

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE



**IRON RANGE RESOURCES
& REHABILITATION BOARD**

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

2:00 p.m.

**Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation
Administration Building
Eveleth, MN**

**Meeting of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board
Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Administration Building
4261 Hwy 53 South, Eveleth, MN 55734
Wednesday, December 6, 2023 – 2:00 p.m.**

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**MEETING OF THE IRON RANGE RESOURCES
AND REHABILITATION BOARD**
Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Administration Building
4261 Hwy 53 South, Eveleth, Mn 55734
Wednesday, December 6, 2023 – 2:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.015, some Board members may participate by interactive technology.

AGENDA

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Roll Call
- 3) Approval of October 17, 2023, Meeting Minutes
See Addendum A
- 4) Commissioner's Comments
- 5) Taconite Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Projects
 - a. Hibbing Taconite
 - b. Minorca
 - c. Northshore Mining Company
 - d. US Steel – Keetac
 - e. US Steel – Minntac
 - f. United Taconite Company
- 6) FY24 Broadband, Development & Community Infrastructure Projects
- 7) FY24 Regional Trails Projects
- 8) Iron Range School Consolidation and Cooperatively Operated School Account
- 9) Giants Ridge Recreation Tax Projects
- 10) City of Aurora Industrial Site
- 11) Other
- 12) Adjournment

Program: Taconite Economic Development Fund (TEDF)

Purpose: Each iron ore producer is eligible for a tax rebate of \$0.251 per ton of iron concentrate produced annually, provided total industry production is at least 30 million tons. The producer must match the tax rebate dollar for dollar. The Taconite Production Tax, paid by each mining company in lieu of property taxes, is based on the annual amount of tonnage plus chips and fines produced by each company. The TEDF grant program funds operating or capital improvement projects that meet these goals.

TEDF is a legislatively mandated program. Minnesota Statute 298.227 authorize grants to Minnesota's taconite producers for workforce development, concurrent reclamation, plant and stationary mining equipment, facilities for the producer, or for research and development in Minnesota on new mining, taconite, iron, or steel production technology, but only if the producer provides a matching expenditure equal to the amount of the distribution to be used for the same purpose. These funds are held in the Taconite Economic Development Fund.

Economic Impact:

of Projects: **6**

Rebate Amount: **\$8,620,416**

Total Project Investment: **\$21,397,000**

Hibbing Taconite Mining Company

Rebate Amount: \$1,549,876

Hibbing Taconite is eligible for a rebate of \$1,549,876 subject to the company providing a minimum match of \$1,549,876 for a minimum total project cost of \$3,099,752. The Hibbing Taconite Mining Company TEDF Review Committee completed its review on November 7, 2023 and unanimously approved submitting the project for the TEDF rebate.

Hibbing Taconite's tailings basin receives and stores tailings after extracting the iron units during the pellet production process. The basin is an engineered impoundment that is designed, monitored and operated to safely contain tailings under all anticipated conditions.

The project is part of Cleveland-Cliffs' commitment to ensure its tailings basins meet or exceed current best practices in the industry for tailings facilities. Hibbing Taconite's investment in the construction of a downstream buttress essentially widened the dam and added downstream support at the toe of the existing dams. The project is ongoing, and the request covers a portion of work completed in 2022.

Uses		Sources	
Tailings basin buttressing	\$3,200,000	Applicant	\$1,650,124
		Taconite Economic Development Fund	1,549,876
Total	\$3,200,000	Total	\$3,200,000

Minorca

Rebate Amount: \$695,929

Minorca is eligible for a rebate of \$695,929 subject to the company providing a minimum match of \$695,929 for a minimum total project cost of \$1,391,858. The Minorca TEDF Review Committee completed its review on November 15, 2023 and unanimously approved submitting the project for the TEDF rebate.

The project adds wet clean up systems throughout the primary crusher, coarse ore reclaim, fines crusher and transfer houses, which will reduce the risk of respirable dust exposure. The project requires a phased approach that will begin with improvements to the fine crusher grade floor, the coarse ore reclaim and the primary crusher buildings. Project completion will allow for fine material generated during cleanup activities to be removed from the crushing circuit and delivered in a slurry directly to the concentrator. The result will be increased crushing efficiencies and reduced risk of particles becoming airborne in the downstream processes.

Uses		Sources	
Fines crushing clean up system	\$3,200,000	Applicant	\$2,504,071
		Taconite Economic Development Fund	695,929
Total	\$3,200,000	Total	\$3,200,000

Northshore Mining Company

Rebate Amount: \$898,413

Northshore Mining Company is eligible for a rebate of \$898,413 subject to the company providing a minimum match of \$898,413 for a minimum total project cost of \$1,796,826. The Northshore Mining Company TEDF Review Committee completed its review on November 07, 2023 and unanimously approved submitting the project for the TEDF rebate.

The project will replace both the North Screen House Scrubber and Hearth Layer Baghouse located in the pellet plant. The baghouse will be upgraded in both volume and cloth area to capture more fugitive dust. It will exhaust the clean air inside the building while keeping building pressure neutral. The new scrubber will have redesigned, velocity balanced, and ductwork for better flow of material and less plugging.

Uses		Sources	
Pellet plant dust collection upgrade	\$1,997,000	Applicant	\$1,098,587
		Taconite Economic Development Fund	\$898,413
Total	\$1,997,000	Total	\$1,997,000

US Steel - Keetac

Rebate Amount: \$1,076,262

US Steel - Keetac is eligible for a rebate of \$1,076,262 subject to the company providing a minimum match of \$1,076,262 for a minimum total project cost of \$2,152,524. The US Steel – Keetac TEDF Review Committee completed its review on November 16, 2023 and unanimously approved submitting the project for the TEDF rebate.

The project will design and install additional beneficiation process to the existing concentrator enabling Keetac to reduce silica concentration and meet DR pellet specification of <2% silica. New processing can be utilized year-round or bypassed to produce the current blast furnace grade pellets. New processing equipment includes additional grinding, separation and flotation to remove additional silica from the ore prior to pelletizing.

