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TO: Goodhue County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Nick Lemmer

SUBJECT: Approval of Community Energy Transition (CET) Grant Contract

DATE: July 3, 2025

Discussion

On April 1, 2025, the Board adopted a resolution directing staff to submit a Community Energy Transition (CET) Grant application to the Department of Employment and Economic Development. Our application was accepted and a grant award contract for \$124,930 (the remaining balance of grant program) is attached. As indicated in the contract and previous board memos, the grant funds will be used to create a reimbursement program covering building permit fees and sewer and water access charges for eligible commercial and residential projects, with a goal of promoting investment, expanding the tax base, and supporting job growth in Goodhue County.

Direction

Approve the Community Energy Transition Grant contract for \$124,930 with Department of Employment and Economic Development.

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
GRANT CONTRACT AGREEMENT**

**DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
OFFICE OF ENERGY TRANSITION**

Community Energy Transition Grant Contract Agreement

Grant No: CETG-GC-25

Employment & Tax Base Diversification Fee Reimbursement Program

This grant contract agreement is between the State of Minnesota, acting through the Department of Employment and Economic Development, Business and Community Development Division, Office of Energy Transition (STATE) and Goodhue County, 509 W. 5th Street Red Wing, MN 55066 (“GRANTEE”).

Recitals

1. Under [Minn. Stat. §116J.55](#) the State is empowered to enter into this grant.
2. The State is in need of programs to do the following: address the economic dislocation associated with the closure of a local electric generating plant.
3. The Grantee represents that it is duly qualified and agrees to perform all services described in this grant contract agreement to the satisfaction of the State. Pursuant to [Minn. Stat. §16B.98](#), Subd.1, the Grantee agrees to minimize administrative costs as a condition of this grant contract agreement.

Grant Contract Agreement

1 Term of Grant Contract Agreement

1.1 *Effective date:*

June 1, 2025, or the date the State obtains all required signatures, or whichever is later. Per [Minn. Stat. §16B.98](#), Subd. 5, the Grantee must not begin work until this grant contract agreement is fully executed and the State's Authorized Representative has notified the Grantee that work may commence. Per [Minn. Stat. §16B.98](#) Subd. 7, no payments will be made to the Grantee until this grant contract agreement is fully executed.

1.2 *Expiration date:*

June 30, 2027, or, until all obligations have been satisfactorily fulfilled, whichever occurs first.

1.3 *Survival of Terms.*

The following clauses survive the expiration or cancellation of this grant contract agreement: 8. Liability; 9. State Audits; 10. Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property; 12. Publicity and Endorsement; 13. Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue; and 15 Data Disclosure.

2 Grantee's Duties

The Grantee, who is not a state employee, will:

Comply with required grants management policies and procedures set forth through [Minn.Stat. §16B.97](#), Subd. 4 (a) (1).

Perform the following duties and provide the deliverables as outlined below.

- (a) Administer these grant funds in accordance with [Minn. Stat. § 116J.55](#) and the application submitted on January 16, 2025 for funding for the Blackwater Banks Riverfront Redevelopment – Phase 3 Infrastructure Project, which is incorporated into this grant contract agreement and the provisions of this grant contract agreement. Any modification made to the approved application

must be approved by the State.

(b) Promptly notify the State of any proposed material change in the scope of the project as submitted in the grant application, budget as defined in Section 4.1(a) below, or entire project's completion date, which must be approved by the State, prior to implementation.

(c) Provide evidence to the State prior to the closeout of the grant that the budgeted activities in Section 4.1(a) below have been completed.

(d) Adhere to all other requirements of this grant contract agreement.

3 Time

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

4 Consideration and Payment

4.1 Consideration.

The State will pay for all services performed by the Grantee under this grant contract agreement as follows:

(a) Compensation

The Grantee will be paid eligible costs in the table below:

Activities	Amount
Marketing and promotion – Radio & Newspaper advertising, printing	\$1,500
Residential – 16 Permit Reimbursements	\$50,000
Commercial/Industrial – 7 Permit Reimbursements	\$30,000
SAC/WAC 13 Reimbursements	\$43,430
Total	\$124,930

(b) Total Obligation.

The total obligation of the State for all compensation and reimbursements to the Grantee under this grant contract agreement will not exceed \$124,930.

4.2 Payment

(a) Invoices

The State will disburse funds to the Grantee pursuant to this Contract, based upon payment requests submitted by the Grantee and reviewed and approved by the State. Payment requests must be accompanied by supporting invoices that relate to the activities in the approved budget. The State will provide payment request forms.

Invoices may be submitted on a monthly basis; however, at a minimum, an invoice for an award shall be submitted by the grantee for expenses incurred 25 days after the end date of the state fiscal year of June 30th. In order to ensure that all funds are drawn prior to the expiration date of the grant, all payment requests must be received at least 30 days prior to the grant-term expiration date.

(b) Unexpended Funds

The Grantee must promptly return to the State any unexpended funds that have not been accounted for annually in a financial report to the State due at grant closeout.

4.3 Contracting and Bidding Requirement Per Minn. Stat. §471.345, grantees that are municipalities as defined in Subd. 1 must follow the law.

(a) For projects that include construction work of \$25,000 or more, prevailing wage rules apply per

Minn. Stat. §§177.41 through 177.44. These rules require that the wages of laborers and workers should be comparable to wages paid for similar work in the community as a whole.

