



Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

20

Agenda Item #

Requested Meeting Date: 2-13-24

Title of Item: Grant Agreement No. 1054971 (SAP 001-599-043)

<input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	Action Requested: <input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*
Submitted by: John Welle		Department: Highway Department
Presenter (Name and Title): NA		Estimated Time Needed: NA
Summary of Issue: <p>SAP 001-599-043 is a bridge replacement project on 210th Lane (Pliny Township Road) over the Snake River that was awarded on 12-19-23 for a cost of \$552,663.35.</p> <p>Funding for this project, including \$65,000 of engineering costs, is as follows: Town Bridge Funds: \$282,184.34 Local Bridge Replacement Program (LBRP) Grant: \$325,479.01 Pliny Township: \$10,000.00</p> <p>MnDOT Agreement No. 1054971 has been provided for the purpose of providing the LBRP grant. The County Attorney within the past year has reviewed the same grant agreement language for other projects and has approved the agreement as to form and content.</p> <p>Authorization by the attached resolution is requested to enter into Agreement No. 1054971.</p>		
Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:		
Recommended Action/Motion: Approve resolution		
Financial Impact: <i>Is there a cost associated with this request?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$</i> <i>Is this budgeted?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Please Explain:</i>		

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

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

ADOPTED February 13, 2024

By Commissioner: xxx

20240213-xxx

Grant Agreement No. 1054971 (SAP 001-599-043)

WHEREAS, Aitkin County has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund related to Bridge No.01537; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Transportation has given notice that funding for this project is available; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the grant has been determined to be \$325,479.01 by reason of the lowest responsible bid;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that Aitkin County does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 174.50, and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate, and will return to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund any amount appropriated for the project but not required. The proper county officers are authorized to execute a grant agreement and any amendments thereto with the Commissioner of Transportation concerning the above-referenced grant.

Commissioner xxx seconded the adoption of the resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote

xxx MEMBERS PRESENT

All Members Voting xxx

STATE OF MINNESOTA}
COUNTY OF AITKIN}

I, Jessica Seibert, County Administrator, Aitkin County, Minnesota do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution filed in the Administration Office of Aitkin County in Aitkin, Minnesota as stated in the minutes of the proceedings of said Board on the 13th day of February 2024, and that the same is a true and correct copy of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and seal this 13th day of February 2024

Jessica Seibert
County Administrator

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
LOCAL BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
GRANT AGREEMENT**

This agreement is between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Commissioner of Transportation ("State"), and ("Grantee"):

Public Entity (Grantee) name, address and contact person:

 Aitkin County Highway Department

 1211 Air Park Drive

 Aitkin, MN 56431

Contact: John Welle – 218-927-7469

RECITALS

1. Minnesota Statutes § 174.50, subd. 6-7 authorize the State to enter into this agreement.
2. General Funds were appropriated for the Local Bridge Replacement Program in Minnesota Laws 2023, Chapter 68-H.F. 2887.
3. Grantee has been awarded Local Bridge Replacement Program (LBRP) funds under Minn. Stat. § 174.50, subd. 6-7.
4. Grantee represents that it is duly qualified and agrees to perform all services described in this agreement to the satisfaction of the State. Pursuant to [Minn.Stat. §16B.98](#), Subd.1, Grantee agrees to minimize administrative costs as a condition of this agreement.

AGREEMENT TERMS

1 Term of Agreement, Survival of Terms, and Incorporation of Exhibits

- 1.1 **Effective Date.** This agreement will be effective on the date the State obtains all required signatures under [Minn. Stat. §16B.98](#), Subd. 5. As required by [Minn.Stat. §16B.98](#) Subd. 7, no payments will be made to Grantee until this agreement is fully executed. Grantee must not begin work under this agreement until this agreement is fully executed and Grantee has been notified by the State's Authorized Representative to begin the work.
- 1.2 **Expiration Date.** This agreement will expire on December 31, 2027 or when all obligations have been satisfactorily fulfilled, whichever occurs first.
- 1.3 **Survival of Terms.** All clauses which impose obligations continuing in their nature and which must survive in order to give effect to their meaning will survive the expiration or termination of this agreement, including, without limitation, the following clauses: 8. Liability; 9. State Audits; 10. Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property; 11. Workers Compensation; 12. Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue; and 14. Data Disclosure.
- 1.4 **Exhibits.** Exhibit A: Sources and Uses of Funds Schedule; Exhibit B: Grant Application; and Exhibit C: Grantee Resolution Approving Grant Agreement are attached and incorporated into this agreement.