Uses		Sources	
Keetac DR grade pellets (2023 work)	\$2,500,000	Applicant	\$1,423,738
		Taconite Economic Development Fund	1,076,262
Total	\$2,500,000	Total	\$2,500,000

US Steel - Minntac

Rebate Amount: \$3,173,541

US Steel - Minntac is eligible for a rebate of \$3,173,541 subject to the company providing a minimum match of \$3,173,541 for a minimum total project cost of \$6,347,082. The US Steel – Minntac TEDF Review Committee completed its review on November 20, 2023 and unanimously approved submitting the projects for the TEDF rebate.

The project will design and install a new Step 1 and 2 pellet conveyor system feeding the existing pellet loadout facility. The new conveyor system will be a more modern design replacing the conveyors that collapsed in the first quarter of 2022.

The project also includes adding pre-classification equipment to the Step 1 and 2 concentrating lines in the concentrator. Converting lines 11 and 12 are the fourth set of five installations being planned. New equipment including cyclone clusters, sumps, pumps and piping will be added for material processing and handling. The cyclone clusters will reduce the total solids tonnage feeding the flotation circuit by performing a size separation. The modifications are expected to improve recovery in the Step 1 and 2

process by approximately 2% as well as a cost savings from less chemical consumption. The reduction in energy usage and chemical consumption have positive environmental benefits.

Uses		Sources	
Step 1 & 2 pellet conveyor replacement (2023 work)	\$6,000,000	Applicant	\$4,826,459
Lines 11 & 22 pre-classification	2,000,000	Taconite Economic Development Fund	3,173,541
Total	\$8,000,000	Total	\$8,000,000

United Taconite Mining Company

Rebate Amount: \$1,226,395

United Taconite is eligible for a rebate of \$1,226,395 subject to the company providing a minimum match of \$1,226,395 for a minimum total project cost of \$2,452,790. The United Taconite TEDF Review Committee completed its review on November 09, 2023 and unanimously approved submitting the projects for the TEDF rebate.

The project replaces the furnace line 2 burner. United Taconite's pelletizing process consists of two furnace lines and represents the final stage of production. Pellets are fired at a temperature exceeding 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit to achieve the requisite qualities before shipment to a steel making facility. The project was completed to reduce emissions while maintaining existing production rates.

The project also includes an expansion of the tailings management facility. The existing tailings storage is projected to reach its capacity in 2031. Work has begun to add an additional storage cell to increase capacity and sustain the facility and jobs for future generations. As ore is milled, the material is separated between concentrate and tailings (waste). Tailings are deposited into a tailings management facility which provides a safe, efficient storage method while recycling water back into the pellet production process.

Uses		Sources	
Furnace line 2 burner replacement	\$1,600,000	Applicant	\$1,273,605
Tailings management facility expansion	900,000	Taconite Economic Development Fund	1,226,395
Total	\$2,500,000	Total	\$2,500,000

Program: Broadband, Development & Community Infrastructure

Purpose: Broadband Infrastructure grants assist projects that help households and businesses reach the state of Minnesota broadband speed goal.

Development Infrastructure grants assist with infrastructure projects that support business development.

Community Infrastructure grants assist projects that support residential infrastructure and public facility improvements.

Economic Impact:

of Projects: **12**

Agency Investment: **\$4,051,093**

Total Project Investment: **\$30,793,184**

Broadband Infrastructure

**CTC Communications – Clinton Township – Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Corpus Trust Fund
Grant Amount: \$1,312,093**

The project consists of expanding CTC Communications fiber optic to connect up to 482 unserved and underserved households in Clinton Township and adjacent areas. The project is capable of speeds that will far exceed the state of Minnesota 2026 speed goal of 100 megabits per second download and 20 megabits per second upload. Construction is planned for the summer of 2025.

Uses		Sources	
Fiber construction	\$4,397,293	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$1,312,093
Electronics, customer installation and engineering	851,080	Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant	2,624,187
		CTC Communications	912,093
		Saint Louis County	400,000
Total	\$5,248,373	Total	\$5,248,373

Development Infrastructure

Chisholm-Hibbing Airport Authority

Grant Amount: \$150,000

The project consists of taxi lane rehabilitation and hanger upgrades. The airport provides space and accessibility for several businesses. Hangar C was built in 1940 and served as the airport's main terminal building. The building was repurposed in 2011 for Life Link III which provides regional medical flights emergency medical services. The building needs exterior repairs including tuckpointing and paint. Taxi lane A01 serves six t-hangar tenants and is the sole taxi lane providing access for Midwest Aircraft Refinishing. The taxi lane is in disrepair and needs immediate upgrades. The project is expected to retain 34 permanent jobs and create eight construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Taxi lane upgrades	\$921,457	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$150,000
Hangar upgrades	100,000	Federal Aviation Administration	930,404
Architecture and engineering	192,320	Minnesota Department of Transportation	111,185
Contingency	5,000	Chisholm-Hibbing Airport Authority	27,188
Total	\$1,218,777	Total	\$1,218,777

City of Virginia

Grant Amount: \$500,000

The project consists of infrastructure upgrades and utility relocation for the continued redevelopment of Uptown Virginia, formerly known as Thunderbird Mall. RockStep Capital is moving forward with a multimillion-dollar redevelopment of the interior small shop space and will perform full demolition of the interior stores and common area. RockStep will reconfigure build-out space for a new anchor store and additional smaller retail operators. New loading docks will be installed, and aged and failing infrastructure will be updated. The project is expected to create 40 permanent jobs and 49 construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Infrastructure	\$1,000,000	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$500,000
Facility construction	6,275,000	City of Virginia	500,000
Architecture and engineering	232,450	Private	5,507,450
		Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation (Commercial Redevelopment grant FY 2022/2023)	600,000
		Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation (Development Infrastructure grant FY 2023)	400,000
Total	\$7,507,450	Total	\$7,507,450

Community Infrastructure

City of Aitkin

Grant Amount: \$250,000

The project consists of infrastructure, site work and construction of a new community field house. The new field house building is part of a larger regional park development project that serves Aitkin and surrounding townships. The city developed a new hockey rink and pickle ball courts during phase I. The new field house will serve as a public use space for regional residents. The project is expected to create seven construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Infrastructure and building construction	\$602,000	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$250,000
Rink and courts	536,000	City of Aitkin	595,000
		Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	218,000
		Blandin Foundation	57,000
		Fire Relief Association	18,000
Total	\$1,138,000	Total	\$1,138,000