(b) The grantee must not contract with vendors who are suspended or debarred in MN:

<https://mn.gov/admin/osp/government/suspended-debarred/index2.jsp>

5 Conditions of Payment

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

6 Authorized Representative

The State's Authorized Representative is Mike McCrownsey, Grants Specialist Coordinator, Office of Energy Transition DEED, phone 651-259-7037, email mike.mccrownsey@state.mn.us, or his/her successor, and has the responsibility to monitor the Grantee's performance and the authority to accept the services provided under this grant contract agreement. If the services are satisfactory, the State's Authorized Representative will certify acceptance on each invoice submitted for payment.

The Grantee's Authorized Representative is Scott Arneson, County Administrator, 509 W. 5th Street, Red Wing, MN 55066. Phone 651-267-4872, email scott.arneson@goodhuecountymn.gov. If the Grantee's Authorized Representative changes at any time during this grant contract agreement, the Grantee must immediately notify the State.

7 Assignment Amendments, Waiver, and Grant Contract Agreement Complete

7.1 Assignment

The Grantee shall neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this grant contract agreement without the prior written consent of the State, approved by the same parties who executed and approved this grant contract agreement, or their successors in office.

7.2 Amendments

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

7.3 Waiver

If the State fails to enforce any provision of this grant contract agreement, that failure does not waive the provision or the State's right to enforce it.

7.4 Grant Contract Agreement Complete

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

8 Liability

The Grantee must indemnify, save, and hold the State, its agents, and employees harmless from any claims or causes of action, including attorney's fees incurred by the State, arising from the performance of this grant contract agreement by the Grantee or the Grantee's agents or employees. This clause will not be construed to bar any legal remedies the Grantee may have for the State's failure to fulfill its obligations under this grant contract agreement.

9 State Audits

Under Minn. Stat. § 16B.98, Subd.8, the Grantee's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the Grantee or other party relevant to this grant contract agreement or transaction are subject to examination by the Commissioner of Administration, by the State granting agency and/or the

State Auditor or Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the end of this grant contract agreement, receipt and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all state and program retention requirements, whichever is later.

10 Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property Rights

10.1 *Government Data Practices*

The Grantee and State must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, [Minn. Stat. Ch. 13](#), as it applies to all data provided by the State under this grant contract, and as it applies to all data created, collected, received, stored, used, maintained, or disseminated by the Grantee under this grant contract agreement. The civil remedies of [Minn. Stat. §13.08](#) apply to the release of the data referred to in this clause by either the Grantee or the State. If the Grantee receives a request to release the data referred to in this Clause, the Grantee must immediately notify the State. The State will give the Grantee instructions concerning the release of the data to the requesting party before the data is released. The Grantee's response to the request shall comply with applicable law.

10.2 *Intellectual Property Rights*

The Grantee represents and warrants that Grantee's intellectual property used in the performance of this Contract does not and will not infringe upon any intellectual property rights of other persons or entities. Notwithstanding Clause 8, the Grantee will indemnify; defend, to the extent permitted by the Attorney General; and hold harmless the State, at the Grantee's expense, from any action or claim brought against the State to the extent that it is based on a claim that all or part of Grantee's intellectual property used in the performance of this Contract infringe upon the intellectual property rights of others. The Grantee will be responsible for payment of any and all such claims, demands, obligations, liabilities, costs, and damages, including but not limited to, attorney fees. If such a claim or action arises, or in the Grantee's or the State's opinion is likely to arise, the Grantee must, at the State's discretion, either procure for the State the right or license to use the intellectual property rights at issue or replace or modify the allegedly infringing intellectual property as necessary and appropriate to obviate the infringement claim. This remedy of the State will be in addition to and not exclusive of other remedies provided by law.

11 Workers Compensation

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

12 Publicity and Endorsement

12.1 *Publicity*

Any publicity regarding the subject matter of this grant contract agreement must identify the State as the sponsoring agency and must not be released without prior written approval from the State's Authorized Representative. For purposes of this provision, publicity includes notices, informational pamphlets, press releases, research, reports, signs, and similar public notices prepared by or for the Grantee individually or jointly with others, or any subcontractors, with respect to the program, publications, or services provided resulting from this grant contract. All projects primarily funded by state grant appropriations must publicly credit the State of Minnesota, including on the grantee's website when practicable.

12.2 *Endorsement*

The Grantee must not claim that the State endorses its products or services.

13 Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue

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

14 Termination

14.1 *Termination by the State*

14.1 (a) Without Cause

The State may terminate this grant contract agreement without cause, upon 30 days' written notice to the Grantee. Upon termination, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed.

14.1 (b) With Cause

The State may immediately terminate this grant contract agreement if the State finds that there has been a failure to comply with the provisions of this grant contract, that reasonable progress has not been made or that the purposes for which the funds were granted have not been or will not be fulfilled. The State may take action to protect the interests of the State of Minnesota, including the refusal to disburse additional funds and requiring the return of all or part of the funds already disbursed.

14.2 *Termination by The Commissioner of Administration*

The Commissioner of Administration may immediately and unilaterally cancel this grant contract agreement if further performance under the agreement would not serve agency purposes or is not in the best interest of the State.

14.3 *Termination for Insufficient Funding*

The State may immediately terminate this grant contract agreement if:

(a) It does not obtain funding from the Minnesota Legislature

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

14.4 Additional alternate termination language may be negotiated on a case-by-case basis after the state agency has consulted with their legal and finance teams.

15 Data Disclosure

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

1. STATE ENCUMBRANCE VERIFICATION

Individual certifies that funds have been encumbered as required by Minn. Stat. § 16A.15

Signed: Robin Culbertson

Date: 06/24/25

SWIFT Contract/PO No(s). 271601 PR 95786 PO 3-608344

2. GRANTEE

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

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

3. STATE AGENCY

By: _____
(with delegated authority)

Title: _____

Date: _____

Distribution:

Agency

Grantee

State's Authorized Representative