2 Grantee's Duties

- 2.1 Grantee will conduct one or more of the following activities in accordance with its grant application, or in the case of legislatively selected projects, in accordance with the enabling session law, which is attached to this Agreement as Exhibit B: (i) constructing or reconstructing a bridge, (ii) abandoning an existing bridge that is deficient and in need of replacement, but where no replacement will be made, or (iii) constructing a road to facilitate the abandonment or removal of an existing bridge determined to be deficient.
- 2.2 Grantee will comply with all required grants management policies and procedures set forth through [Minn.Stat. §16B.97](#), Subd. 4 (a) (1).
- 2.3 **Asset Monitoring.** If Grantee uses funds obtained by this agreement to acquire a capital asset, the Grantee is required to use that asset for a public purpose for the normal useful life of the asset. Grantee may not sell or change the purpose of use for the capital asset(s) obtained with grant funds under this agreement without the prior written consent of the State and an agreement executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved this agreement, or their successors in office.

3 Time

3.1 Grantee must comply with all the time requirements described in this agreement. In the performance of this grant agreement, time is of the essence.

4 Consideration and Payment

4.1 **Consideration.** The State will pay for all services performed by Grantee under this agreement as follows:

4.1.1 **Compensation.** Grantee will be reimbursed for actual, incurred costs that are eligible under Minn. Stat. § 174.50, subd 6-7. Grantee shall use this grant solely to reimburse itself for expenditures it has already made to pay for the costs of one or more of the activities listed under section 2.1.

4.1.2 **Sources and Uses of Funds.** Grantee represents to State that the Sources and Uses of Funds Schedule attached as Exhibit A accurately shows the total cost of the project and all of the funds that are available for the completion of the project. Grantee agrees that it will pay for any costs that are ineligible for reimbursement and for any amount by which the costs exceed State's total obligation in section 4.1.3. Grantee will return to State any amount appropriated but not required.

4.1.3 **Total Obligation.** The total obligation of the State for all compensation and reimbursements to Grantee under this agreement will not exceed \$325,479.01.

4.2 Payment

4.2.1 **Invoices.** Grantee will submit state aid pay requests for reimbursements requested under this grant agreement. The State will promptly pay Grantee after Grantee presents an itemized invoice for the services actually performed and the State's Authorized Representative accepts the invoiced services.

4.2.2 **All Invoices Subject to Audit.** All invoices are subject to audit, at State's discretion.

4.2.3 **State's Payment Requirements.** State will promptly pay all valid obligations under this agreement as required by Minnesota Statutes §16A.124. State will make undisputed payments no later than 30 days after receiving Grantee's invoices and progress reports for services performed. If an invoice is incorrect, defective or otherwise improper, State will notify Grantee within ten days of discovering the error. After State receives the corrected invoice, State will pay Grantee within 30 days of receipt of such invoice.

4.2.4 **Grant Monitoring Visit and Financial Reconciliation.** During the period of performance, the State will make at least annual monitoring visits and conduct annual financial reconciliations of Grantee's expenditures.

4.2.4.1 The State's Authorized Representative will notify Grantee's Authorized Representative where and when any monitoring visit and financial reconciliation will take place, which State employees and/or contractors will participate, and which Grantee staff members should be present. Grantee will be provided with at least seven calendar days of notice prior to any monitoring visit or financial reconciliation.

4.2.4.2 Following a monitoring visit or financial reconciliation, Grantee will take timely and appropriate action on all deficiencies identified by State.

4.2.4.3 At least one monitoring visit and one financial reconciliation must be completed prior to final payment being made to Grantee.

4.2.5 **Unexpended Funds.** The Grantee must promptly return to the State at grant closeout any unexpended funds that have not been accounted for in a financial report submitted to the State.

4.2.6 **Closeout.** The State will determine, at its sole discretion, whether a closeout audit is required prior to final payment approval. If a closeout audit is required, final payment will be held until the audit has been completed. Monitoring of any capital assets acquired with grant funds will continue following grant closeout.

4.3 **Contracting and Bidding Requirements.** If Grantee is a municipality as defined by Minn. Stat. § 471.345, subdivision 1, then Grantee shall comply with the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 471.345 for all procurement under this Agreement.

