

**MINUTES**  
**Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC)**  
**December 12, 2022**  
**Hybrid Meeting – State Capitol 120/ Zoom, pursuant to MS 13D**

**Call to Order:** Chair David Hartwell called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

**Members Present**

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

**Members Absent**

Sen. Andrew Lang

A quorum was present.

**1. Review and Approve Agenda:** Councilmember Tom Saxhaug made a motion to approve the agenda – **Motion Prevailed**

**2. Review and Approve Minutes:** Sen. D. Scott Dibble made a motion to approve the minutes from October 6, 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 stated that the recent November fiscal forecast indicated there are additional OHF monies available and noted that possible allocation of these monies would be discussed by the Council later in the meeting. Chair Hartwell also announced that the Proposal Criteria/Scoring Subcommittee had been meeting and would present a report of their work to the full Council in January.

**5. Executive Director’s Report:** Assistant Director Joe Pavelko provided information on several recent OHF public outreach initiatives undertaken by Executive Director Mark Johnson and also noted that staff had been reaching out to new legislators to provide information and answer questions they may have regarding OHF and/or LSOHC. Mr. Pavelko also noted that LSOHC staff would be in the office five days a week beginning in January 2023.

**6. Review & Approval of 2023 Council Meeting Calendar:** Councilmember Kristin Eggerling made a motion to approve the draft of the 2023 LSOHC meeting calendar currently before the Council.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:	NAY:	ABSENT:
Hartwell		Sen. Lang
Schara		
Sen. Dibble		
Rep. Ecklund		
Edmondson		
Eggerling		
Rep. Heintzeman		
Holsten		
Peters		
Saxhaug		
Swenson		

11 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

**7. Requests for Extension to Availability of Appropriation:** Randy Prachar with MN DNR presented an extension request for the ML 2016 5(j) Roseau Lake Rehabilitation appropriation.

**Action:** Councilmember Mark Holsten made a motion to approve the extension of the ML 2016 5(j) Roseau Lake Rehabilitation project allocation until June 30, 2024, to be included in the ML 2023 OHF recommendations bill.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:	NAY:	ABSENT:
Hartwell		Sen. Lang
Schara		
Sen. Dibble		
Rep. Ecklund		
Edmondson		
Eggerling		
Rep. Heintzeman		
Holsten		
Peters		
Saxhaug		
Swenson		

11 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

Dusty Van Thuyne, CREP Coordinator with MN BWSR and Sharon Doucette, Easement Section Manger with MN BWSR presented an extension request for the ML 2017 2(g) RIM Buffers for Wildlife and Water - Phase VII appropriation.

**Action:** Rep. Rob Ecklund made a motion to approve a two-year extension for the ML 2017 2(g) RIM Buffers for Wildlife and Water - Phase VII project appropriation, to be included in the ML 2023 OHF recommendations bill.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:	NAY:	ABSENT:
Schara	Hartwell	Sen. Lang
Sen. Dibble		
Rep. Ecklund		
Edmondson		
Eggerling		
Rep. Heintzeman		
Holsten		
Peters		
Saxhaug		
Swenson		

10 AYES, 1 NAYS, 1 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

Neil Rude, Mississippi River Habitat Specialist with MN DNR presented an extension request for the ML 2018 5(i) Lower Mississippi River Habitat Partnership (Phase IV)-Upper Pool 9 Backwater Enhancement and Floodplain Forest Restoration project appropriation. Council discussion followed.

**Action:** Councilmember Saxhaug made a motion to approve the ML 2018 5(i), Lower Mississippi River Habitat Partnership (Phase IV)-Upper Pool 9 Backwater Enhancement and Floodplain Forest Restoration project appropriation until June 30, 2027, to be included in the ML 2023 OHF recommendations bill.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:	NAY:	ABSENT:
Hartwell	Schara	Sen. Lang
Sen. Dibble	Edmondson	
Rep. Ecklund	Heintzeman	
Eggerling	Swenson	
Holsten		
Peters		
Saxhaug		

7 AYES, 4 NAYS, 1 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

**8. November Fiscal Forecast Results & Review:** Brian Horenbecker, Executive Budget Officer with MN Management and Budget provide an overview for the Council of the recently released November fiscal forecast.

**9. Review & Approve Council Funding Recommendations:** Chair Hartwell and Vice Chair Ron Schara provided information for the Council regarding their newly updated Chairs' Proposal recommendations, which were based on the recently released November fiscal forecast. Council discussion followed.

