

MINUTES
Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC)
July 30, 2024
Hybrid Meeting – MN State Capitol 120/ Zoom, pursuant to MS 13D

Call to Order: Chair David Hartwell called the meeting to order at 8:31am.

Members Present

David Hartwell (Chair)
Suzanne Baird
Rep. John Burkel
Kristin Eggerling
Mark Holsten
Sen. Andrew Lang
Rep. Leon Lillie

Tom Saxhaug
Jamie Swenson

Members Absent (all excused)

Ron Schara (Vice Chair)
Dudley Edmondson
Sen. Foug Hawj

A quorum was present.

1. Review and Approve Agenda: Chair Hartwell added a draft letter regarding prevailing wage for Council discussion. Councilmember Holsten moved to approve the agenda with that addition - **Motion Prevailed**

2. Review and Approve Minutes: Councilmember Saxhaug made a motion to approve the minutes from June 12, 2024 – **Motion Prevailed**

3. Conflicts of Interest Reported: No new conflicts of interest were reported by Councilmembers. Previous reports of conflicts still stand.

4. Chair's Comments: Chair Hartwell provided members correspondence he received regarding the use of Neonic seed on WMA food plots. The correspondence was forwarded to DNR and they will look into and get back to us. Chair Hartwell provided a draft copy of a letter to DLI Commissioner Blissenback regarding prevailing wage impacts to OHF programs and assistance in resolving and clarification of the issue. Members discussed and gave direction, with no objections, to send the letter emphasizing urgency toward a resolution as this new law is affective August 1, 2024.

5. Executive Director's Report: Executive Director Mark Johnson reported the following:

- a. a letter from Commissioner Strommen was provided regarding DNR proposals
 - b. a letter from DNR G&F Director Dave Olfelt regarding council action taken 6/12/24 and a nonpartisan legal research interpretation regarding the Keystone WMA and LWCF encumbrance. Ben Stanley spoke to the interpretation and from the review of documentation did not feel that this LWCF encumbrance on the property rose to the level of "an interest in real property", but rather a contract between the Federal Government and DNR.
 - c. Letters from DNR Grants Management to Dakota County outlining contract findings relating to Dakota County were provided. A response letter from Dakota County to DNR was also provided.
- A preliminary draft calendar for 2025 was handed out so that everyone had a chance to review dates for a tentative approval in the fall and final approval after new appointments are made.

6. Open Meeting Law Review

Chelsea Griffin, Legislative Analyst, House Research Department presented an update and review of the Open meeting law and answered questions posed by members.

7. Conflict of Interest Review

Samantha Shalda, Director of Enterprise Oversight & Accountability presented an update and review of the open meeting law and answered questions posed by members.

8. Approval of minor conveyance/conversion – ML 2012, Ch. 264, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd 2(b) – Prairie Recovery Program, Phase 3, Nature Conservancy, Lake Johanna Esker Preserve in Pope County

Chris McGrath presented the conveyance and conversion and answer question posed by members.

Action: Councilmember Saxhaug made a motion to approve the Lake Johanna Esker Preserve in Pope County conveyance /conversion as presented.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:

Hartwell

Baird

Rep. Burkel

Eggerling

Holsten

Sen. Lang

Rep. Lillie

Saxhaug

Swenson

NAY: none

ABSENT:

Schara

Edmondson

Sen. Hawj

9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 3 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

9. Accomplishment Plan Approval – ML 2024, Ch. 106, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd 5(aa) – Protecting Upper Mississippi River from Invasive Carp

Kelly Pennington, Grace Loppnow, and Heidi Wolf, DNR presented the accomplishment plan and answer question posed by members.

Action: Councilmember Saxhaug made a motion to approve the accomplishment plan as presented allowing for activities 1, 2a, and 2b with a preliminary budget of expenses up to \$500,000 and then come back to the Council with an update on next steps and additional budget amendments at a future meeting.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:

Hartwell

Baird

Rep. Burkel

Eggerling

Holsten

Sen. Lang

Rep. Lillie

Saxhaug

Swenson

NAY: none

ABSENT:

Schara

Edmondson

Sen. Hawj

9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 3 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

10. ML 2025 Proposal Review

Evaluation scoring sheets were presented to members, members reviewed the scoring, confirmed hearing dates, and timing of presentations.

Action: Councilmember Holsten made a motion to approve calling in all proposals for a hearing.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:

Hartwell

Baird

Rep. Burkel

Eggerling

Holsten

Sen. Lang

Rep. Lillie

Saxhaug

Swenson

NAY: none

ABSENT:

Schara

Edmondson

Sen. Hawj

9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 3 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

11. Public Comments: Chair Hartwell announced that no public comments had been submitted to the Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52am.

APPROVED:

David Hartwell, Chair

Date

Kristin Eggerling, Secretary

Date