City of Biwabik

Grant Amount: \$250,000

The project consists of water, sewer storm sewer and road reconstruction. The city will completely reconstruct Fifth Avenue North and six blocks of First Avenue North, including pavement, concrete curb and gutter, water and sewer valves and stormwater structures. The project will correct severe deficiencies in the sanitary sewer, water and storm sewer systems, as well as deteriorating streets and alleys. The infrastructure has deteriorated to a point that requires constant maintenance. The project is expected to create 21 construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Infrastructure and road reconstruction	\$2,561,430	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$250,000
Architecture and engineering	332,987	City of Biwabik	702,632
Contingency	384,215	Army Corps of Engineers	1,400,000
		Minnesota Department of Transportation	926,000
Total	\$3,278,632	Total	\$3,278,632

Breitung Township

Grant Amount: \$75,000

The project consists of new sewer line, storm sewer and road reconstruction to improve the sanitary and storm sewer system on First Avenue and Church Street. The needed improvements were identified through cleaning and camera inspections and road surface runoff during spring melt and rainy weather conditions. The upgrades will help reduce high inflow and infiltration issues. The project is expected to create two construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Infrastructure and road reconstruction	\$190,570	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$75,000
Architecture and engineering	34,293	Breitung Township	94,000
Contingency	19,137	Community Development Block Grant	75,000
Total	\$244,000	Total	\$244,000

City of Buhl

Grant Amount: \$250,000

The project consists of new water main and road construction. The city is further developing their industrial park into new platted commercial lots. The new watermain will be extended to allow for 12 immediate lots and enable future development of 11 additional lots. The city will develop a street through the industrial park. The city has been approached by several businesses seeking to expand their operations. The project will provide new opportunities to create jobs and new tax base. The project is expected to create seven construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Infrastructure	\$898,000	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$250,000
Architecture and engineering	161,700	City of Buhl	199,500
Contingency	89,800	State of Minnesota Legislative Bonding Allocation	700,000
Total	\$1,149,500	Total	\$1,149,500

City of Calumet

Grant Amount: \$325,000

The project consists of new water, sewer utilities and road construction. The infrastructure upgrades will be along Gary Street (County Road 84) from US Highway 169 to Second Avenue. The project also includes road reconstruction on Second Avenue. The existing utilities in the area are in poor condition and have not been replaced since the original construction in the early 1900s. There will be fourteen sanitary sewer service replacements and ten water service replacements. The utilities provide essential services to the community by maintaining clean drinking water and waste discharge. The project is expected to create six construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Infrastructure and road reconstruction	\$855,772	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$325,000
Architecture and engineering	95,700	City of Calumet	178,690
Contingency	56,500	Itasca County	504,282
Total	\$1,007,972	Total	\$1,007,972

City of Chisholm**Grant Amount: \$400,000**

The project consists of replacement of all public utility lines and services including water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, sidewalks and road reconstruction within the right-of-way of Fifth Street South from Second Avenue Southwest to First Avenue Southeast. The project includes the repair and replacement of failing or non-conforming water and sanitary sewer service lines on approximately 50 private properties. The project is expected to create 16 construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Infrastructure and road reconstruction	\$1,880,031	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$400,000
Architecture and engineering	341,824	City of Chisholm	605,824
Contingency	208,892	Public Facilities Authority Clean Water Revolving Fund	597,883
		Public Facilities Authority Drinking Water Revolving Fund	827,040
Total	\$2,430,747	Total	\$2,430,747

City of Ironton**Grant Amount: \$149,000**

The project consists of construction of a new water treatment facility. The existing facility is over 70 years old, and several components are 50 years old. The facility has reached the end of its useful life and is not economically or technologically viable to renovate. The project is expected to create 42 construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Infrastructure and road reconstruction	\$5,657,601	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$149,000
Architecture and engineering	728,250	Public Facilities Authority	2,500,000
Contingency	100,000	United States Department of Agriculture	3,836,851
Total	\$6,485,851	Total	\$6,485,851

City of Mountain Iron**Grant Amount: \$100,000**

The project consists of water line replacement. The lines are located on Mineral Avenue and are eight-inch ductile lines that feed water to most residents in the community. The water lines are in very poor condition and have required repairs for multiple breaks in the last few years. The project is expected to create two construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Infrastructure and road reconstruction	\$249,800	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$100,000
Architecture and engineering	37,470	City of Mountain Iron	234,732
Contingency	47,462		
Total	\$334,732	Total	\$334,732

City of Tower

Grant Amount: \$290,000

The project consists of the repair and rehabilitation of the exterior masonry and interior finishes of the historic Tower Fire Hall. A new HVAC system will be installed, and electrical upgrades will be made to the museum. The project improves the quality, appearance and functionality of the building as a historic resource and brings it closer to active public use. The project is expected to create five construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Building renovations	\$621,000	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$290,000
Architecture and engineering	35,000	Minnesota Historical Society	398,250
Contingency	93,150	Tower Soudan Historical Society	50,900
		Mortenson Family Foundation	10,000
Total	\$749,150	Total	\$749,150

Program: Regional Trails

Purpose: Regional Trails grants assist with the design, engineering and construction of various types of trails.

Economic Impact:

of Projects: **2**

Agency Investment: **\$56,075**

Total Project Investment: **\$112,150**

Babbitt ATV/Snowmobile Club

Grant Amount: \$15,000

The project consists of purchasing a 2002 Tucker Sno-Cat from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for grooming 57 miles of designated snowmobile trails for which the Club is responsible. The purchase will replace an old groomer that broke last winter and is beyond repair. The Club reports an increase of trail use in the Babbitt area, and proper trail grooming is essential for user safety and enjoyment. The trail system connects snowmobile travel throughout Ely, Tower, Virginia, Aurora and the North Shore resulting in a positive economic impact to numerous local businesses within those communities.