5 Conditions of Payment

All services provided by Grantee under this agreement must be performed to the State's satisfaction, as determined at the sole discretion of the State's Authorized Representative and in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations. The Grantee will not receive payment for work found by the State to be unsatisfactory or performed in violation of federal, state, or local law.

6 Authorized Representatives

6.1 The State's Authorized Representative is:

Marc Briese,
Programs Engineer,
MnDOT State Aid Office
395 John Ireland Boulevard, MS 500
St. Paul, MN 55155
Office: 651-366-3802
marc.briese@state.mn.us

or his/her successor. State's Authorized Representative has the responsibility to monitor Grantee's performance and the authority to accept the services provided under this agreement. If the services are satisfactory, the State's Authorized Representative will certify acceptance on each invoice submitted for payment.

6.2 Grantee's Authorized Representative is:

Aitkin County Highway Department
John Welle (or successor)
Aitkin County Engineer
1211 Air Park Drive
Aitkin, MN 56431
Phone: 218-927-7469
jwelle@co.aitkin.mn.us

If Grantee's Authorized Representative changes at any time during this agreement, Grantee will immediately notify the State.

7 Assignment Amendments, Waiver, and Grant Agreement Complete

7.1 **Assignment.** The Grantee may neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this agreement without the prior written consent of the State and a fully executed Assignment Agreement, executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved this agreement, or their successors in office.

7.2 **Amendments.** Any amendments to this agreement must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved the original agreement, or their successors in office.

7.3 **Waiver.** If the State fails to enforce any provision of this agreement, that failure does not waive the provision or the State's right to subsequently enforce it.

7.4 **Grant Agreement Complete.** This grant agreement contains all negotiations and agreements between the State and Grantee. No other understanding regarding this agreement, whether written or oral, may be used to bind either party.

7.5 **Electronic Records and Signatures.** The parties agree to contract by electronic means. This includes using electronic signatures and converting original documents to electronic records.

7.6 **Certification.** By signing this Agreement, the Grantee certifies that it is not suspended or debarred from receiving federal or state awards.

8 Liability

Grantee and State agree that each will be responsible for its own acts and the results thereof to the extent authorized by law, and neither shall be responsible for the acts of the other party and the results thereof. The liability of State is governed by the provisions of Minn. Stat. Sec. 3.736. If Grantee is a "municipality" as that term is used in Minn. Stat. Chapter 466, then the liability of Grantee is governed by the provisions of Chapter 466. Grantee's liability hereunder shall not be limited to the extent of insurance carried by or provided by Grantee, or subject to any exclusion from coverage in any insurance policy.

9 State Audits

Under Minn. Stat. § 16B.98, Subd.8, the Grantee's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices

of Grantee, or other party relevant to this grant agreement or transaction, are subject to examination by the State and/or the State Auditor or Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the end of this agreement, receipt and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all state and program retention requirements, whichever is later. Grantee will take timely and appropriate action on all deficiencies identified by an audit.

10 Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property Rights

10.1 **Government Data Practices.** Grantee and State must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, [Minn. Stat. Ch. 13](#), as it applies to all data provided by the State under this grant agreement, and as it applies to all data created, collected, received, stored, used, maintained, or disseminated by the Grantee under this agreement. The civil remedies of [Minn. Stat. §13.08](#) apply to the release of the data referred to in this clause by either Grantee or the State.

11 Workers Compensation

The Grantee certifies that it is in compliance with [Minn. Stat. §176.181](#), Subd. 2, pertaining to workers' compensation insurance coverage. The Grantee's employees and agents will not be considered State employees. Any claims that may arise under the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Act on behalf of these employees and any claims made by any third party as a consequence of any act or omission on the part of these employees are in no way the State's obligation or responsibility.

12 Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue

Minnesota law, without regard to its choice-of-law provisions, governs this agreement. Venue for all legal proceedings out of this agreement, or its breach, must be in the appropriate state or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

13 Termination; Suspension

13.1 **Termination by the State.** The State may terminate this agreement with or without cause, upon 30 days written notice to the Grantee. Upon termination, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed.

