

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

MEMO: Agenda Item #8
DATE: September 28, 2017
SUBJECT: LSOHC OHF Allocations / Recommendations
PRESENTER: Chairman Bob Anderson

Suggested Motion:

Recommend the Chair's Proposal for allocations, as discussed and amended, for bill drafting to the 2018 Legislature. Staff is authorized to round appropriation amounts as appropriate.

Background:

This agenda item recommends allocations for projected funds available in the OHF for fiscal year 2019.

The chair begins this process with the chair's proposal. The proposal is based upon the calculated average member allocation with additional allocation changes to four proposals (listed below). The chair's proposal can be a motion open to modification by a motion to amend and a council vote.

Some of the Chair's rationale within his proposal are as follows:

- The Chair recommends funding projects that received recommendations (allocations) from a majority of Council members (at least 7).
- The Chair recommends funding for CREP programs PA-07 & WA-03 to a total of \$15 million in respect of legislation passed by the 2017 legislature stating:
M.L. 2017, Chapter 91, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 10. Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations
The Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council must consider recommending up to \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 appropriations from the outdoor heritage fund for conservation easements and restoration as provided in subdivision 4, paragraph (c).
- Since HRE-02 requested \$1,555,400 and was determined "not scalable," but the average council recommendation was only \$625,412, the Chair removed this project from his proposal.
- After the preceding considerations are calculated, the chair recommends that the unallocated bottom-line remainder of \$2,281,000 be open to the Council for amendments and/or suggests any unallocated funds remaining be added to the CPL (\$6,771,000) average allocation.

Suggested Procedure:

Place the Chair's Proposal before the council as the main motion for discussion. Council members may offer motions to amend the chair's proposal, add or delete projects, or increase/decrease requests. Debate and vote on amendments. When there are no remaining desired amendments, debate and vote on the main motion.

- Motions dealing with individual requests require a majority of the members present.
- The main motion, to adopt the recommendation package for staff to use in bill drafting, requires a minimum of *nine* votes.

Statutory guidance:

MS 97A.056, Subd. 3 directs the council to recommend to the legislature appropriations from the Outdoor Heritage Fund.

“The council shall make recommendations to the legislature on appropriations of money from the outdoor heritage fund that are consistent with the Constitution and state law and that will achieve the outcomes of existing natural resource plans, including, but not limited to, the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan, that directly relate to the restoration, protection, and enhancement of wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife, and that prevent forest fragmentation, encourage forest consolidation, and expand restored native prairie. In making recommendations, the council shall consider a range of options that would best restore, protect, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife.”