

IRRRB Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 8, 2021 – 2:00 p.m.

(A special meeting was held via interactive technology and live-streamed through YouTube for public viewing as authorized by MN Statute 13D.015.)

1) Roll Call

Senator David Tomassoni, chair, who was present at the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation office at its Eveleth Administration Building, called the meeting to order at approximately 2:02 p.m. Laureen Hall took roll call. Present via ZOOM video: Representative Rob Ecklund, Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Dave Lislegard, Representative Dale Lueck, Representative Julie Sandstede, Senator Tom Bakk, Senator Carrie Ruud and Senator Justin Eichorn. Excused: None. Minute Taker: Laureen Hall, Executive Aide. Also present via ZOOM video: Mark Phillips, Commissioner; Matt Sjoberg, Executive Director of Development; Linda Johnson, Director of Mining & Reclamation; Al Becicka, Legal Counsel; Scott Sundvall, Loan Officer; Chris Ismil, Community Development Representative; Whitney Ridlon, Community Development Representative; Jim Plummer, Trails Coordinator; Bob Scuffy, Accounting Director; Roy Smith, Director of Talent Development; Billie Isham, Tribal Liaison; Sheryl Kochevar, Communications Director; Janette Godec, Executive Assistant; Martin Pochtaruk, Heliene, Craig Wainio, Mt. Iron EDA.

2) Approval of the June 21, 2021, Minutes

Representative Julie Sandstede moved approval of the June 21, 2021, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

3) KMDA, Inc. – Resolution No. 22-001

Representative Spencer Igo moved that the Board recommend an expenditure of up to \$130,000 of FY22 DJJ Business Development Project Funds to purchase a participation interest in a bank loan to KMDA, as presented in Resolution No. 22-001. Second by Representative Julie Sandstede. Motion carried.

Laureen Hall took a roll call vote.

Voting in Favor of the Motion: Representative Rob Ecklund, Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Dave Lislegard, Representative Dale Lueck, Representative Julie Sandstede, Senator Tom Bakk, Senator Justin Eichorn, Senator Carrie Ruud, Senator David Tomassoni

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 KMDA, INC. PROJECT**

Resolution No.: 22-001

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 FY22 Budget includes provision for the use of certain DJJ Funds for economic development projects under a budget line item category for DJJ Development Projects ("**FY22 DJJ Development Project Funds**"); and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner has received a proposal for financial assistance from KMDA, Inc. ("**KMDA**") that, in combination with funds provided from other sources, will finance the purchase of the assets from two businesses that will allow KMDA to expand its business and create new distribution channels for its 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 \$130,000 of FY22 DJJ Development Project Funds to purchase a participation interest in a bank loan to KMDA, which is being made as part of a \$335,000 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 August 31, 2021, and recommended approval of the requested financial assistance for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board met in open session via interactive technology on September 8, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. in accordance with the authority for such method of meeting provided under Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.015, to consider, among other matters, KMDA'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 \$130,000 of FY22 DJJ Development Project Funds to purchase a participation interest in a bank loan to KMDA 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, including the provisions customarily contained therein that require borrowers to pay at least prevailing wages to workers performing work on construction projects.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY VOTE OF THE IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION ADVISORY BOARD THIS 8TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Excused
Senator Tom Bakk	X			
Senator Justin Eichorn	X			
Senator Carrie Ruud	X			
Senator David Tomassoni	X			
Representative Rob Ecklund	X			
Representative Spencer Igo	X			
Representative Dave Lislegard	X			
Representative Dale Lueck	X			
Representative Julie Sandstede	X			
TOTAL	9	0	0	0



Signed: _____
 Senator David Tomassoni, Chair

EXHIBIT A

**KMDA, Inc.
 505 2nd Avenue
 Bovey, MN 55709**

Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Participation Loan

Applicant:	KMDA. Inc.
Project Location:	505 2 nd Ave. Bovey, MN 55709
Principal(s):	Derek Vekich and Mike Vekich
Project Description:	KMDA is purchasing the assets from 2 businesses. True Hunt is a manufacturer of portable hunting blinds. Gator Grip is a manufacturer of a variety of fishing accessories like weigh-in bags and measuring boards.