**Action:** Chair Hartwell made a motion to approve the updated Chairs’ Proposal as follows:

- Move IDP monies and DNR land acquisition costs from individual proposals to the DNR Core Functions proposal, totaling \$668,000, as per the revised Chairs’ Proposal spreadsheet. Additionally, if any new allocation recommendations made due to increased funding availability - including possible changes in the February fiscal forecast or after – result in additional IDP monies and/or DNR land acquisition cost monies in individual proposals, these monies are to be moved to the Core Functions proposal as well.
- Add the remaining dollars required to complete the Keystone Woods acquisition to proposals HA11 and HA12 as requested in the original proposals, as per the revised Chairs’ Proposal spreadsheet.
- Proportionally allocate the remaining monies, based on the percentage of the total previously allocated to each proposal, with the exception of CPL, O1, O2, O3, O4, the administrative (ADM) and website proposals (LCC) which are already fully funded. The percentage increase to HA11 and HA12 should be based only on the funding not going to the Keystone Woods project, per the revised Chairs’ Proposal spreadsheet. This will give all remaining projects an additional 10.672% of their current recommended allocation.
- Staff are directed to work with proposers to divide up the additional allocation amounts when more than one organization is partnering on a proposal, and insert the revised numbers into the bill language.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:

Hartwell  
Schara  
Sen. Dibble  
Rep. Ecklund  
Edmondson  
Eggerling  
Heintzeman  
Holsten  
Peters  
Saxhaug  
Swenson

NAY:

ABSENT:

Sen. Lang

11 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

Continued Council discussion followed.

**10. Review and Approve DRAFT Accomplishment Plans for ML2023 / FY2024:** Assistant Director Pavelko noted that the Accomplishment Plans before the Council are drafts and do not reflect the updated budget forecast and noted that staff had reviewed the draft accomplishment plans and found

nothing problematic. Mr. Pavelko informed the Council that final Accomplishment Plans will be approved in June if the legislature approves the appropriation recommendations.

**Action:** Rep. Josh Heintzeman made a motion to approve the draft Accomplishment Plans with the understanding that they will come back in June for final approval.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:	NAY:	ABSENT:
Hartwell		Sen. Lang
Schara		
Sen. Dibble		
Rep. Ecklund		
Edmondson		
Eggerling		
Heintzeman		
Holsten		
Peters		
Saxhaug		
Swenson		

11 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

**9. Review & Approve Council Funding Recommendations:** Chair Hartwell informed the Council that he and Vice Chair Schara recommend that the Council provide a preliminary recommendation to the legislature, should the February fiscal forecast show an adjustment up or down in anticipated OHF monies.

**Action:** Councilmember Saxhaug made a motion that allocations be proportionally increased/decreased based on the February forecast numbers using the same formula put forth in the current Chairs' Proposal, with future increases or decreases only applying to projects that received an extra 10% in the current recommendation.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:	NAY:	ABSENT:
Hartwell		Sen. Lang
Schara		
Sen. Dibble		
Rep. Ecklund		
Edmondson		
Eggerling		
Heintzeman		
Holsten		
Peters		
Saxhaug		
Swenson		

11 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

**11. Review & Approval of OHF Recommendations Bill language:** Assistant Director Pavelko gave the Council an overview of the ML 2023 draft bill language, to be presented to the legislature by January 15, 2023. Mr. Pavelko noted that allocation numbers in the draft bill would be updated to reflect current recommendations and informed the Council that the Bone Lake project had been moved from the habitat section to the wetland section to better reflect the scope of the project. Mr. Pavelko also drew the Council’s attention to several Council approved extensions, clerical fixes, and administrative updates in the bill – including an updated to the 97A.056 revenues language which would allow programs 90 days to report any program revenues, as opposed to the currently allowed 60 days. Mr. Pavelko noted that this will allow revenue reports to follow the same timeline as final reports.

**Action:** Councilmember Holsten made a motion to approve the bill language as currently before the Council, subject to revision of allocation amounts to reflect the current Council recommendations, and with the understanding that staff is given permission to make technical edits as needed.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:	NAY:	ABSENT:
Hartwell		Sen. Lang
Schara		
Sen. Dibble		
Rep. Ecklund		
Edmondson		
Eggerling		
Heintzeman		
Holsten		
Peters		
Saxhaug		
Swenson		

11 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

**12. Public Comments:** Chair Hartwell noted that no public comments had been submitted to the Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31am.

APPROVED:

---

David Hartwell, Chair

Date

---

Kristin Eggerling, Secretary

Date