Uses		Sources	
Equipment purchase	\$30,000	Applicant	\$15,000
		Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	15,000
Total	\$30,000	Total	\$30,000

City of Hoyt Lakes

Grant Amount: \$41,075

The project consists of the city of Hoyt Lakes purchasing a vacant building from Floe International and leasing it to the Ranger Snowmobile and ATV Club. The Club will utilize the building for a clubhouse and maintenance facility. The building's interior and exterior will be renovated, and the property will be enhanced. The Club is responsible for maintaining 120 miles of trails throughout Aurora, Biwabik and Hoyt Lakes. Motorsport recreation is increasing in the region with the development of many new trails, and trail maintenance is essential for user safety and enjoyment. The new clubhouse and maintenance facility will boost the local and regional economic impact of the trails, and it will also support the Club's volunteer maintenance efforts.

Uses		Sources	
Purchase and upgrade building	\$82,150	Applicant	\$41,075
		Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	41,075

Program: Iron Range School Consolidation and Cooperatively Operated School Account

Purpose: The account was established in 2014 by the Minnesota State Legislature to support multi-collaborative initiatives that result in increased availability and access to high quality education and training for students, teachers and communities within the service area. Minnesota Statute 298.28 Subd. 7a.

Nashwauk-Keewatin Independent School District No. 319

Grant Amount: \$5,400,000

The request is to cover the increased costs related to the construction of a new K-12 school in Nashwauk, a project that was previously approved by the agency. The increase costs are a result of unanticipated construction inflation and the demolition of the existing schools. The original cost estimate for the new school construction was \$240 per square foot. The project bids returned at \$325 per square foot, which results in a \$13.5 million budget overage.

The district identified the following methods to reduce project costs and avoid a budget overage:

- Reduce square footage primarily in the technical education space.
- Use lower quality materials including less energy efficient windows.
- Eliminate the enclosures for rooftop units.

The new grant request of up to \$5.4 million includes \$4 million for new construction costs and \$1.4 for demolition costs. The grant would enable the district to avoid the above three cost saving methods and demolish the vacant schools. The results would be:

- Better education experiences for the students of ISD 319.
- Reduced heating costs.
- Improve facility maintenance efficiencies.
- A greater life expectancy for the new facility.
- Conveyance of the empty sites (post demolition) from the district to the city to be reused by the city for tax generating purposes such as housing development.

Program: Giants Ridge Recreation Area (GRRR) Tax

Purpose: The GRRR taxes (lodging, admissions, food and beverage), which were implemented by the city of Biwabik pursuant to 2010 Laws of Minnesota Chapter 389, Article 5, Section 7, are dedicated to construction, renovation, improvement, expansion or maintenance of public recreation facilities located within those portions of the city of Biwabik that lie within the GRRR.

The Giants Ridge management team in conjunction with the Giants Ridge Master Association president recommends the following expenditures from the GRRR tax dollars.

- **New Recreation Center at Giants Ridge – Support Design & Construction: \$500,000**
The GRRR tax funds will be used to help offset the cost for the 9,700-square-foot facility that will be located directly across from the main ski area entrance. Facility amenities will include a swimming pool, hot tub, change rooms, outdoor sauna experience, lobby area, parking lot, lighting and landscaping. Construction is anticipated to begin spring 2024 and completed by summer 2025.

The current total amount in the Recreation Tax Account as of October 31, 2023 is \$682,454. The Giants Ridge management team in conjunction with the Giants Ridge Master Association would like to expend \$500,000 of the tax account balance to help enhance the offerings and recreational opportunities for the region's visitors and residents.

Guest Services will manage the daily operations of the new center.

The total project cost for the new facility is estimated at \$10.4 million.

City of Aurora Industrial Site

Infrastructure Grant to the city of Aurora - \$9,000,000

Non-Recourse Loan to Aurora Economic Development Authority - \$6,000,000

The city of Aurora plans to develop an industrial park northeast of the intersection of Minnesota State Highway 135 and County Road 100.

The agency's service area lacks industrial space to meet the needs of manufacturers seeking to relocate or expand. In order to address the absence of customizable, state-of-the-art facilities, the agency has invested in industrial parks and speculative (spec) buildings throughout the region. Recent investments were with Range Regional Airport Authority (leased to Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing) and the Tower Economic Development Authority (leased to Lamppa Manufacturing).

Aurora has faced significant economic decline and loss of living wage employment due to the permanent closure of LTV Steel Company in Hoyt Lakes and the subsequent loss of 1,400 jobs in 2001. In addition, other potential business development projects have not reached fruition. According to the most recent American Community Survey, Aurora currently ranks as the poorest community in Minnesota with the typical household annual income at \$32,287, which is 58.4% less than the statewide median household income.

Aurora recognizes a pressing need to invigorate its local economy, attract businesses and create sustainable job opportunities by developing an industrial park. The lack of a facility and industrial park impedes Aurora's full economic potential.

The proposed project consists of two primary phases:

- **Infrastructure:** infrastructure and utilities to serve approximately 80 acres of land for future development. Estimated cost for the infrastructure is \$9,000,000.
- **Spec building:** construction of a 30,000-square-foot building to be leased to future manufacturing tenant(s). The building's design would be flexible in order to adapt to the needs of tenant(s). Estimated cost for the building is \$6,000,000.

The city of Aurora will retain ownership of the industrial property, other than the spec building which is anticipated to be owned by the future Aurora Economic Development Authority. The agency would retain approval authority over all leases for the property. This project is estimated to create 98 construction jobs.

The agency's investment includes:

- \$9,000,000 grant to the city of Aurora for the infrastructure.
- \$6,000,000 non-recourse loan at 0% to the future Aurora Economic Development Authority for the spec building. Required repayment of the loan will be restricted to the net lease revenues generated from the property.
- Funding source will be the Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Corpus Trust Fund.

The Technical Advisory Committee recommended the project for approval at its November 30, 2023 meeting.

Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Corpus Trust Fund: This project is authorized under the provision of the Douglas J Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund Act (Minnesota Statutes sections 298.291 – 298.297) pertaining to expenditures of Douglas J Johnson Economic Protection Corpus Trust Fund monies for economic development projects in that these statutes authorize the expenditure of corpus funds for projects and programs that are designed to create and maintain productive, permanent and skilled employment and that encourage diversification of the economy within the Taconite Assistance Area defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 273.1341.

ADDENDUM A
IRRRB Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 17, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.

(Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.015, some Board members participated by interactive technology.)

