



# Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

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Agenda Item #

**Requested Meeting Date:** June 26, 2018

**Title of Item:** Seed Purchase - Legacy Grant

<input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	<b>Action Requested:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft)	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing* <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>
<b>Submitted by:</b> Rich Courtemanche		<b>Department:</b> Land Dept.
<b>Presenter (Name and Title):</b>		<b>Estimated Time Needed:</b> n/a
<b>Summary of Issue:</b> <p>Aitkin County Land Department (ACL D) manages 305 acres of upland grass areas for the inherent benefits for wildlife. These upland grass areas are capable of supporting rich species diversity of wildflowers, forbs, and grasses which benefit pollinators. To improve pollinator habitat, ACL D implemented pilot restoration projects at two sites in the fall of 2016. The goal was to improve species diversity in patches that could expand and colonize additional adjacent areas of grassland habitat. Site monitoring was done in 2017 and the test planting was deemed a success. In the fall of 2017, ACL D applied for and received a \$24,500 Conservation Partners Legacy Grant (CPL) to purchase additional seed mixes for pollinator restoration.</p> <p>The grant monies will cover 100% of the cost of the seed. As an in-kind match, ACL D will provide manpower and equipment for site preparation, seeding, and monitoring.</p> <p>Three (3) bids were received for State of Minnesota approved pollinator seed mixes: Minnesota Native Landscapes and Shooting Star Native Seeds provided the same price (\$145/lb). However, Minnesota Native Landscapes had a higher number of species included in their seed mix and a higher number of seed per application (31 seeds/sq ft).</p> <p>ACL D would like authority to purchase \$24,500 of seed from Minnesota Native Landscapes. 100% of the costs of the seed will be reimbursed from the grant monies under (CPL: 138560_PO3-128352).</p>		
<b>Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:</b>		
<b>Recommended Action/Motion:</b> Approve purchase of wildflower seed for pollinator restoration.		
<b>Financial Impact:</b> Is there a cost associated with this request? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$ 24,500 Is this budgeted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>Please Explain:</i> Grant for the project was applied for and received after the 2018 budgeting process. Costs of seed will be reimbursed under CPL Grant 138560_PO3-128352		

Legally binding agreements must have County Attorney approval prior to submission.