

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

MEMO: **Agenda Item #8b**
DATE: January 10, 2024
SUBJECT: Requests for 1-year Extension of Funding Availability
 ML2019, 1st Sp. Session, Ch. 2, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd, 5(j) - Shell Rock River Watershed
 Restoration Program - Phase VIII
PRESENTER: Courtney Phillips, Project & Program Manager, Shell Rock Watershed District
 Julie Blackburn, Water Business Unit Leader, ISG Inc.
 Andy Hensel, Supervisor, Shell Rock Watershed District

Suggested Motion:

Motion by Member XX to approve/deny the request for an extension of availability of funding for one year (until June 30, 2025). No motion being presented constitutes a denial of the requested extension.

Background:

The Shell Rock Watershed District is requesting a one-year extension of funding availability for ML2019 Shell Rock River Watershed Restoration Program - Phase VIII OHF appropriation. Extending the availability of funds for 1 year will ensure implementation of aquatic habitat features for Fountain Lake. Additional details of circumstances and challenges leading to this request are in the attached letter from Shell Rock Watershed District's Project & Program Manager, Courtney Phillips.

Considerations:

At the Council's May 24, 2023 meeting, a motion was adopted placing restrictions on requests for extensions to OHF appropriations. The restrictions are outlined in the following points:

- Appropriation extension requests will only be considered with delineated extraordinary circumstances related to weather or unforeseen last-minute circumstances.
- Appropriation extension requests must be submitted for Council review no later than the Council's November meeting to provide necessary time for Council consideration and potential bill language inclusion.
- Extension requests must be accompanied by a well-defined plan toward project completion that provides the Council with confidence in project success.
- Appropriation extension amendments should not include an increase in personnel or DSS.

This is Shell Rock Watershed Districts first request of an extension for any appropriation.

Attachments:

- Shell Rock Watershed District 01.04.2024 letter of request
- ML2019 Shell Rock River Watershed Restoration Program - Phase VIII, Accomplishment Plan Amendment