1) Roll Call

Representative Spencer Igo, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. Laureen Hall took roll call. Present: Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Ben Davis, Representative Dave Lislegard, Senator Justin Eichorn, Senator Grant Hauschild, Representative Roger Skraba. Present via ZOOM: Senator Bobby Joe Champion and Senator Robert Farnsworth. Excused: None. Minute Taker: Laureen Hall, Executive Aide. Also present: Ida Rukavina, Commissioner; Al Becicka, Deputy Commissioner; Matt Sjoberg, Executive Director of Development; Scott Sundvall, Loan Officer; Ryan Malich, Loan Officer; Janelle Greschner, Director of Business Recruitment; Whitney Ridlon, Community Development Director; Chris Ismil, Community Development Representative; Bob Scuffy, Accounting Director; Sheryl Kochevar, Communications Director; Jim Plummer, Trails Coordinator; Roy Smith, Director of Talent Development; Billie Isham, Tribal Liaison; Janette Godec, Executive Assistant; Sara Ferkul, Executive Assistant; Jack Mitchell and John Hyduke, HWY35, LLC

2) Approval of the August 9, 2023, Minutes

Representative Roger Skraba moved approval of the August 9, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Laureen Hall took a roll call vote.

Voting in Favor of the Motion: Representative Ben Davis, Senator Justin Eichorn, Senator Grant Hauschild, Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Dave Lislegard, Representative Roger Skraba, Senator Bobby Joe Champion

Voting Against the Motion: None

Abstain: None

Excused: Senator Robert Farnsworth

3) Northern Expanding Industrial dba ARMECO – Resolution No. 24-007

Representative Ben Davis moved that the Board recommend an expenditure of up to \$95,000 of DJJ Development Project Funds to purchase a participation interest in a bank loan to ARMECO, which will allow the company to purchase a larger computer numerical control mill to meet growing demand and to expand production of customer requested products, as presented in Resolution No. 24-007. Motion carried.

Laureen Hall took a roll call vote.

Voting in Favor of the Motion: Representative Ben Davis, Senator Justin Eichorn, Senator Grant Hauschild, Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Dave Lislegard, Representative Roger Skraba, Senator Bobby Joe Champion, Senator Robert Farnsworth

Voting Against the Motion: None

Abstain: None

Excused: None

**IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION ADVISORY BOARD
OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA
DOUGLAS J JOHNSON ECONOMIC PROTECTION TRUST FUND
PURCHASE OF A PARTICIPATION INTEREST IN A LOAN
FOR NORTHERN EXPANDING INDUSTRIAL INC D/B/A AREMCO PROJECT**

Resolution No.: 24-007

WHEREAS, the Commissioner is authorized to expend, after consultation with the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Advisory Board (“**Board**”), the Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund monies made available under Minnesota Statutes Sections 298.291-298.297 and Minnesota Statute Section 298.28, subdivision 11 (“**DJJ Funds**”) to provide loans and participate with private sources in providing financing for various projects located within the Taconite Assistance Area (“**TAA**”) as that term is defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 273.1341, which satisfy the purposes detailed in Minnesota Statutes Section 298.292, subdivision 1; and

WHEREAS, the agency’s fiscal year 2024 budget includes provision for the use of certain DJJ Funds for economic development projects under a budget line item category for DJJ Development Projects (“**DJJ Development Project Funds**”); and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner has received a proposal for financial assistance from Northern Expanding Industrial Inc d/b/a Aremco (“**Aremco**”) that, in combination with funds provided from other sources, will allow Aremco to purchase a larger computer numerical control mill to meet growing demand and to expand production of customer requested products (the “**Project**”), which is more specifically described in the Board packet materials which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner has requested the Board to recommend the expenditure of up to \$95,000 of DJJ Development Project Funds to purchase a participation interest in a bank loan to Aremco, which is being made as part of a \$210,000 total investment to finance the cost of the Project, with the participation interest to be acquired on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in Exhibit A and as otherwise discussed at the board meeting; and

WHEREAS, the technical advisory committee, appointed by the Commissioner under the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Section 298.297 to review the terms and conditions of the proposed Project, met on October 10, 2023, and recommended approval of the requested financial assistance for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board met in open session at 10:00 a.m. on October 17, 2023, at the agency’s Administration Building located near Eveleth, Minnesota, with some members participating via interactive technology as authorized by Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.015, to consider, among other matters, Aremco’s request for financial assistance for the Project and has determined that it would be in the public interest to recommend the expenditure of DJJ Development Project Funds for the Project, and that the granting of the requested financial assistance would promote economic development in the TAA.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Board hereby recommends the expenditure of up to \$95,000 of DJJ Development Project Funds to purchase a participation interest in a bank loan to Aremco to finance a portion of the cost of the Project, with such participation interest to be purchased on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in Exhibit A and in the agency’s standard participation loan forms.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY VOTE OF THE IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION ADVISORY BOARD THIS 17TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Excused
Senator Bobby Joe Champion	X			
Senator Justin Eichorn	X			
Senator Robert Farnsworth	X			
Senator Grant Hauschild	X			
Representative Ben Davis	X			
Representative Spencer Igo	X			
Representative Dave Lislegard	X			
Representative Roger Skraba	X			
TOTAL	8	0	0	0

Signed: _____
Representative Spencer Igo, Chair

Participation Loan

**Northern Expanding Industrial
d/b/a AREMCO**

Applicant: Northern Expanding Industrial d/b/a AREMCO

Project Location: 515 Itasca Street, Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744

Principal(s): David Henriksen

Project Description: AREMCO is seeking to purchase a large computer numerical control (CNC) mill to meet growing demand and expand production of customer-requested products. The new machine uses the latest enhancements (high speed machining, smooth control and efficiency increase) which will allow for greater production.

Market Opportunity: AREMCO has produced gears and related components for the aerospace industry since 1961, which includes military, commercial and private aircrafts. They are currently registered and certified to ISO9000 and AS9100 (aerospace). With the purchase of this equipment, they will be able to expand their presence in the mining, pipeline machining and manufacturing of automation components industries.

A larger machine envelope also allows the company to draw work in from outside of their immediate area, ensuring future growth.

