

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

MEMO: Agenda Item #7

DATE: November 21, 2019

SUBJECT: Extension of Availability of Appropriation

ML 2017 2(f), Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection, Ph. 6 (\$2,481,000 approp.)

PRESENTER: Judy Schulte, MN DNR Prairie Biologist

Suggested Motion:

Motion by Councilmember X to approve/deny the legislative extension of appropriation availability for ML 2017 2(f), **Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection – Phase 6** – until June 30, 2022 and LSOHC staff to include language in the ML 2020 OHF recommendations bill.

Background Information (provided by Sandy Smith)

- No acquisition money spent to date – acquisition portion of the program ends in June 2020
- Options signed by June 30, 2020 will have 1 additional year until 2021 to close
- Manager is requesting an extension until June 30, 2022 to complete the acquisitions

Status update indicates no acquisition money has been spent to date. Previous update states that staff is working to finish up acquisitions tied to previous phases of work for this program. July 11, 2019 update states priority parcels are being evaluated, terms negotiated, and staff is working toward options for those parcels.

Attached is a memo from the manager with detail on the extension request.

Previous Appropriations

2014	2(e)	Accelerated protection of grassland and prairie habitat with RIM and NPB easements	\$ 5,450,000	closed
2015	2(e)	Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection - Phase IV	\$ 3,740,000	closed
2016	2(f)	Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection, Phase V	\$ 2,541,000	\$260,400 spent as reported in 8/1/19 update – 6 parcels optioned ready to close by 2020
2017	2(f)	Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection - Phase VI	\$ 2,481,000	\$2,100 spent as reported in 8/1/19 update
2018	2(f)	Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection-Phase VII	\$ 1,490,000	\$300 spent as reported in 8/1/19 update

**No money requested in ML 2020 recommendation bill