

Open Meeting Law Handout

July 2024

Handout to accompany the Open Meeting Law Presentation to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC)

Open Meeting Law Statutes/Guidance

- Minn. Stat. § 97A.056 (Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council)
- Chapter 13D (Open Meeting Law chapter)
- Minn. Stat. § 3.055 (Legislature Open Meeting Law)
- Case law, attorney general opinions, commissioner of administration opinions

Meeting and Quorum Rules for LSOHC

- A meeting happens when a quorum is present and information is received or action is taken (Minn. Stat. § 97A.056, subd. 5, para. (a))
- A quorum is seven members (Minn. Stat. § 97A.056, subd. 5, para. (a))
- Travel to and from site visits is not a violation of the Open Meeting Law, but do not make decisions or agree to make decisions during travel (Minn. Stat. § 97A.056, subd. 5, para. (b))

Interactive Technology

- Requirements for use (Minn. Stat. § 13D.015)
 - Members must be able to hear one another and all discussion and testimony
 - Public at regular meeting location can hear discussion, testimony, votes
 - o One member at the regular meeting location
 - Vote by roll call
 - Notice appropriately provided
- LSOHC meetings must be live streamed and archived if at the Capitol and to the extent practical at other sites (Minn. Stat. § 97A.056, subd. 5, para (d))

Enforcement

Different for legislative and nonlegislative members of the council (Minn. Stat. § 97A.056, subd. 5, para. (c))

- Legislative members subject to Minn. Stat. § 3.055; House Rule 6.23, Senate Rule 12.2
- Nonlegislative members subject to Minn. Stat. § 13D.06

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