

**MINUTES**  
**Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC)**  
**May 25, 2022**  
**Remote Meeting via Zoom, pursuant to MS 13D.021 and MS 13D.04**

**Call to Order:** Chair David Hartwell called the meeting to order at 8:02am.

**Members Present**

David Hartwell (Chair)  
Ron Schara (Vice Chair)  
Sen. D. Scott Dibble  
Rep. Rob Ecklund  
Dudley Edmondson  
Kristin Eggerling  
Mark Holsten  
Sen. Andrew Lang  
Ashley Peters  
Jamie Swenson

**Members Absent**

Rep. Josh Heintzeman  
Tom Saxhaug

A quorum was present.

- 1. Review and Approve Agenda:** Councilmember Eggerling made a motion to approve the agenda – **Motion Prevailed**
  
- 2. Review and Approve Minutes:** Senator Dibble made a motion to approve the minutes from January 19, 2022 – **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 expressed gratitude to the legislative members of the Council for their work during the 2022 legislative session.
  
- 5. Executive Director’s Report:** Executive Director Mark Johnson provided information to the Council on two routine conveyance requests and noted that the appropriate notification letters had been sent to leadership. Mr. Johnson also noted that the ML 2022 OHF recommendations bill had been officially signed into law and recorded as ML 2022 Chapter 77. A presentation was then given by Mr. Johnson to the Council regarding the LSOHC Call for Funding Requests timeline and outreach process.
  
- 6. Review of OHF Recommendations Legislation (HF3438):** Executive Director Mark Johnson gave the Council a report on the passage of the ML 2022 OHF recommendation legislation. Mr. Johnson noted that, per the Council’s recommendation to make proportional additions/subtractions to all projects based on the February forecast, the legislature chose to increase the funding for each project appropriation an additional 2.53% – with the exclusion of CPL which was already fully funded – due to an additional \$3.7 million projected available. Mr. Johnson also noted that some non-controversial clarifying language was added to the bill, along with two separate project extensions brought forward by House Chair Lillie and MN DNR respectively during the legislative session. Mr. Johnson explained to the

Council that the OHF recommendations became part of a larger Legacy omnibus bill that included Clean Water, Arts and Cultural Heritage, and Parks and Trails policy items and extensions as well. Information was also provided to the Council by Mr. Johnson regarding several amendments that were offered on the bill, but were not adopted. Chair Hartwell advised the Council that he had instructed staff to notify Project Managers whose projects would be receiving the 2.53% increase in funding that it would be the preference of the Council that Project Managers avoid using the additional 2.53% to disproportionately increase their staff and direct support services costs. Council discussion followed.

**7. Advancement of Funds – ML 2019, 1st Special Session, Ch. 2, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 5(o) – Restoring the Mississippi River at Lake Pepin, Phase 1:** Project Analyst Manager Sandy Smith presented a request to the Council for an advancement of funds on the Restoring the Mississippi River at Lake Pepin, Phase 1 project. Ms. Smith noted that under session law Subd. 8, reasonable amounts may be advanced to projects to accommodate cash flow needs, support future management of acquired lands, or match a federal share. Ms. Smith also briefed the Council on accountability procedures in place for funds advancement and noted that the entire advanced amount must be reconciled within a year. Council discussion followed.

**Action:** Senator Dibble made a motion to approve the request for the advancement of funds on ML 2019, 1st Special Session, Ch. 2, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 5(o) – Restoring the Mississippi River at Lake Pepin, Phase 1.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:

Hartwell

Schara

Sen. Dibble

Rep. Ecklund

Edmondson

Eggerling

Holsten

Sen. Lang

Peters

Swenson

NAY:

ABSENT:

Rep. Heintzeman

Saxhaug

10 AYES, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

**8. Presentation: DNR Evaluations of Heritage Forest Lands:** Adam Munstenteiger, Forestry Regional Manager with MN DNR, Kerstin Larson, Lands and Minerals Planning Director with MN DNR, and Susan Damon, Lands and Minerals Asst. Director with MN DNR provided an overview for the Council of the DNR’s Minnesota Heritage Forest project involving former Potlatch lands. Council discussion followed.

**9. 2022 OHF Site Visits / Tours:** Assistant Director Pavelko gave the Council an overview of proposed June 22, 2022 tour locations/logistics. Council discussion followed.

**10. Public Comments:** Commission Assistant Amanda Schnabel reported that no public comments had been submitted to the Council.

Additional Council discussion followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37am.

APPROVED:

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David Hartwell, Chair

Date

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Kristin Eggerling, Secretary

Date