

Adjusted Chair Proposal

MEMO: Agenda Item #10
To: LSOHC members
From: David Hartwell (Chair) and Kristin Eggerling (Acting Vice Chair)
Date: December 5, 2023
Re: Adjusted Chair Proposal for Allocation of Additional OHF Funds

Chair and Vice Chair Recommendation on FY24 Funding (In light of November Forecast published 12/6/2023)

With the publishing of the November budget forecast, the Council is presented with a large amount of additional funds to recommend for allocation above our October recommendation of \$151,360,000.

The November 2023 forecast projects funds available for Council recommendations of \$180,721,000 (with a 5% reserve). That is \$29,361,000 more than previously forecast.

Previously, the Council recommended that additional funds be allocated to:

1. Fully fund the CPL proposal at \$11,575,000 – This utilizes \$2,133m.
2. Fully fund the MN Heritage proposal at \$22,647,000 – This utilizes \$9.492m.

The Chairs' proposal sent out last week then recommended if there were additional funds that CPL be funded to what they indicated would be the maximum they could handle at \$15,000,000. This would utilize an additional \$3.425m.

The Chairs still recommend the previous steps. However, this still leaves the Council with a total of \$14,311,000 to recommend. To that end, the Chairs have discussed various alternatives with the goal of remaining sensitive to making sure that recommendations honor the collective opinions shared by the Council as a whole. As a result, the Chairs focused upon those proposals that previously received unanimous funding recommendations of the Council.

For distribution of the remaining \$14.311m, the Chairs recommend addition of the following:

1. Increase the recommendations for proposals that received funding recommendation from all 11 council members. For fairness, to this group should be added FRE02 Young Forest Conservation (American Bird Conservancy) that received 10 recommendations for funding due to one reported Conflict of Interest. This provides a group of 20 proposals.
2. Increase each project receiving recommendation by a proportional amount (approximately 22%) of what was recommended by the Council at its October meeting.
 - Increases should not exceed full funding.
 - Limit administrative budget items (personnel and DSS) to the same increase as the proportional increase in the available amount in their revised accomplishment plan.
3. If for some reason there is a decline in the forecast in February, the chairs recommend we proportionally reduce the amounts recommended in #1 above.

Attachment – Spreadsheet of distribution via adjusted Chairs' Proposal