Project Investment:

Agency/Partner Investor	Investment Terms	Amount
Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation - Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund (DJJ)	Participation loan, formula rate	\$95,000
Woodland Bank	Bank loan, equipment	\$95,000
Equity		\$20,000
Total Project Investment		\$210,000

Jobs: 1 - 3 Planned New 3 Retained

Wages: \$20 - \$40 per hour

Collateral: All assets purchased with agency funding. Personal guarantee of David Henriksen.

Business History: AREMCO was formed in St. Louis Park, Minnesota in 1961 by Ralph Grimm. In 1999 it was purchased by Brian Warren, and operations were relocated to Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Dave Henriksen purchased the company in 2021 and has significantly increased sales and demand. AREMCO produces gears and related components for the aerospace industries that include military and commercial and private aircraft; along with instrumentation, missile guidance and general machining.

Past Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation History: None

Contingencies: None

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Recommendation: The TAC recommended approval at its October 10, 2023 meeting.

Funding Authorization: Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund: This project is authorized under the provisions of the Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund Act (Minnesota Statutes sections 298.291-298.298) pertaining to expenditures of Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund monies for economic development projects in that these statutes authorize small business development loans to private enterprises for the purposes of job creation and economic development within the Taconite Assistance Area defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 273.1341.

4) HWY35, LLC – Resolution No. 24-008

Senator Grant Hauschild moved that the Board recommend an expenditure up to \$10,000,000 from the DJJ Fund Corpus to HWY35, LLC which, in conjunction with a \$10 million investment from the Minnesota 21st Century Fund by DEED, and additional financial incentives from the City of Grant Rapids, will result in the construction and subsequent operation of a state-of-the-art cannabis cultivation and manufacturing facility in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, as presented in Resolution No. 24-008. Motion carried.

Laureen Hall took a roll call vote.

Voting in Favor of the Motion: Senator Grant Hauschild, Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Dave Lislegard, Representative Roger Skraba, Senator Bobby Joe Champion

Voting Against the Motion: Senator Justin Eichorn, Senator Robert Farnsworth, Representative Ben Davis

Abstain: None

Excused: None

**IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION ADVISORY BOARD
OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA
DOUGLAS J. JOHNSON ECONOMIC PROTECTION TRUST FUND
HWY35, LLC PROJECT RECOMMENDATION**

Resolution No.: 24-008

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Section 298.296, Subdivision 2 (c) authorizes the Commissioner to expend, within or for the benefit of the Taconite Assistance Area defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 273.1341 ("**TAA**"), and after

consultation with the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Advisory Board (“**Board**”), the corpus of the Douglas J Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund (the “**DJJ Fund Corpus**”) for projects and programs described in Minnesota Statutes Section 298.292, subdivision 1 that either (a) are designed to create and maintain productive, permanent, skilled employment, including employment in technologically innovative businesses; or (b) encourage diversification of the economy and promote the development of certain sectors of the TAA economy; or (c) for which technological and economic feasibility have been demonstrated; and

WHEREAS, HWY35, LLC (“**HWY35**”), a Minnesota business company with its principal headquarters in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, is proposing to build a state-of-the-art cannabis cultivation and manufacturing facility that will directly employ up to 400 full-time workers in Grand Rapids, Minnesota, which is located within the TAA (“**HWY35 Project**”); and

WHEREAS, the agency, in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (“**DEED**”), has been in negotiations with HWY35 to provide financial incentives to entice HWY35 to locate the HWY35 Project within the TAA; and

WHEREAS, the parties have reached an agreement whereby the agency will provide HWY35 with up to \$10 million in funding from the DJJ Fund Corpus which, in conjunction with a \$10 million investment from the Minnesota 21st Century Fund by DEED, as authorized under Minnesota Statute Sections 116J.423-116J.424, and additional financial incentives from the City of Grand Rapids, will result in the construction and subsequent operation of the HWY35 Project in Grand Rapids, as more fully described in the board packet materials and as presented by staff, which materials are hereby incorporated into this resolution; and

WHEREAS, the technical advisory committee appointed pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 298.297 met on October 10, 2023, and recommended that the Board approve the HWY35 Project as presented in accordance with the information provided in the board packet materials; and

WHEREAS, the Board met in open session at 10:00 a.m. on October 17, 2023 at the agency’s Administration Building located near Eveleth, Minnesota, with some members participating via interactive technology as authorized by Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.015, to consider, among other matters, the HWY35 Project and has determined that the proposed expenditure of funds for the HWY35 Project will create and maintain productive, permanent skilled employment and will diversify and promote the development of the economy of the TAA.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that the Board recommends the expenditure of up to \$10 million from the DJJ Fund Corpus in support of the HWY35 Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board’s recommendation of all expenditures for the HWY35 Project is subject to the conditions set forth in the Board packet materials and the provisions customarily contained in agency financing documents and Board Resolution 96-005 that require the recipient of financial assistance to pay at least prevailing wages to workers performing work on Board recommended projects.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY VOTE OF THE IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION ADVISORY BOARD THIS 17TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Excused
Senator Bobby Joe Champion	X			
Senator Justin Eichorn		X		
Senator Robert Farnsworth		X		
Senator Grant Hauschild	X			
Representative Ben Davis		X		
Representative Spencer Igo	X			
Representative Dave Lislegard	X			
Representative Roger Skraba	X			
TOTAL	5	3	0	0

Signed: _____
Representative Spencer Igo, Chair

5) FY24 Public Works Projects – Resolution No. 24-009

Representative Roger Skraba moved that the Board recommend an expenditure of up to \$457,000 of FY24 Public Works-TEPF Funds for three community and development infrastructure projects, as presented in Exhibit A of Resolution No. 24-009. Motion carried.

Laureen Hall took a roll call vote.