Applicant:	KMDA, Inc.		
	These new products will fit perfectly within KMDA's existing product lines.		
Market Opportunity:	The acquired product lines and employees will open new opportunities for KMDA. These opportunities include some relationships with very large sporting goods and outdoors retailers that will hopefully create a gateway for existing KMDA products.		
Project Investment:	IRRR – 5-year amortization		\$130,000.00
	Woodland Bank – 5-year amortization		\$130,000.00
	KMDA – Equipment and Working Capital		\$75,000.00
	TOTAL		\$335,000.00
Jobs:	<u>3</u> Planned New <u>11.5</u> Retained Wages <u>\$15 to \$20/hr</u> - <u>\$32,000 to \$42,000</u> per year plus benefits		
Collateral:	The agency will have a first position purchase money security interest on the assets obtained with this loan, plus the personal guaranty of Derek Vekich.		
Business History:	KMDA, Inc. is a tackle manufacturer/distributor located in Bovey, MN. Derek and his brother Mike Vekich bought Colonial Castings, Inc. in 1996 and produced parts for canoes. They then purchased various SKU's of fishing tackle including The Inhaler (Musky and Walleye fishing), Lacko (Ice fishing), Dixie Dancer (Bass fishing), Rod Bender's Tackle (VIBE fishing lures), Opti Tackle (Great Lakes fishing tackle SKU's), and most recently ProKing Spools. The new debt will allow them to continue to purchase the existing operations of Gator Grip and True Hunt. Derek has also designed a planer-board and some hunting products the development of which have been financed through the use of a Woodland Bank LOC guaranteed by IRRR. In late 2014 KMDA purchased Suncoast of America, which owns the Angler's Choice and Sportsman Select Lines. They offer a wide assortment of fishing and hunting tools, including pliers, filet knives, and other accessories. Baker Lures and Fishing Tools was purchased in 2016, which was the only direct competitor to the previous Angler's Choice. This allowed increased distribution channels as well as improving KMDA's product line.		
Past Agency History:	4/14/2016	\$375,000	Balance - \$354,301 Current
	7/24/2017	\$80,000	Balance - \$65,229 Current
Contingencies:	None		
Technical Advisory	The TAC recommended approval at its August 31, 2021 meeting.		

Applicant:	KMDA. Inc.
Committee Recommendation:	
Funding Authorization:	Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection 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 Trust Fund monies for economic development projects in that these statutes authorize small business development loans to private enterprises for the purpose of job creation and economic development within the Taconite Assistance Area defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 273.1341.

4) Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority (MIEDA) – Resolution No. 22-002

Senator Carrie Ruud moved that the Board recommend an expenditure of up to \$2,750,000 of DJJ Fund Corpus funds to provide a non-recourse direct loan to MIEDA to construct a 68,000 square foot warehouse facility, adjacent to the existing 25,000 square foot facility that currently houses Heliene, to facilitate an expansion by Heliene at Heliene’s manufacturing facility, which will include the acquisition of an additional production line, as presented in Resolution No. 22-002 and Board packet materials. Seconded by Representative Dave Lislegard. Motion carried.

Laureen Hall took a roll call vote.

Voting in Favor of the Motion: Representative Rob Ecklund, Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Dave Lislegard, Representative Dale Lueck, Representative Julie Sandstede, Senator Tom Bakk, Senator Justin Eichorn, Senator Carrie Ruud, Senator David Tomassoni

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
MT. IRON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PROJECT RECOMMENDATION**

Resolution No.: 22-002

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 advisory 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, Heliene USA Inc. ("**Heliene**") is an established manufacturer of photovoltaic solar panels and is currently operating in the building owned by the Mountain Iron Economic Development Authority ("**MIEDA**") in the Renewable Energy Park in Mountain Iron, which is located in the TAA; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner has requested the Board to recommend the expenditure of up to \$2,750,000 of the DJJ Fund Corpus funds to provide a non-recourse direct loan to MIEDA to construct a 68,000 square foot warehouse facility, adjacent to the existing 25,000 square foot facility that currently houses Heliene, to facilitate an expansion by Heliene at Heliene's manufacturing facility, which will include the acquisition of an additional production line, which is more specifically described in the Board packet materials which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Exhibit A (the "**Heliene Project**"); and

WHEREAS, the agency has been in negotiations with MIEDA to provide financial incentives in support of the Heliene Project; and

WHEREAS, the parties have reached an agreement whereby the agency will provide MIEDA with up to \$2,750,000 in funding from the DJJ Fund Corpus which, in conjunction with additional financial incentives as summarized in Exhibit A, will provide financing to support the Heliene Project; and

WHEREAS, the technical advisory committee appointed pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 298.297 met on August 31, 2021, and recommended that the Board approve the Heliene Project as presented in accordance with the information provided in the board packet materials; and

WHEREAS, the Board met in open session via interactive technology on September 8, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. in accordance with the authority for such method of meeting provided under Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.015, to consider, among other matters, the Heliene Project and has determined that the proposed expenditure of funds for the Heliene 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 Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board recommends the expenditure of up to \$2,750,000 from the DJJ Fund Corpus in support of the Heliene Project, as authorized under the provisions of the Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund Act under Minnesota Statutes Sections 298.291-298.297.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board's recommendation of all expenditures for the Heliene 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 8TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Excused
Senator Tom Bakk	X			
Senator Justin Eichorn	X			
Senator Carrie Ruud	X			
Senator David Tomassoni	X			
Representative Rob Ecklund	X			
Representative Spencer Igo	X			
Representative Dave Lislegard	X			
Representative Dale Lueck	X			
Representative Julie Sandstede	X			
TOTAL	9	0	0	0



Signed: _____
 Senator Dave Tomassoni, Chair

**Mt. Iron Economic Development Authority
 8586 Enterprise Drive South
 Mt. Iron, MN 55768**

**Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation
 Non-Recourse Loan
 Direct Loan**

Applicant:	Mountain Iron Economic Development Authority (MIEDA)
Project Location:	8787 Silicon Way Mountain Iron, MN 55768
Principal(s):	Mountain Iron EDA – Craig Wainio, Executive Director
Project Description:	Construction of a 68,000 square foot warehouse facility, adjacent to the existing 25,000 square foot facility that currently houses Heliene USA Inc., to facilitate an expansion of the solar panel manufacturer. The building is proposed to be constructed and owned by the Mountain Iron EDA and financed by the agency through a non-recourse loan. The project will also include the acquisition of an additional production line.
Market Opportunity:	The US solar market has grown from 1,500 MW in 2010 to nearly 19.5 GW in 2020. The US solar market is projected to hit \$22.9 Billion by 2025. Domestic production capacity, currently at 5 GW, continues to