13.2 **Termination for Cause.** The State may immediately terminate this grant agreement if the State finds that there has been a failure to comply with the provisions of this agreement, that reasonable progress has not been made, that fraudulent or wasteful activity has occurred, that Grantee has been convicted of a criminal offense relating to a state grant agreement, or that the purposes for which the funds were granted have not been or will not be fulfilled. The State may take action to protect the interests of the State of Minnesota, including the refusal to disburse additional funds and requiring the return of all or part of the funds already disbursed.

13.3 **Termination for Insufficient Funding.** The State may immediately terminate this agreement if:

13.3.1 It does not obtain funding from the Minnesota Legislature; or

13.3.2 If funding cannot be continued at a level sufficient to allow for the payment of the services covered here. Termination must be by written or fax notice to the Grantee. The State is not obligated to pay for any services that are provided after notice and effective date of termination. However, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed to the extent that funds are available. The State will not be assessed any penalty if the agreement is terminated because of the decision of the Minnesota Legislature, or other funding source, not to appropriate funds. The State will provide the Grantee notice of the lack of funding within a reasonable time of the State's receiving that notice.

13.4 **Suspension.** The State may immediately suspend this agreement in the event of a total or partial government shutdown due to the failure to have an approved budget by the legal deadline. Work performed by the Grantee during a period of suspension will be deemed unauthorized and undertaken at risk of non-payment.

14 Data Disclosure

Under [Minn. Stat. § 270C.65](#), Subd. 3, and other applicable law, Grantee consents to disclosure of its social security number, federal employer tax identification number, and/or Minnesota tax identification number, already provided to the State, to federal and state tax agencies and state personnel involved in the payment of state obligations. These identification numbers may be used in the enforcement of federal and state tax laws which could result in action

requiring the Grantee to file state tax returns and pay delinquent state tax liabilities, if any.

- 15 **Fund Use Prohibited.** The Grantee will not utilize any funds received pursuant to this Agreement to compensate, either directly or indirectly, any contractor, corporation, partnership, or business, however organized, which is disqualified or debarred from entering into or receiving a State contract. This restriction applies regardless of whether the disqualified or debarred party acts in the capacity of a general contractor, a subcontractor, or as an equipment or material supplier. This restriction does not prevent the Grantee from utilizing these funds to pay any party who might be disqualified or debarred after the Grantee's contract award on this Project.
- 16 **Discrimination Prohibited by Minnesota Statutes §181.59.** Grantee will comply with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes §181.59 which requires that every contract for or on behalf of the State of Minnesota, or any county, city, town, township, school, school district or any other district in the state, for materials, supplies or construction will contain provisions by which Contractor agrees: 1) That, in the hiring of common or skilled labor for the performance of any work under any contract, or any subcontract, no Contractor, material supplier or vendor, will, by reason of race, creed or color, discriminate against the person or persons who are citizens of the United States or resident aliens who are qualified and available to perform the work to which the employment relates; 2) That no Contractor, material supplier, or vendor, will, in any manner, discriminate against, or intimidate, or prevent the employment of any person or persons identified in clause 1 of this section, or on being hired, prevent or conspire to prevent, the person or persons from the performance of work under any contract on account of race, creed or color; 3) That a violation of this section is a misdemeanor; and 4) That this contract may be canceled or terminated by the state of Minnesota, or any county, city, town, township, school, school district or any other person authorized to grant contracts for employment, and all money due, or to become due under the contract, may be forfeited for a second or any subsequent violation of the terms or conditions of this Agreement.
- 17 **Limitation.** Under this Agreement, the State is only responsible for receiving and disbursing funds. Nothing in this Agreement will be construed to make the State a principal, co-principal, partner, or joint venturer with respect to the Project(s) covered herein. The State may provide technical advice and assistance as requested by the Grantee, however, the Grantee will remain responsible for providing direction to its contractors and consultants and for administering its contracts with such entities. The Grantee's consultants and contractors are not intended to be third party beneficiaries of this Agreement.

18 Additional Provisions

18.1 **Prevailing Wages.** Grantee agrees to comply with all of the applicable provisions contained in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 177, and specifically those provisions contained in Minn. Stat. §. 177.41 through 177.435 as they may be amended or replaced from time to time with respect to the project. By agreeing to this provision, Grantee is not acknowledging or agreeing that the cited provisions apply to the project.

18.2 **E-Verification.** Grantee agrees and acknowledges that it is aware of Minn.Stat. § 16C.075 regarding e-verification of employment of all newly hired employees to confirm that such employees are legally entitled to work in the United States, and that it will, if and when applicable, fully comply with such order.

