

**Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) Meeting
Meeting Summary
December 3, 2015**

Members Present

Bob Anderson, Chair
Julie Blackburn
David Hartwell
Sen. Bill Ingebrigtsen

Jane Kingston
Rep. Leon Lillie
Rep. Denny McNamara
Susan Olson

Sen. Tom Saxhaug
Ron Schara
Barry Tilley
Elizabeth Wilkens

Call to Order: Call to order at 8:10 a.m. A quorum was present.

Review and Approve Agenda

Motion by Mr. Hartwell to approve the agenda for December 3, 2015 as presented. Motion adopted.

Review and Approve Minutes – November 5, 2015

Motion by Ms. Kingston to approve the minutes. Motion adopted.

Conflicts of Interest:

No new conflicts were noted.

(00:02:10 – Audio File Part I) Executive Director’s Report

Project Analyst Manager Sandy Smith provided an update on the status of ML 2009, ML 2010 and ML 2011 Final Reports and Annual Real Property Interest Reports. Members discussed the update. Bill Penning, Easement Section Manager, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) provided testimony regarding ML 2009 Ch. 172, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 4(d), Reinvest in Minnesota Wetlands Reserve Program Acquisition and Restoration.

Executive Director Mark Johnson provided a status update on the Land Acquisition Report mandated by ML 2015, First Sp. Session, Ch. 2, Art. 1, Subd. 6(d).

(00:11:14) Action: Adopt 2016 Council Schedule

Mr. Johnson reviewed the proposed 2016 council schedule.

(00:17:10) Motion by Ms. Kingston to adopt the council schedule with the following change: move the November 15, 2016 meeting to November 16, 2016. Motion adopted.

(00:18:00) Discussion: RFP/Call Criteria

Assistant Director Joe Pavelko reviewed the timeline for issuing the Call for Funding Request and options for moving forward should the council wish to make changes for FY 2018. Members discussed the issue.

(00:50:15) Motion by Ms. Blackburn to hold work sessions for the whole council after the council business meetings scheduled in January and February 2016 to review the Call and make recommendations to the full council for discussion and adoption. Administrative aspects of changes to the Call should be made by staff and presented to the council. Ms. Kingston will preside over the sessions. Members discussed the motion. Mr. Hartwell offered two additional comments for consideration during the work session regarding prioritizing Wildlife Management Areas and recommending the Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) Grant program receive a

recommendation for funding at the outset each funding year, followed by funding recommendations for all other proposals using remaining funds.

(01:04:00) Motion adopted.

(01:04:45) Treasurer Report

Ms. Blackburn presented the Minnesota Management and Budget Office (MMB) November forecast for the Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF).

(01:07:35) Motion by Ms. Blackburn to increase the council's allocation recommendation by \$3,945,000, the additional funds available for the OHF per the November forecast.

(01:10:00) Motion adopted.

Members discussed how the additional funds might be allocated. Jessica Lee offered testimony regarding the CPL program. Members discussed her testimony.

(01:15:25) Motion by Sen. Ingebrigsten to recommend the entire \$3,945,000 be added to the allocation for the CPL program. Members discussed the motion. Rep. McNamara suggested recommending some of the additional funds for projects that received funding recommendations from all twelve council members during the allocation process. Members identified proposal PA 04, Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition, Phase VII, WA 01, Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Acquisition, Phase VIII and HRE 01, Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement and Restoration, Phase VIII.

John Lenczewski, Trout Unlimited provided testimony regarding proposal HRE 01, Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement and Restoration, Phase VIII and answered questions from members.

Eran Sandquist, Pheasants Forever, Inc. provided testimony regarding WA 01, Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Acquisition, Phase VIII. Members discussed his testimony.

(01:32:48) Members discussed the motion as put forth by Sen. Ingebrigsten. Division was requested on the vote. Motion failed (6-6).

(01:37:25) Motion by Ms. Kingston to recommend \$1,974,000 be added to the CPL program, and \$657,000 be added to proposals HRE 01, PA 04 and WA 01. Members discussed the motion.

(01:42:15) Ms. Kingston withdraws her motion.

(01:43:30) Motion by Ms. Blackburn to divide the surplus among the four projects in question, \$987,000 going to CPL, and \$986,000 each going to HRE 01, PA 04 and WA 01. Motion amended by Sen. Saxhaug to recommend half the surplus, or \$1,974,000, be added to the CPL program, and \$657,000 be added to proposals HRE 01, PA 04 and WA 01. Amendment is adopted.

(01:48:20) Motion is adopted as amended.

