

Aitkin County Board of Commissioners
Request for County Board Action/Agenda Item Cover Sheet



To: Chairperson, Aitkin County Board of Commissioners Date: 1-22-14

Via: Patrick Wussow, County Administrator

From: Patrick Wussow, County Administrator

Title of Item:

Conservation Easements for Wetland Mitigation on Tax-Forfeited Lands

Requested Meeting Date: 1-28-14 Estimated Presentation Time: _____

Presenter: _____

Type of Action Requested (check all that apply)

- For info only, no action requested
- Approve under Consent Agenda
- For discussion with possible action
- Adopt Ordinance Revision
- Let/Award Bid or Quote (attach copy of basic bid/quote specs or summary of complex specs, each bid/quote received & bid/quote comparison)
- Approve/adopt proposal by resolution (attach draft resolution)
- Approve/adopt proposal by motion
- Authorize filling vacant staff position
- Request to schedule public hearing or sale
- Other (please list) _____
- Request by member of the public to be heard
- Item should be addressed in closed session under MN Statute _____

Fiscal Impact (check all that apply)

- Is this item in the current approved budget? Yes _____ No _____ (attach explanation)
- What type of expenditure is this? Operating Capital Other (attach explanation)
- Revenue line account # that funds this item is: _____
- Expenditure line account # for this item is: _____

Staffing Impact (Any yes answer requires a review by Human Resources Manager before going to the board)

- Duties of a department employee(s) may be materially affected. Yes No
- Applicable job description(s) may require revision. Yes No
- Item may impact a bargaining unit agreement or county work policy. Yes No
- Item may change the department's authorized staffing level. Yes No



Supporting Attachment(s)

- Memorandum Summary of Item
- Copy of applicable county policy and/or ordinance (excerpts acceptable)
- Copy of applicable state/federal statute/regulation (excerpts acceptable)
- Copy of applicable contract and/or agreement
- Original bid spec or quote request (excluding complex construction projects)
- Bids/quotes received (excluding complex construction projects, provide comparison worksheet)
- Bid/quote comparison worksheet
- Draft County Board resolution
- Plat approval check-list and supporting documents
- Copy of previous minutes related to this issue
- Other supporting document(s) (please list) _____

Provide (1) copy of supporting documentation NO LATER THAN Wednesday at Noon to make the Board's agenda for the following Tuesday. (If your packet contains colored copies, please provide (4) paper copies of supporting documentation as we do not have a color printer or copier.) Items WILL NOT be placed on the Board agenda unless complete documentation is provided for the Board packets.

Mark Jacobs
Aitkin County
Land Commissioner



To: County Board
CC: County Administrator
Date: 1/23/2014
Re: Conservation easements for wetland mitigation

MN session laws 2006 - Chapter 236 Article 1 sec 37 (below) allows conservation easements for wetland mitigation on tax-forfeited lands in St. Louis County...

**Sec. 37. CONSERVATION EASEMENTS FOR WETLAND RESTORATION;
ST. LOUIS COUNTY.**

The commissioner of revenue, upon recommendation of the Board of County Commissioners for St. Louis County and the commissioner of natural resources, is authorized to convey a conservation easement on tax-forfeited lands for the purpose of restoration of wetlands to be utilized for mitigation of wetlands displaced by mining operations in St. Louis County. If the commissioner of revenue issues a conservation easement, it shall be held by the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

The MN Association of County Land Commissioner is proposing legislation to allow all Counties this option.

Representative Erickson has indicated that he is willing to introduce it but wants support from MACLC member County Boards. Staff believes that if St. Louis County has this option, it should be available to other Counties.

Staff requests support for the following revision...

**Sec. 37. CONSERVATION EASEMENTS FOR WETLAND RESTORATION;
ST. LOUIS COUNTY.**

The commissioner of revenue, upon recommendation of the Board of County Commissioners ~~for St. Louis County~~ and the commissioner of natural resources, is authorized to convey a conservation easement on tax-forfeited lands for the purpose of restoration of wetlands ~~to be utilized for mitigation of displaced wetlands~~ ~~to be utilized for mitigation of wetlands displaced by mining operations in St. Louis County.~~ If the commissioner of revenue issues a conservation easement, it shall be held by the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

Thank you.

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION OF COUNTY BOARD OF AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

ADOPTED January 28, 2014

By Commissioner: xx

012814-0xx

Conservation Easements for Wetland Mitigation

WHEREAS, MN session laws 2006 - Chapter 236 Article 1 sec 37 allows conservation easements for wetland mitigation on tax-forfeited lands in St. Louis County.

THEREFORE, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners supports legislation that extends this authorization to all MN Counties.

Commissioner xx moved the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

FIVE MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting Yes

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
County of Aitkin) ss.
Office of County Auditor,)

I, Kirk Peysar, Auditor, of the County of Aitkin, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution filed in my office on the 28th day of January A.D., 2014, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE at Aitkin, Minnesota, this 28th day of January A.D., 2014

KIRK PEYSAR, County Auditor

BY _____, Deputy