Applicant:	Mountain Iron Economic Development Authority (MIEDA)	
	satisfy only a small portion of demand. Heliene USA Inc. has current capacity to produce 150 MW annually. This expansion will increase their capacity to 550 MW.	
Project Investment:	IRRR Non-recourse loan to Mountain Iron EDA (20 years, 0%)	\$2,750,000
	DEED Non-recourse loan to Mountain Iron EDA (20 years, 0%)	\$2,750,000
	St Louis County	\$1,000,000
	Minnesota Renewable Development Account – Grant	\$5,500,000
	TOTAL	<u>\$12,000,000</u>
Jobs:	20 Planned New 54 Retained Wages \$31,000 - \$75,000 per year plus benefits	
Collateral:	The non-recourse loan to MIEDA will be secured with a first position mortgage on the facility to be constructed.	
Business History:	Heliene Inc. was established as a manufacturer of photovoltaic solar panels in Sault St. Marie, Ontario, Canada in 2010. In 2016, Heliene established an operation in the Renewable Energy Park in Mountain Iron, in the building owned by MIEDA that was formerly leased to Silicon Energy. In 2017, Heliene USA Inc. was formed to accommodate further expansion into the US market. The IRRR and the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development (“DEED”) participated in an expansion of Heliene USA Inc. in 2018 with a \$3.5 million equipment loan. In 2019, additional equipment was purchased to eliminate a bottleneck in their production process.	
Past Agency History:	10/26/10 - \$3,546,661 Balance - \$3,384,849 – Current	
Contingencies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heliene USA Inc. will enter into a lease with MIEDA, with a minimum term of ten years that is satisfactory to the IRRR. • Heliene USA Inc. extends the lease commitment to its existing facility in the Mountain Iron Energy Park to match the term on the lease for the facility to be constructed. • Heliene USA Inc. secures \$9 million in funding for equipment on a second production line. • Heliene USA Inc. secures sufficient working capital for the additional production line. • St Louis County approves \$1 million in financing for the project. 	
Technical Advisory Committee	The TAC recommended approval at its August 31, 2021 meeting.	

Applicant:	Mountain Iron Economic Development Authority (MIEDA)
Recommendation:	
Funding Authorization:	Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund (corpus): 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 business development loans for the purposes of job creation and economic development within the Taconite Assistance Area defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 273.1341.

5) Frankels, LLC/Dirty Dog Manufacturing, LLC, DBA Hand-Done T-Shirts – Resolution No. 22-003

Representative Rob Ecklund moved that the Board recommend an expenditure of up to \$106,000 of FY22 DJJ Business Development Project Funds to purchase a participation interest in a bank loan to Dirty Dog Manufacturing, which is being made as a part of a \$605,895 total investment to finance the cost of the Project, with the participation interest to be acquired on the terms and subject to the conditions, as presented in Resolution No. 22-003. Second by Senator Tom Bakk. Motion carried.

Laureen Hall took a roll call vote.

Voting in Favor of the Motion: Representative Rob Ecklund, Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Dave Lislegard, Representative Dale Lueck, Representative Julie Sandstede, Senator Tom Bakk, Senator Justin Eichorn, Senator Carrie Ruud, Senator David Tomassoni

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 FRANKELS, LLC/DIRTY DOG MANUFACTURING, LLC, DBA HAND-DONE T-SHIRTS PROJECT**

Resolution No.: 22-003

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 FY22 Budget includes provision for the use of certain DJJ Funds for economic development projects under a budget line item category for DJJ Development Projects ("**FY22 DJJ Development Project Funds**"); and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner has received a proposal for financial assistance from Frankels, LLC/Dirty Dog Manufacturing, LLC, DBA Hand-Done T-Shirts ("**Dirty Dog Manufacturing**") that, in combination with funds provided from other sources, will providing financing for the purchase of an existing business and construction of a new building as part of a business expansion (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 \$106,000 of FY22 DJJ Business Development Project Funds to purchase a participation interest in a bank loan to Dirty Dog Manufacturing, which is being made as part of a \$605,895 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 August 31, 2021, and recommended approval of the requested financial assistance for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board met in open session via interactive technology on September 8, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. in accordance with the authority for such method of meeting provided under Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.015, to consider, among other matters, Dirty Dog Manufacturing'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 \$106,000 of FY22 DJJ Development Project Funds to purchase a participation interest in a bank loan to Dirty Dog Manufacturing 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, including the provisions customarily contained therein that require borrowers to pay at least prevailing wages to workers performing work on construction projects.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY VOTE OF THE IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION ADVISORY BOARD THIS 8TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Excused
Senator Tom Bakk	X			
Senator Justin Eichorn	X			
Senator Carrie Ruud	X			
Senator David Tomassoni	X			