Voting in Favor of the Motion: Representative Ben Davis, Senator Justin Eichorn, Senator Robert Farnsworth, Senator Grant Hauschild, Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Dave Lislegard, Representative Roger Skraba, Senator Bobby Joe Champion

Voting Against the Motion: None

Abstain: None

Excused: None

**IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION ADVISORY BOARD
OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA
TACONITE AREA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUND
FY24 PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Resolution No.: 24-009

WHEREAS, pursuant to the agency’s approved fiscal year 2024 (“FY24”) budget, the Commissioner is authorized to expend up to \$8,500,000 for development and community infrastructure projects, for the benefit of the Taconite Assistance Area as defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 273.1341 (“**TAA**”), from the line item for Public Works funded through the Taconite Area Environmental Protection Fund as authorized by Minnesota Statutes Section 298.223 (“**Public Works-TEPF Funds**”), of which \$3,016,726 has already been obligated for projects, leaving \$5,483,274 that has not yet been recommended by the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Advisory Board (“**Board**”) for expenditure during FY24; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner has received proposals for the expenditure of up to \$457,000 for three community and development infrastructure projects, which are more fully described in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference (collectively the “**Proposed Projects**”); and

WHEREAS, the Board met in open session at 10:00 a.m. on October 17, 2023, at the agency’s Administration Building located near Eveleth, Minnesota, with some members participating via interactive technology as authorized by Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.015, to consider, among other matters, the Proposed Projects and has determined that the expenditure of Public Works-TEPF Funds for the purposes and in the amounts specified in Exhibit A would be in the public interest and promote economic development within the TAA.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that the Board hereby recommends the expenditure of up to \$457,000 of FY24 Public Works-TEPF Funds to provide grants for the Proposed Projects in the amounts and for the purposes set forth in Exhibit A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board’s recommendation for the expenditure of funds for all of the Proposed Projects, including those Proposed Projects which have associated private development work, is contingent upon the agency, in its grant contracts, requiring each such grantee entity to commit to the payment of prevailing wages for the funded project as required by law, or to the extent required in the Board’s Resolution 96-005.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board's recommendation for the expenditure of all funds for the Proposed Projects is further contingent upon all such project financing being in place before the agency's funds are released.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY VOTE OF THE IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION ADVISORY BOARD THIS 17TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Excused
Senator Bobby Joe Champion	X			
Senator Justin Eichorn	X			
Senator Robert Farnsworth	X			
Senator Grant Hauschild	X			
Representative Ben Davis	X			
Representative Spencer Igo	X			
Representative Dave Lislegard	X			
Representative Roger Skraba	X			
TOTAL	8	0	0	0

Signed: _____
Representative Spencer Igo, Chair

Development Infrastructure

City of Gilbert

Grant Amount: \$200,000

The project consists of infrastructure, site work and road construction. The city provided a parcel of land to Approve Plumbing to construct a new 3,600-square-foot plumbing and heating service center. By extending sewer and water utilities and constructing a highway access point, the city has the potential for additional commercial development on 30 acres of city owned land. The project is expected to create five permanent jobs and four construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Infrastructure and site work	\$261,815	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$200,000
Building construction	488,185	City	139,800
A&E	7,200	Private	483,628
Contingency	13,628		
Land acquisition	52,600		
Total	\$823,428	Total	\$823,428

City of Ely

Grant Amount: \$108,000

The project consists of infrastructure and site work for housing construction. Voyager North Outfitters recently purchased two parcels of land from the city with plans to construct five cabins and three fully electric RV sites. The rental cabins can serve as workforce, tourism or student housing. The project is expected to create two permanent jobs and eight construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Infrastructure	\$211,121	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$108,000
Facility construction	936,338	City	37,750
A&E	2,950	Private	996,659
Contingency	70,000	Ely Economic Development Authority (Loan)	13,000
		Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation (FY 2023)	65,000
Total	\$1,220,409	Total	\$1,220,409

Community Infrastructure

City of Hibbing

Grant Amount: \$149,000

The project consists of lining existing residential sewer line between Highway 169 and 37th Street. These sewer lines were constructed between 1948 and 1953 and are failing. The sanitary sewers were constructed using clay tile pipe that over time has become very brittle. Many of the joints have become offset, and there are many areas of pipe that have longitudinal and lateral cracking. The new lining will extend the life of the infrastructure. The project is expected to create five construction jobs.

Uses		Sources	
Sewer lining construction	\$724,417	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$149,000
		City	450,417
		Community Development Block Grant	125,000
Total	\$724,417	Total	\$724,417

6) FY24 Regional Trails Projects – Resolution No. 24-010

Senator Justin Eichorn moved that the Board recommend an expenditure of up to \$1,019,650 of FY24 Regional Trails Program Funds for six regional trails projects, as presented in Exhibit A of Resolution No. 24-010. Motion carried.

Laureen Hall took a roll call vote.

Voting in Favor of the Motion: Representative Ben Davis, Senator Justin Eichorn, Senator Robert Farnsworth, Senator Grant Hauschild, Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Dave Lislegard, Representative Roger Skraba, Senator Bobby Joe Champion

Voting Against the Motion: None

Abstain: None

Excused: None

**IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION ADVISORY BOARD
OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA
DOUGLAS J. JOHNSON ECONOMIC PROTECTION TRUST FUND
FY24 REGIONAL TRAILS PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Resolution No.: 24-010

WHEREAS, pursuant to the agency’s approved fiscal year 2024 (“FY24”) budget, the Commissioner is authorized to expend up to \$2,000,000 for regional trails projects from the corpus of the Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund as authorized by Minnesota Statutes Sections 298.292, subdivision 1, and 298.296, subdivision 2(c) (“**Regional Trails Program Funds**”) for the benefit of the Taconite Assistance Area as defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 273.1341 (“**TAA**”), of which \$700,000 has already been obligated for projects, leaving \$1,300,000 that has not yet been recommended by the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Advisory Board (“**Board**”) for expenditure during FY24; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner has received proposals for the expenditure of up to \$1,019,650 for six regional trails projects, which are more fully described in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference (collectively the “**Proposed Projects**”); and

