

DRAFT MINUTES

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC)

August 28, 2024

Hybrid Meeting – MN State Capitol 120/ Zoom, pursuant to MS 13D

Call to Order: Chair David Hartwell called the meeting to order at 08:31 a.m. [\(00:00:16\)](#)

Members Present

David Hartwell (Chair)

Ron Schara (Vice Chair)

Suzanne Baird

Rep. John Burkel

Dudley Edmondson

Kristin Eggerling

Sen. Foung Hawj

Mark Holsten

Sen. Andrew Lang

Rep. Leon Lillie

Tom Saxhaug

Jamie Swenson

Members Absent

A quorum was present.

1. Review and Approve Agenda: [\(00:01:32\)](#)

Councilmember Eggerling made a motion to approve the agenda - **Motion Prevailed**

2. Conflicts of Interest Reported: No conflicts of interest were reported. [\(00:01:49\)](#)

3. Hearings for Funding Requests: (00:02:40) Members heard the following proposals:

Recording	ID	Title	Request	Manager	Organization
(00:2:50)	FA04	Hardwood Hills Habitat Conservation Program – Phase 2	\$5,145,000	Wayne Ostlie	Minnesota Land Trust
(00:19:51)	FRE02	Carver County Lake Minnewashta Regional Park Management Unit 1 Old Field Restoration	\$863,300	Jacob Sandvig	Carver County
(00:29:28)	FA01	Minnesota Forest Recovery Project Phase III	\$10,276,500	Jim Manolis	The Nature Conservancy
(00:56:17)	FA05	Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape ACUB Protection Program Phase 13	\$5,300,000	Shannon Wettstein	Morrison SWCD
(01:26:18)	FA06	Minnesota Forests for the Future Phase X	\$13,988,700	Christine Ostern	DNR
(01:38:30)	FA03	Protecting Critical Habitat in NE MN while Balancing Sustainable Public Land Use and Permanent Public Access Through a Community Land Trust Model	\$810,500	Rumbidzai Faith Masawi	Land Access Alliance
(02:22:07)	FA02	Itasca County Memorial Forest Project	\$2,910,400	Kory Cease	Itasca County Land Department
(02:37:12)	FRE01	DNR Statewide Forest Enhancement and Restoration- Phase 5	\$7,541,700	Ted Dick	DNR
(02:44:53)	PA01	Martin County WMA Acquisition Phase 9	\$2,583,000	Doug Hartke	Fox Lake Conservation League, Inc.
(02:54:27)	PA06	MN Prairie Recovery Program Phase 14	\$10,106,200	Liz Beery	The Nature Conservancy
(03:12:24)	PA02	Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley – Phase XI	\$11,206,100	Sabin Adams	Pheasants Forever
(03:32:25)	PA03	RIM Grassland Reserve Phase VI	\$8,000,000	John Voz	BWSR
(03:41:14)	PA04	RIM Buffers for Wildlife and Water – Phase XI	\$10,000,000	Dusty Van Thuyne	BWSR
(04:53:04)	PA05	Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program – Phase XVII	\$13,111,300	Sabin Adams	Pheasants Forever
(04:59:17)	PA07	Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge, Phase XV	\$8,982,300	Chris McGrath	The Nature Conservancy
(05:11:57)	PA08	DNR WMA & SNA Acquisition, Phase XVII	\$3,000,000	Jeff Tillma	DNR
(05:20:08)	PRE01	Enhanced Public Land – Grasslands – Phase VIII	\$6,388,300	Sabin Adams	Pheasants Forever

(05:27:14)	PRE02	Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Conservation Easement Program – Phase V	\$13,800,000	Logan Shoup	Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
(05:34:14)	WA01	Wetland Habitat Protection and Restoration Program – Phase 10	\$9,738,000	Wayne Ostlie	Minnesota Land Trust
(05:50:14)	WA02	Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection & Restoration Program – Phase XIV	\$12,990,000	Jon Schneider	Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
(06:15:33)	WA03	RIM Wetlands – Restoring the Most Productive Habitat in Minnesota	\$12,000,000	John Voz	BWSR
(06:25:05)	WA04	Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Program – Phase XVII	\$17,016,600	Sabin Adams	Pheasants Forever
(06:34:35)	WRE01	East Park WMA / Nelson Slough, Phase 3	\$2,128,500	Morteza Maher	Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District
(07:13:00)	WRE02	Living Shallow Lakes & Wetlands Enhancement & Restoration Initiative – Phase XI	\$14,975,000	John Lindstrom	Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
(07:22:21)	WRE03	Big Swamp North – Peatland Restoration Project	\$3,036,000	Tracy Halstensgard	Roseau River Watershed District
(07:47:13)	WRE04	Accelerated Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancements Phase 17	\$10,326,000	Ricky Lien	DNR

7. Council Discussion: [\(08:14:36\)](#)

Chair Hartwell provided an opportunity for members of the Council to discuss their thoughts on the proposal hearings and additional issues that had been examined during the meetings. Councilmember Holsten requested that Council staff provide data on amounts of open appropriations from past projects as well as the amount of leverage received by partner organizations. Council members discussed the positives and negatives of encouraging public access on OHF funded lands. The Council examined the potential for members to recommend changes to the permitting process to legislators. Members discussed opinions on specific project proposals. Chair Hartwell informed the Council that the upcoming state budget forecast may affect the overall budget available for project appropriations and provided general guidelines for making appropriation recommendations.

8. Opportunity for Public to Address the Council:

No public testimony was heard.

Meeting adjourned at 05:47 p.m.