Representative Rob Ecklund	X			
Representative Spencer Igo	X			
Representative Dave Lislegard	X			
Representative Dale Lueck	X			
Representative Julie Sandstede	X			
TOTAL	9	0	0	0

David J. Tomassoni

Signed: _____

Senator David Tomassoni, Chair

Frankels, LLC / Dirty Dog Manufacturing, LLC
DBA Hand-Done T-Shirts
1614 E Washington
Ely, MN 55731

Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation
Participation Loan

Applicant:	Frankels, LLC / Dirty Dog Manufacturing, LLC	
Project Location:	1614 E Washington, Ely, MN	
Principal(s):	Linda Enquist-Vandenbranden	
Project Description:	<p>Dirty Dog Manufacturing, LLC is a manufacturing company that recently formed to purchase an existing business Hand-Done T-Shirts, Inc. Dirty Dog Manufacturing will be taking over the business and moving locations once the build out of the new building is complete. Dirty Dog Manufacturing will continue to do business as Hand Done T-Shirts as a custom silk screening and embroidery business that purchases clothing items and then customizes them with names and/or logos for sale to businesses and individuals. The market area includes the Iron Range area and the entire arrowhead Region. Frankels, LLC was recently formed as a real estate holding company and will be the entity that owns the building and a co-borrower with Dirty Dog Manufacturing on the loan. Linda Enquist-Vandenbranden will own and operate the business.</p>	
Market Opportunity:	<p>Online search showed that the nearest screen printing/shirt embroidery business was 50 miles away in Virginia. It appears Hand-Done T-Shirts has a niche market, evidenced by the profitability and sales. Online Sales is another market opportunity.</p>	
Project Investment:	Real Estate – IRRR 20-year amortization formula.	\$106,000.00
	Real Estate – Park State Bank – 20-year amortization	\$106,000.00

Applicant:	Frankels, LLC / Dirty Dog Manufacturing, LLC	
	negotiated rate.	
	Equipment Loan – Park State Bank – 7-year amortization negotiated rate.	\$58,200.00
	Revolving Credit Line – Park State Bank - negotiated rate.	\$100,000.00
	Asset Loan – Northland Foundation – 10-year amortization negotiated rate.	\$85,000.00
	Seller Carry - 84-month amortization negotiated rate.	\$65,695.00
	Owner's Equity	\$85,000.00
	TOTAL	\$605,895.00
Jobs:	<u>2 to 3</u> Planned New <u>8</u> Retained Wages <u>\$12 to \$17/hr</u>	
Collateral:	The loan will be secured with a shared first position commercial real estate mortgage. Guarantors of the loan will be Linda Enquist-Vandenbranden and Dirty Dog Manufacturing, LLC.	
Business History:	Hand-Done T-Shirts was founded in 1980 by Deb Hanson in her home. Her only customer in the beginning was Piragis Northwoods Co., located in Ely, which was also in its fledgling years. In 1991, Deb hired Linda Enquist, who had just finished college and moved back to her hometown. In addition to learning all the production aspects of the business, as is necessary in smaller businesses, Linda expressed an interest and talent in sales, and slowly started building her own client base, focusing on other areas of the state, heading north to the Voyageurs National Park area. Being a native of Ely, she also helped to increase the local sales market, gaining more logo wear business and school business. By 1993 the building had been expanded by double the original size and two additional employees were added. In 1995 they brought the addition of a four-head embroidery machine to the business, which expanded sales and added another full-time employee.	
Past Agency History:	None	
Contingencies:	None	
Technical Advisory Committee Recommendation:	The TAC recommended approval at its August 31, 2021 meeting.	

Applicant:	Frankels, LLC / Dirty Dog Manufacturing, LLC
Funding Authorization:	Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection 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 Trust Fund monies for economic development projects in that these statutes authorize small business development loans to private enterprises for the purpose of job creation and economic development within the Taconite Assistance Area defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 273.1341.

6) FY22 Development & Community Infrastructure Projects – Resolution No. 22-004

Representative Dale Lueck moved that the Board recommend an expenditure of up to \$1,820,311 for eight community and development infrastructure projects from the TEPF Public Works fund, as described in Exhibit A of Resolution No. 22-004. Seconded by Representative Julie Sandstede. Motion carried.

Laureen Hall took a roll call vote.

Voting in Favor of the Motion: Representative Rob Ecklund, Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Dave Lislegard, Representative Dale Lueck, Representative Julie Sandstede, Senator Tom Bakk, Senator Justin Eichorn, Senator Carrie Ruud, Senator David Tomassoni

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
FY22 PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Resolution No.: 22-004

WHEREAS, pursuant to the agency’s approved fiscal year 2022 (“FY22”) Budget, the Commissioner is authorized to expend up to \$6,500,000 for development and community infrastructure projects 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**”); and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner has received proposals for the expenditure of up to \$1,820,311 for eight 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 via interactive technology on September 8, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. in accordance with the authority for such method of meeting provided under 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 \$1,820,311 of FY22 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 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 8TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Excused
Senator Tom Bakk	X			
Senator Justin Eichorn	X			
Senator Carrie Ruud	X			
Senator David Tomassoni	X			
Representative Rob Ecklund	X			
Representative Spencer Igo	X			
Representative Dave Lislegard	X			
Representative Dale Lueck	X			
Representative Julie Sandstede	X			
TOTAL	9	0	0	0



Signed: _____
Senator David Tomassoni, Chair

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Bois Forte Band of Chippewa

Grant Amount: \$70,000

The project consists of infrastructure, sitework and facility expansion. The construction of a 2400-square-foot addition will accommodate the expansion of the Bois Forte child care and Head Start programs. The additional space allows for more children from infants to five-years-old. The current facility currently serves up to 53 children, and this expansion will add space for 10 additional children. The educational focus will be on motor skill development and early childhood preparedness. The project is expected to create two permanent jobs and five construction jobs.