WHEREAS, the Board met in open session at 10:00 a.m. on October 17, 2023, at the agency's Administration Building located near Eveleth, Minnesota, with some members participating via interactive technology as authorized by Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.015, to consider, among other matters, the Proposed Projects and has determined that the expenditure of Regional Trails Program Funds for the purposes and in the amounts specified would be in the public interest and promote economic development within the TAA.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Board hereby recommends the expenditure of up to \$1,019,650 of FY24 Regional Trails Program Funds to provide grants for the Proposed Projects in the amounts and for the purposes set forth in Exhibit A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board's recommendation for the expenditure of all funds for the Proposed Projects, including those Proposed Projects which have associated private development work, is contingent upon the agency, in its grant contracts, requiring each such grantee entity to commit to the payment of prevailing wages for the funded project as required by law, or to the extent required in the Board's Resolution 96-005.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board's recommendation for the expenditure of all funds for the Proposed Projects is further contingent upon all such project financing being in place before the agency's funds are released.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY VOTE OF THE IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION ADVISORY BOARD THIS 17TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Excused
Senator Bobby Joe Champion	X			
Senator Justin Eichorn	X			
Senator Robert Farnsworth	X			
Senator Grant Hauschild	X			
Representative Ben Davis	X			
Representative Spencer Igo	X			
Representative Dave Lislegard	X			
Representative Roger Skraba	X			
TOTAL	8	0	0	0

Signed: _____
Representative Spencer Igo, Chair

City of Biwabik

Grant Amount: \$28,500

The project consists of constructing a paved trail connecting a park pavilion to a gazebo, which are both located within the Biwabik Park in the center of town. The six-foot wide walking trail will also have two separate 10-foot by 15-foot paved surfaces to accommodate ADA accessible picnic tables. The Biwabik Park is often used for community events, weddings, parties, family reunions and general recreation. The project was proposed by East Range Rotary Club and Biwabik Area Civic Association.

Uses		Sources	
Construction of paved trail and ADA accessibility	\$57,000	Applicant	\$28,500
		IRRR	\$28,500
Total	\$57,000	Total	\$57,000

City of Chisholm**Grant Amount: \$500,000**

The project consists of creating a master plan for the future expansion of Redhead MTB Park and establishing Chisholm connectivity, building out and constructing of Chisholm bike lanes and other in-town amenities such as a pump track and bike racks; upgrading Redhead MTB Park; and, meeting the overall goal of establishing Chisholm as a destination “biketown.” Redhead MTB Park opened in 2020 and is expanding with the momentum of a supportive community and joint powers group, consisting of the city of Chisholm, Minnesota Discovery Center and Iron Range Off-Road Cyclists. They are working to expand the trail system and formalize the connectivity of trails into the city of Chisholm. Redhead MTB Park has won awards, received federal, state, and local grant funding, has been featured in two films, and welcomed tens of thousands of cyclists and hikers.

Uses		Sources	
Redhead MTB Park master plan, connecting trail into Chisholm including in-town amenities (designated bike lanes, skills areas, bike racks, etc.), upgrades to Redhead MTB Park, other trail development, and all other related amenities	\$1,006,000	Applicant	\$6,000
		State Appropriation Parks & Trails Management Funding	\$500,000
		IRRR	\$500,000
Total	\$1,006,000	Total	\$1,006,000

Crow Wing County**Grant Amount: \$110,000**

The project consists of expanding recreational opportunities at the Milford Mine Memorial Park. The park currently has walking trails, picnic shelters, a bathroom, a parking area and numerous interpretative displays. To better serve the county and park visitors, Crow Wing County is proposing to build an additional 1.25 miles of walking trails, including 1,200+ feet of boardwalk, a pier, two picnic pavilions and numerous benches and tables. The new trails will be of similar design to the existing park and will incorporate interpretative information that educates the public and describes the mining operations that occurred at the site.

Uses		Sources	
Boardwalks, walking trail construction, trail infrastructure (gates, culverts, bollards, split rail fence), pier, interpretative information, benches and tables, picnic shelters and related amenities	\$1,243,500	Applicant	\$933,500
		IRRR	\$110,000
		IRRR Mineland Reclamation grant	\$200,000
Total	\$1,243,500	Total	\$1,243,500

Iron Range Tourism Bureau**Grant Amount: \$100,000**

The project consists of funding a grant program for trail and trail amenity projects. The grant program is managed by Iron Range Tourism Bureau (IRTB), in cooperation with a grants committee from the Northern St. Louis County Trails Task

Force. Task force members represent land managers from the DNR, US Forest Service and St. Louis County, as well as clubs and user groups including ATV, snowmobiling, road cycling, mountain bike, hiking, cross-country skiing and horseback riding. The cap for a grant awarded through the program is \$10,000 and a match is required. Eligible projects include trail upgrades and construction, equipment purchases, trail amenities, trail planning and other projects that connect people to the outdoors. Prior agency grants to the IRTB for the program have resulted in 48 trail projects being funded since 2020.

Uses		Sources	
Trails task force small grant program for trail construction and amenities	\$200,000	Applicant	\$100,000
		IRRR	\$100,000
Total	\$200,000	Total	\$200,000

Northern Lights Nordic Ski Club

Grant Amount: \$31,150

The project consists of purchasing two snowmobiles, one ATV and a trailer to help groom and maintain various ski trails. Northern Lights Nordic Ski Club was established in 1991 with a mission to promote cross-country skiing as a healthy family activity. They have 250-member families and are responsible for grooming and maintaining eight area ski trails in Itasca County. The ski club has strong support and partnerships with local businesses, government and non-profit organizations. They host numerous events that are attended by locals and visitors, and provide healthy, family-friendly winter activities throughout Itasca County.

Uses		Sources	
Purchase snowmobiles, trailer and ATV with tracks	\$62,300	Applicant	\$31,150
		IRRR	\$31,150
Total	\$62,300	Total	\$62,300

City of Virginia

Grant Amount: \$250,000

The project consists of re-routing a floating trail on the southeast side of Silver Lake and near the Public Utilities Building. The new floating bridge will provide a unique experience for users and alleviate existing safety hazards. The project is the final piece to complete Silver Lake Trail as a contiguous trail around the lake. Silver Lake Trail is located in the center of the city and adjacent to downtown, residential neighborhoods, schools, Olcott Park, Bailey's Lake Trail and the Mesabi Trail. When fully completed, the trail will complement other outdoor attractions surrounding the lake, including a swimming beach, picnic areas, ballfields, fishing and open spaces. The trail promotes active, healthy living for residents and visitors.

Uses		Sources	
Trail planning and design	\$58,198	Applicant	\$179,719
Construction	\$1,015,651	Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund	\$824,130
Construction administration	\$80,000	IRRR	\$250,000
Contingency	\$100,000		
Total	\$1,253,849	Total	\$1,253,849

4) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.