

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

MEMO: **Agenda Item #7a**
DATE: January 27, 2023
SUBJECT: Legislative Extensions of Time
PRESENTER: Kristine Mauer and Karen Galles, Hennepin County

Suggested Motion:

Motion by Member XX to approve/disapprove extension of time for ML 2020, Ch. 10 4, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd 5(h) - Hennepin County Habitat Protection Program Ph. 2

\$3,155,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements with Hennepin County, in cooperation with Minnesota Land Trust, to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance habitats in Hennepin County as follows: **\$446,000 to Hennepin County and \$2,709,000 to Minnesota Land Trust**. Up to \$264,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed permanent conservation easements, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

Background:

Attached are the requests submitted by the managers. Managers are present to provide a brief overview of their extension request and answer question posed by the Council.

- Requesting a 1-year extension until June 30, 2025.
- Phase 1 (ML 2018) received a 1-year extension in ML 2021 until June 30, 2023, most recent status update showing \$1,362,300 spent out of \$1,514,000.
- Phase 3 (ML 2023) has a pending appropriation for \$4.524 million which may start spending in 6 months (July 2023).
- Currently (Phase 2) acquisitions need signed agreements by June 30, 2023 and get an additional year to close.
- Phase 2 spent to date in August Status Update \$311,600 out of \$3,155,000 and acres completed (16 out of 383) – see revised figures in their attached e-mail (acres completed 114 and 59 in process).
- Phase 2 August update did not appear to need an extension nor indicate that they were not on track to complete anticipate outputs. Update stated, “8 conservation easements are being pursued...and Hennepin County continues to receive interest...and plans to initiate another targeted mailing campaign in fall of 2022.”

Attachments:

- E-mail explaining the request for extension