USES		SOURCES	
Construction	\$681,511	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$70,000

Contingency	6,600	Bois Forte Band of Chippewa	90,000
A&E	58,800	Northland Foundation	60,000
		CCDF	526,911
TOTAL	\$746,911	TOTAL	\$746,911

City of Cohasset

Grant Amount: \$250,000

The project consists of the construction and extension of approximately 7,400 linear feet of sanitary sewer main, a sanitary sewer lift station, 12,500 linear feet of watermain and 1,000 tons of asphalt pavement to a 216-acre industrial that includes the cities of Grand Rapids and Cohasset. The site was previously occupied by Ainsworth for its OSB manufacturing before it permanently closed in 2008. The addition of sanitary sewer and water service to the site will permit the reuse of the site and existing, vacant 400,000-square-foot facility as a multi-tenant industrial development with access to existing rail, high pressure natural gas, high voltage electrical service and heavy-haul roadways. The project will serve industrial parcels in the city of Grand Rapids that cover a 156-acre area and include the vacant 400,000-square-foot industrial facility. The project will also serve six proposed industrial sites, within a 60-acre area in the city of Cohasset owned and offered for industrial development by Itasca Economic Development Corporation (IEDC). It is estimated that the Cohasset addition of six new industrial developments covering 60 acres will result in approximately \$18 million of future capital investment and the creation of 300 additional direct jobs. The project is expected to create 26 construction jobs.

USES		SOURCES	
Infrastructure	\$3,082,113	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$500,000
Contingency	154,100	City of Cohasset	466,179
A&E	585,000	DEED BDPI	250,000
Easement acquisition	100,000	US EDA	1,900,607
		City of Grand Rapids	804,427
TOTAL	\$3,921,213	TOTAL	\$3,921,213

Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Grant Amount: \$146,925

The project consists of facility upgrades to the Grand Portage Community Center. Improvements include electrical updates, HVAC system, pool lining and decking. The community center is the hub for the band members. It houses the Oshki Ogimaag Charter School (Grades K-6) and the Elderly Nutrition Program which currently serves and delivers over 185 meals a day to the band's senior members. It also provides a place for youth to receive tutoring, after school programming and summer camp activities. The center houses a fitness center, full size gym and a pool for youth and adults to remain active and healthy. The community center provides approximately 25 full-time jobs. The project is expected to create two construction jobs.

USES		SOURCES	
Facility improvements	293,850	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$146,925
		Grand Portage Band of Chippewa	10,000
		SHIP	104,390
		ARP	32,535
TOTAL	\$293,850	TOTAL	\$293,850

City of Grand Rapids

Grant Amount: \$250,000

The project consists of the construction and extension of approximately 7,400 linear feet of sanitary sewer main, a sanitary sewer lift station, 12,500 linear feet of watermain and 1,000 tons of asphalt pavement to a 216-acre industrial that includes the cities of Grand Rapids and Cohasset. The site was previously occupied by Ainsworth for its OSB manufacturing before

it permanently closed in 2008. The addition of sanitary sewer and water service to the site will permit the reuse of the site and existing, vacant 400,000-square-foot facility as a multi-tenant industrial development with access to existing rail, high pressure natural gas, high voltage electrical service and heavy-haul roadways. The project will serve industrial parcels in the city of Grand Rapids that cover a 156-acre area and include the vacant 400,000-square-foot industrial facility. The project will also serve six proposed industrial sites, within a 60-acre area in the city of Cohasset owned and offered for industrial development by Itasca Economic Development Corporation (IEDC). It is estimated that the Cohasset addition of six new industrial developments covering 60 acres will result in approximately \$18 million of future capital investment and the creation of 300 additional direct jobs. The project is expected to create 26 construction jobs.

USES		SOURCES	
Infrastructure	\$3,082,113	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$500,000
Contingency	154,100	City of Cohasset	466,179
A&E	585,000	DEED BDPI	250,000
Easement and Acquisition	100,000	US EDA	1,900,607
		City of Grand Rapids	804,427
TOTAL	\$3,921,213	TOTAL	\$3,921,213

City of Hibbing

Grant Amount: \$116,386

The project consists of sanitary sewer lining in the Kitzville and North Brooklyn neighborhoods. The construction includes placing a sanitary sewer liner inside approximately 16,000 feet of existing clay based sanitary sewer pipe. These pipes were constructed between 1935 and 1940 and are allowing for considerable inflow and infiltration of outside water. The city is under MPCA mandate to eliminate inflow and infiltration from their sanitary sewer system. The project is expected to create two construction jobs.

