBG 6924(130) (Br 618)

Fund 220, Agency 220789, Object 652700 – Federal, State Aid and Bridge Bond Funds

Adopted May 14, 2024. No. 24-271

WHEREAS, The fire alarm system at the St. Louis County Jail in Duluth is obsolete and replacement parts are increasingly difficult to obtain; and

WHEREAS, St. Louis County Property Management has standardized on Siemens Industry, Inc. equipment for fire alarm life safety installations in new buildings and major remodel projects and Cooperative Purchasing with the State of Minnesota Minn. Stat. §471.345, Subd. 15, Cooperative Purchasing Uniform Municipal Contracting Law; and

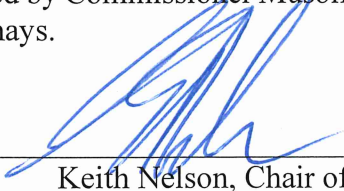
WHEREAS, Siemens provided a quote of \$266,000 for standardized fire alarm system improvements at the Duluth Jail; and

WHEREAS, These improvements would consist of a new central control panel and the installation of new intelligent detection devices throughout the building, system programming, personnel training and system checkout as well as close out documentation of system configuration as installed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the St. Louis County Board authorizes the appropriate county officials to enter into an agreement with Siemens Industry, Inc., to provide all services to upgrade the fire alarm system at the St. Louis County Jail in Duluth, payable from County Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Fund 400, Agency 400032.

Adopted May 14, 2024. No. 24-272

At 10:09 a.m., May 14, 2024, Commissioner Boyle, supported by Commissioner Musolf, moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed; seven yeas, zero nays.



Keith Nelson, Chair of the Board
of County Commissioners

Attest:

Phil Chapman

Nancy Nilsen, County Auditor / Phil Chapman
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board Deputy Auditor
of County Commissioners

(Seal of the County Auditor)