

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

MEMO: Agenda Item #5
DATE: May 24, 2023
SUBJECT: ML2023 Legacy Omnibus Bill Update
PRESENTER: Mark Johnson, Executive Director

The Council's OHF funding recommendations were originally presented in HF676 (Lillie, Heintzeman) and SF573 (Hawj, Dibble, Dzedzic, Lang). Subsequently, these bills were incorporated into the Legacy Omnibus Bill (HF1999 Hawj & Lillie).

Within Conference Committee negotiations the House language of the OHF funding recommendations were adopted in full. This language does have a few additions to the Council's recommendations. Substantive additions are as follows (new text is underlined):

Subd.5(w) Conservation Partners Legacy Grants – *(newly inserted language) Unless there are not enough eligible grant applications received, of this amount, at least \$2,500,000 is for grants in the seven-county metropolitan area and cities with a population of 50,000 or greater and at least \$3,000,000 is for grants to applicants that have not previously applied for money from the outdoor heritage fund.*

Subd 10. Opportunities for Youth – (entirely new section)

(a) Each direct recipient of money appropriated in this section and each recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this section must contact the commissioner of natural resources in writing to determine whether opportunities to coordinate with recipients of grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.976, or other opportunities providing training and education to racially, ethnically, and economically diverse youth in the practical implementation of conservation practices that protect, restore, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife are available when implementing the projects funded in this section.

(b) Each direct recipient of money appropriated in this section and each recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this section must contact Conservation Corps Minnesota in writing and consider use of their restoration land enhancement services.

(c) A copy of the written contacts required under this subdivision must be filed with the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council within 15 days of execution.

Amendment to 97A.056, subd. 2(f) – *Terms, compensation, and removal of public members are as provided in section 15.0575, except that a public member may be compensated at the rate of up to \$125 a day. ...*

Amendment to 97A.056, subd. 11 Recipient Requirements – *(d) A project or program receiving funding from the outdoor heritage fund must include an assessment of whether the funding celebrates cultural diversity or reaches diverse communities in Minnesota, including reaching low- and moderate-income households.*