USES		SOURCES	
Sewer lining construction	616,386	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$116,386
		City of Hibbing	333,832
		CDBG	166,168
TOTAL	\$616,386	TOTAL	\$616,386

DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

City of Buhl

Grant Amount: \$87,000

The project consists of infrastructure and sitework for a new housing development. The Burton Addition consists of the construction of 10 residential lots adjacent to Burton Park. The city recently sold the last available residential lot in the Stubler Addition creating a need for the development of new residential lots. Once completed the development, combined with new homes in the Stubler Addition, will result in 22 new homes built within the city over next two-to-four years. The project is expected to create two construction jobs.

USES		SOURCES	
Infrastructure and site work	245,972	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$87,000
Contingency	12,299	St. Louis County HRA	150,000
A&E	29,517	City of Buhl	50,788
TOTAL	\$287,788	TOTAL	\$287,788

City of Hibbing

Grant Amount: \$300,000

The project consists of infrastructure and site work for a business expansion in the city of Hibbing.

NorthRidge Community Credit Union will construct a 4,680-square-foot facility on an undeveloped commercial property located on 9th Avenue West and 41st Street West, north of the Hampton Inn.

NorthRidge will employ five full-time workers and support the local businesses that provide them with supplies and services. As a financial institution, NorthRidge Community Credit Union will provide lending and financial literacy support to the over 1,200 members. The new location has significantly greater visibility within the community. The project is expected to create two permanent and 22 construction jobs.

USES		SOURCES	
Infrastructure and site work	\$279,600	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$300,000
Building construction and FF&E	2,680,000	Private	3,058,600
Land acquisition	350,000		
Contingency	28,000		
A&E	21,000		
TOTAL	\$3,358,600	TOTAL	\$3,358,600

Lake County**Grant Amount: \$350,000**

The project consists of shoreline stabilization and remediation for the development of a new resort on Lake Superior. The Harbors is a development that aims to bring a modern event and lodging facility to Minnesota's North Shore by offering pop-up event structures along with 13 lodging units in the project's first phase. The site, located just south of Two Harbors in Lake County, is slightly over 23 acres with 907 feet of shoreline, which was previously undeveloped due in part to the difficult site conditions. The site is in a defined erosion hazard area because of the failing clay bluffs that are actively eroding and increasing sediment loading into Lake Superior. The condition, although relatively rare along the ledge rock outcroppings of the lake, negatively impacts the lake's ecology. The project is expected to create 14 permanent and 35 construction jobs.

USES		SOURCES	
Shoreline stabilization	\$660,000	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$350,000
Infrastructure and site work	560,000	Private	5,045,000
A&E	135,000		
Cabin construction	3,500,000		
Land acquisition	540,000		
TOTAL	\$5,395,000	TOTAL	\$5,395,000

City of Tower**Grant Amount: \$250,000**

The project is comprised of infrastructure and site development for a new recreational vehicle park and campground on Lake Vermilion in Tower. The *Vermilion RV Park* will include 49 new campsites with access to water, electricity and sanitary sewer. An existing on-site building will be renovated to provide a shower house and laundry facility. The project is expected to create 10 construction and two permanent jobs.

USES		SOURCES	
Infrastructure and site work	\$887,875	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$250,000
Facility construction	50,000	Private	1,238,656
Property acquisition	380,000		
Contingency	131,181		
A&E	39,600		

TOTAL	\$1,488,656	TOTAL	\$1,488,656
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7) FY22 Regional Trails Projects – Resolution No. 22-005

Representative Julie Sandstede moved that the Board recommend an expenditure of up to \$2,361,861 of FY22 Regional Trail Program funds for eleven regional trails projects, as described in Exhibit A of Resolution No. 22-005. Seconded by Representative Dale Lueck. Motion carried.

Laureen Hall took a roll call vote.

Voting in Favor of the Motion: Representative Rob Ecklund, Representative Spencer Igo, Representative Dave Lislegard, Representative Dale Lueck, Representative Julie Sandstede, Senator Tom Bakk, Senator Justin Eichorn, Senator Carrie Ruud, Senator David Tomassoni

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
FY22 REGIONAL TRAILS PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Resolution No.: 22-005

WHEREAS, pursuant to the agency’s approved fiscal year 2022 (“FY22”) Budget, the Commissioner is authorized to expend up to \$3,500,000 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**”); and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner has received proposals for the expenditure of up to \$2,361,861 for eleven 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 via interactive technology on September 8, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. in accordance with the authority for such method of meeting provided under 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 \$2,361,861 of FY22 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 8TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021.

Member	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Excused
Senator Tom Bakk	X			
Senator Justin Eichorn	X			
Senator Carrie Ruud	X			
Senator David Tomassoni	X			
Representative Rob Ecklund	X			
Representative Spencer Igo	X			
Representative Dave Lislegard	X			
Representative Dale Lueck	X			
Representative Julie Sandstede	X			
TOTAL	9	0	0	0



Signed: _____
 Senator David Tomassoni, Chair

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REGIONAL TRAILS PROJECTS

Breitung Township

Grant Amount: \$162,500

The McKinley Park Trail project will reconstruct and improve a 35-year-old 1.4-mile paved trail and construct a new trail segment (0.1 mile) to provide a safer and more practical exit and entry point. A significant portion of the reconstruction includes re-routing a steep incline up and down a hill built in 1988 into a switchback designed trail. The trail will be converted into a consistent ten-foot-wide paved trail, and has become increasingly popular year-round due to its proximity to The Lake Vermilion - Soudan State Park and its direct link to Lake Vermilion. The trail runs parallel to St. Louis County Highway 697 and provides an excellent safe and convenient route alternate to using the county road.