Rep. McNamara requested the DNR confirm that the scoring criteria for the metro and traditional/outstate CPL programs are similar, and that both metro and traditional proposals are evaluated based on those criteria. Ms. Lee testified that the criteria are similar. For metro proposals, additional language was added regarding wildlife benefits for the public beyond hunting and fishing, and habitat corridors are mentioned in addition to the quantity of habitat. Additionally, metro projects can apply through either the metro funding process or the

traditional process. After projects that do not meet the criteria or do not reach a designated scoring threshold are turned down, a second proposal round occurs to grant any remaining funds.

(00:02:20 – Audio File Part II) Draft Outdoor Heritage Fund Bill Language

Rep. McNamara suggested additional language for the OHF bill be added proposal FA 02, Jack Pine Forest/Crow Wing River Watershed Habitat Acquisition. Members discussed the suggestion. Craig Engwall, Executive Director of the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association provided testimony and responded to questions from members. Mr. Hartwell stated for the record he does not support ATV trails on OHF lands as they do not provide wildlife habitat. Members discussed trails on OHF lands.

(00:16:13) Mr. Johnson provided an overview of the draft OHF bill language.

(00:22:47) Motion by Sen. Saxhaug to approve the draft bill with the changes presented by Mr. Johnson, and send the bill on to the Minnesota legislature for approval.

(00:25:12) Amendment to the motion by Rep. McNamara to add the following language to proposal FA 02 (draft bill Subd. 3(b)), Jack Pine Forest/Crow Wing River Watershed Habitat Acquisition, "Preference must be given to parcels that will be transferred to a government entity or non-governmental organization with expertise in land management." Mr. Engwall testified his organization is not opposed to the amendment. Members discussed the amendment.

(00:38:00) Amendment adopted.

(00:39:00) A roll call vote on the motion was requested (supermajority required).

Roll call vote on the motion:

Bob Anderson, Chair - No	Jane Kingston - Yes	Sen. Tom Saxhaug - Yes
Julie Blackburn - Yes	Rep. Leon Lillie - Yes	Ron Schara - No
David Hartwell - Yes	Rep. Denny McNamara - No	Barry Tilley - Yes
Sen. Bill Ingebrigsten - No	Susan Olson - Yes	Elizabeth Wilkens - Yes

Motion failed (8-yes, 4-no).

Members discussed the recommendation package and proposal FA 09, Protecting Forest Wildlife Habitat in the Wild Rice River Watershed. There was disagreement over including that project in the package by several members which was discussed extensively.

(01:25:02) As a result of an apparent stalemate, Sen. Saxhaug made a motion to adjourn. Division requested. Motion failed.

(01:31:35) Chris Knopf, Indian Land Tenure Foundation and Lorena Vogt, White Earth Nation, provided testimony regarding proposal FA 09, Protecting Forest Wildlife Habitat in the Wild Rice River Watershed and answered questions from members.

Members continued to discuss the package. It was pointed out that as a result of their treaty rights, Native Americans are entitled to different hunting and fishing seasons on this and other land covered by those treaty rights, regardless of who owns the land. Mr. Knopf suggested as part of his testimony perhaps the DNR could increase the seasons on the properties in question to match the White Earth Nation's so non-tribal hunters

would have the opportunity to hunt seasons that coincide with White Earth's, which they have as a result of their treaty rights.

(01:47:25) Motion by Mr. Hartwell to approve the package with the additional language added to FA 09, Protecting Forest Wildlife Habitat in the Wild Rice River Watershed, the White Earth Band and the Department of Natural Resources create a special single hunting zone on the properties in question that is based upon the White Earth Band's tribal hunting, trapping, fishing, and gathering seasons and bag limits. Rep. McNamara stated for the record that waterfowl seasons are set federally, therefore the White Earth Band's waterfowl season must be equal to or less than the federal season as the State of Minnesota does not have the authority to increase that season for non-tribal members.

(02:13:25) A roll call vote on the motion was requested (supermajority required).

Roll call vote on the motion:

Bob Anderson, Chair - No	Jane Kingston - Yes	Sen. Tom Saxhaug - Yes
Julie Blackburn - Yes	Rep. Leon Lillie - Yes	Ron Schara - Yes
David Hartwell - Yes	Rep. Denny McNamara - No	Barry Tilley - Yes
Sen. Bill Ingebrigsten - No	Susan Olson - Yes	Elizabeth Wilkens - Yes

Motion adopted (9-yes, 3-no).

(02:15:30) Opportunity for Public to Address the Council

No public comment was heard.

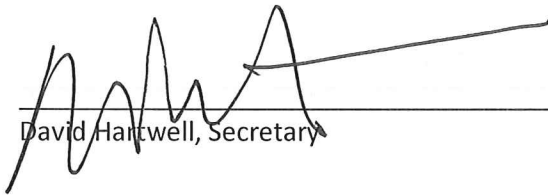
Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

APPROVED:



Bob Anderson, Chair

Date:



David Hartwell, Secretary

Date:

1/7/16