18.3 **Telecommunications Certification.** If federal funds are included in Exhibit A, by signing this agreement Grantee certifies that, consistent with Section 889 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, Pub. L. 115-232 (Aug. 13, 2018), Grantee does not and will not use any equipment, system, or service that uses "covered telecommunications equipment or services" (as that term is defined in Section 889 of the Act) as a substantial or essential component of any system or as critical technology as part of any system. Grantee will include this certification as a flow down clause in any contract related to this agreement.

18.4 **Title VI/Non-discrimination Assurances.** Grantee agrees to comply with all applicable US DOT Standard Title VI/Non-Discrimination Assurances contained in DOT Order No. 1050.2A, and in particular Appendices A and E, which can be found at: https://edocs-public.dot.state.mn.us/edocs_public/DMResultSet/download?docId=11149035. If federal funds are included in Exhibit A, Grantee will ensure the appendices and solicitation language within the assurances are

inserted into contracts as required. State may conduct a review of the Grantee's compliance with this provision. The Grantee must cooperate with State throughout the review process by supplying all requested information and documentation to State, making Grantee staff and officials available for meetings as requested, and correcting any areas of non-compliance as determined by State.

18.5 Use, Maintenance, Repair and Alterations. The Grantee shall not, without the written consent of the State and the Commissioner, (i) permit or allow the use of any of the property improved with these grants funds (the Real Property) for any purpose other than in conjunction with or for the operation of a county highway, county state-aid highway, town road, or city street or for other uses customarily associated therewith, such as trails and utility corridors, (ii) substantially alter any of the Real Property except such alterations as may be required by laws, ordinances or regulations, or such other alterations as may improve the Real Property by increasing its value or which improve its ability to be used for the purposes set forth in section (i), (iii) take any action which would unduly impair or depreciate the value of the Real Property, (iv) abandon the Real Property, or (v) commit or permit any act to be done in or on the Real Property in violation of any law, ordinance or regulation.

If the Grantee fails to maintain the Real Property in accordance with this Section, the State may perform whatever acts and expend whatever funds necessary to so maintain the Real Property, and the Grantee irrevocably authorizes the State to enter upon the Real Property to perform such acts as may be necessary to so maintain the Real Property. Any actions taken or funds expended by the State shall be at its sole discretion, and nothing contained herein shall require the State to take any action or incur any expense and the State shall not be responsible, or liable to the Grantee or any other entity, for any such acts that are performed in good faith and not in a negligent manner. Any funds expended by the State pursuant to this Section shall be due and payable on demand by the State and will bear interest from the date of payment by the State at a rate equal to the lesser of the maximum interest rate allowed by law or 18% per year based upon a 365-day year.

[The remainder of this page has intentionally been left blank.]

GRANTEE

The Grantee certifies that the appropriate person(s) have executed the grant agreement on behalf of the Grantee as required by applicable articles, bylaws, resolutions, or ordinances.

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Approval and Certifying Encumbrance

By: _____

(with delegated authority)

Title: State Aid Programs Manager

Date: _____

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

By: _____

Date: _____

EXHIBIT A

SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS SCHEDULE

SOURCES OF FUNDS		USES OF FUNDS	
Entity Supplying Funds	Amount	Expenses	Amount
State Funds:		Items Paid for with LBRP	
LBRP General Fund Grant (Acct 379)	\$325,479.01	General Fund Grant	
Other:		Funds:	
Regular Town Bridge Funds (SAAS Acct 76)	\$282,184.34	Bridge Reconstruction	\$325,479.01
		Construction	\$217,184.34
		Engineering	\$65,000.00
	\$		\$
Subtotal	\$607,663.35	Subtotal	\$607,663.35
Public Entity Funds:		Items paid for with Non-	
Matching Funds		LBRP General Fund	
Local Match	\$10,000.00	Grant Funds:	
Other:		Bridge Construction	\$10,000.00
	\$		\$
	\$		\$
Subtotal	\$10,000.00	Subtotal	10,000.00
TOTAL FUNDS	\$617,663.35	TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	\$617,663.35

EXHIBIT B

GRANT APPLICATION

Attach the grant application for the project

EXHIBIT C

GRANTEE RESOLUTION APPROVING GRANT AGREEMENT