USES		SOURCES	
Clearing, grubbing, removal and disposal	\$33,812	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$162,500
Aggregate borrow and base	\$89,896	MN Dept. of Natural Resources	\$150,000
Bituminous wear course pavement	\$115,600	Applicant	\$37,500
Construction, seeding, platform	\$34,100		
Contingency & Legal / Geotech	\$39,092		

Fiscal & Engineering	\$37,500		
TOTAL	\$350,000	TOTAL	\$350,000

City of Ely

Grant Amount: \$50,000

The grant proposal is for completion of the final segment of construction at the Hidden Valley Mountain Bike Park in the City of Ely. The overall project consists of 9.1 miles of trails which began construction in 2019. The trail system is designed and purpose built for summer mountain biking and fat tire biking in the winter. All trails are single track and directional. The completed trail system will consist of 6 loops ranging from beginner to advanced, one of which is a progressive skills loop for riders to practice and hone bike handling skills. The loops are being constructed in a "snowman" formation, with easier loops closer to the trailhead and more difficult loops further away. Hidden Valley is a hub for other recreational activities year-round, and includes infrastructure such as a parking area, chalet, and restrooms.

USES		SOURCES	
Loop E. Trail construction and contingency	\$71,000	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$50,000
Trail signage and trailhead kiosk	\$20,000	City of Ely / Nordic Ski Club	\$50,000
Winter fat tire biking groomer	\$9,000		
TOTAL	\$100,000	TOTAL	\$100,000

City of Ely

Grant Amount: \$1,100,000

This grant is for phase two of a multi-phase project to connect the Prospector's Loop Trail to area communities. This phase includes the construction of the Beaver River Bridge to connect Ely to Babbitt and Tower. This is a necessary and major bridge construction project, with a cost of \$1,800,000. Bidding will take place this fall and construction will begin during winter. Other work in this phase includes environmental and permitting work for the Tower to Pfeiffer Lake Campground trail connection, Babbitt to Hoyt Lakes, Cloquet Line to Echo Trail, and Taconite Trail to Mud Creek/Wolf Lake Road. Construction will follow permitting, but is not part of this request. These projects are part of a larger effort to create ATV trail master plans, design and environmentally permit, and construct an extensive network of connected trails on the Iron Range and throughout northeast Minnesota.

USES		SOURCES	
Beaver River bridge	\$1,800,000	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$1,100,000
Environmental assessment worksheet	\$150,000	State Dedicated Fund Account	\$955,000
Wetland permitting	\$200,000	F RTP	\$150,000
Wetland credit purchase	\$55,000		
TOTAL	\$2,205,000	TOTAL	\$2,205,000

City of Grand Rapids

Grant Amount: \$139,500

The project includes the construction of 0.50 miles of a multi-use trail adjacent to a new roadway connecting the southwest area of Grand Rapids to the commercial district along Trunk Highway 169. The proposed 10' wide multi-use trail will connect two existing trail systems in the southern portion of the City that currently do not have a viable connection. The new infrastructure will allow new trail and road access to medical, commercial and residential areas for residents and visitors of Grand Rapids.

USES		SOURCES	
Trail Construction, Engineering and Contingency	\$279,000	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$139,500
		Applicant	\$139,500
TOTAL	\$279,000	TOTAL	\$279,000

City of Hibbing**Grant Amount: \$95,361**

The grant is for trails being constructed in conjunction with the new Carey Lake Campground in Hibbing. The trail system will create a safe walking and biking access trail throughout the campground and down to the lake. The campground and trail system is being developed as a response to the high demand for camping and outdoor recreation in the city and throughout the region, and is part of the City's Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Cary Lake Park is already a popular recreational destination that is 1,150 acres in size and developed with 15 miles of skiing and hiking trails, a swimming beach, parking lot and restroom facilities. It is also connected to the city center, college and schools by a bike path. The new campground and trail system is expected to attract many visitors and tourists to Cary Lake recreational area, as well as area youth groups, schools and city recreational classes.

USES		SOURCES	
Installation of bituminous walking/biking trail	\$165,845.28	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$95,361
Engineering and Design	\$16,584.48	Applicant	\$95,361
Contingency	\$8,292.24		
TOTAL	\$190,722	TOTAL	\$190,722

City of Mountain Iron**Grant Amount: \$310,000**

The grant is for a new one-mile community paved pedestrian trail that runs from the intersection of Highway 53 and County Road 7 west along Enterprise Drive to County Road 109, and then going north to where it connects with the Mesabi Trail. The city of Mountain Iron is spread out between several neighborhoods and separated by Highway 169 and other roads. The proposed trail segment will provide a connection between the Parkville neighborhood on the north side of Highway 169 and various destinations on the south of the Highway. The trail will allow safe access for pedestrians to schools, community center, clinic, recreation facilities, residential neighborhoods and businesses.

