

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Agenda Item # 10

DATE: June 23, 2015

SUBJECT: Accomplishment Plan Amendment:
ML 2014, Ch. 256, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd 5(k)
Evaluate the Effectiveness of AIS Prevention Strategies

PRESENTER: Don Hickman, Initiative Foundation

Background:

Staff received a request for a capital equipment purchase from the above mentioned program. Mr. Hickman informed us that one of the sub-grantees had wanted to purchase a \$20,000 Decontamination/Recovery system with trailer. In an effort to not hold up this sub-grantee, the sub-grantee has agreed to cover the cost of the purchase with non-OHF match dollars and use the Initiative Foundation grant (OHF monies) for certified inspectors instead. This request brought the issue of capital equipment expenditures for this program to light.

According to ML 2014, Ch. 256, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd 8: Payment Conditions and Capital Equipment Expenditures

All agreements referred to in this section must be administered on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise provided in this section. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.41, expenditures directly related to each appropriation's purpose made on or after July 1, 2014, or the date of accomplishment plan approval, whichever is later, are eligible for reimbursement unless otherwise provided in this section. For the purposes of administering appropriations and legislatively authorized agreements paid out of the outdoor heritage fund, an expense must be considered reimbursable by the administering agency when the recipient presents the agency with an invoice or binding agreement with the landowner and the recipient attests that the goods have been received or the landowner agreement is binding. Periodic reimbursement must be made upon receiving documentation that the items articulated in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council have been achieved, including partial achievements as evidenced by progress reports approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Reasonable amounts may be advanced to projects to accommodate cash flow needs, support future management of acquired lands, or match a federal share. The advances must be approved as part of the accomplishment plan. **Capital equipment expenditures for specific items in excess of \$10,000 must be itemized in and approved as part of the accomplishment plan.**

In an effort to continue with this program as efficiently as possible and not have to return to the Council for each and every capital equipment purchase, Don Hickman is proposing the attached amendment

that would allow him to approve capital equipment expenditures up to a certain dollar amount to the sub-grantees.

In comparison, the Conservation Partners Legacy Grant program does not allow for capital equipment expenditures.

Suggested Motion:

This request is being brought before the Council because this was not part of the approved accomplishment plan.

Move to approve/deny the changes as presented.

Suggested Procedure:

Place the motion before the Council for discussion. Council votes on procedure amendment as needed.