USES		SOURCES	
Trail Construction	\$535,000	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$310,000
Engineering	\$85,000	MN Dept. of Natural Resources	\$150,000
		Applicant	\$160,000
TOTAL	\$620,000	TOTAL	\$620,000

Itasca County

Grant Amount: \$16,000

The grant is for Itasca County in conjunction with the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC) to facilitate a master planning process for the development of a mountain biking recreation area in the City of Nashwauk. The potential for approximately 7 miles of mountain bike trail has been identified. The proposed site would utilize Itasca County and City of Nashwauk properties. The identified recreation area is 73 acres and has potential for recreation facilities including mountain bike trails. Additionally, the planning process will consider other community facilities, including paved trail connections and a campground expansion on nearby publicly owned parcels.

USES		SOURCES	
Planning facilitation	\$2,500	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$16,000
Recreation facility designs	\$16,500	Applicant	\$16,000
Bike trail designs	\$13,000		
TOTAL	\$32,000	TOTAL	\$32,000

Itasca County Land Department

Grant Amount: \$50,000

The grant is to establish the Len Hardy Memorial ATV Trail, a new 9-mile ATV trail that connects the Alborn-Pengilly Railroad ATV Trail to the City of Nashwauk. This proposed trail would be open to Class I & Class 2 ATV's, and will also be the newly re-routed Nashwauk Snowmobile trail. The trail will start at the Nashwauk City Campground and travel south through two private mining companies: US Steel Corporation and Mesabi Metallica, LLC. Itasca County will sponsor and manage the trail, and the Range Riders ATV Club will perform portions of the trail construction, and on-going operations and maintenance.

USES		SOURCES	
Full trail development and construction	\$200,000	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$50,000
		MN Grant in Aid	\$100,000
		Itasca Trails Task Force	\$10,000
		Yamaha	\$40,000
TOTAL	\$200,000	TOTAL	\$200,000

Lawron Trail Riders

Grant Amount: \$70,000

The grant is to replace the Balsam Creek Bridge located in northeast Itasca County. The bridge is an important structure to the surrounding trail systems and is on the Delbert Brandstrom Snowmobile, Balsam all-terrain vehicle (ATV) and off-highway motorcycle (OHM) trails. The current condition of the existing bridge has reached its life expectancy, and has become unsafe. The new bridge will span 60 feet at 14 feet wide with post & sill abutments, and rock approaches due to it being within a floodplain. It will improve hydrological flow and reduces further impacts to the creek banks. The Balsam Creek Bridge will ultimately serve the local communities by keeping the existing trail system open for the enjoyment of the local community as well as the many visitors that come to their cabins or stay at one of the many campgrounds or resorts.

USES		SOURCES	
Post & sill abutments	\$22,500	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$70,000
Culvert and approach materials	\$30,000	F RTP Grant	\$90,000
Bridge installation	\$50,000	MN Dept. of Natural Resources	\$30,000
Amenities replacement	\$15,000	Yamaha	\$25,000
Signage	\$2,500	Applicant	\$10,000
Single span bridge manufactured & engineered	\$105,000		
TOTAL	\$225,000	TOTAL	\$225,000

St. Louis County Public Works

Grant Amount: \$315,000

The grant is for three ATV Club projects to perform work on several segments of their respective ATV trail systems. The collaborative application includes the Voyageur Country ATV Club for improvements to USFS 601 trail, the Buyck to Shuster Road segment, improvements to the Vermilion Falls trail, and permitting and wetland credits. It will assist in funding the Quad Cities ATV Club for replacement of wood planking for the bridge by Arrowhead Lake Road, a boardwalk, and additional fill materials on several trail segments in Britt, and also the Northern Traxx ATV Club for improvements to the Hibbing-Chisholm Trail to Alborn connection. It is anticipated that between the local riders and tourists coming from outside of the region, there will be thousands of users throughout the year on these new trails. The completion of these trails will provide critical access to communities across northern Minnesota and will connect the various trail systems together. This area's existing resorts, businesses and tourist attractions will see an increase in economic activity as a result of this project.

USES		SOURCES	
VCATV Club - Environmental, design & construction	\$500,000	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$315,000
Quad Cities ATV Club – Environmental, design & construction	\$100,000	State of MN ATV Dedicated Account	\$315,000
Northern Traxx ATV Club – Environmental, design & construction	\$30,000		
TOTAL	\$630,000	TOTAL	\$630,000

Superior Hiking Trail Association

Grant Amount: \$53,500

The grant is for the Gooseberry Gap hiking trail Phase II, located near Gooseberry Falls. A portion of the \$225,000 Phase I project was funded through a \$60,000 IRRR grant, which is now complete. The project is moving into Phase II of construction in the spring of 2022, and entails an additional 2.6 miles of trail section from Skunk Creek to Gooseberry River, with a cost of \$107,000. Phase II is shovel ready, the permits and contractor are in place. This is an important high-priority project, as it reinstates the Superior Hiking Trail as a continuous trail from Ontario to the MN-WI state line when this "Gooseberry Gap" is completed.

USES		SOURCES	
Materials	\$11,889	Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation	\$53,500
Labor	\$87,998	LCCMR	\$53,500
Material transport	\$2,000		
Contingency	\$5,113		
TOTAL	\$107,000	TOTAL	\$107,000

8) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.