

DRAFT MINUTES

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC)

October 3, 2024

Hybrid Meeting – MN State Capitol 120/ Zoom, pursuant to MS 13D

Call to Order: Acting Chair Ron Schara called the meeting to order at 09:38 a.m.

(00:00:16)

Members Present	Members Absent
David Hartwell (Chair)	Dudley Edmondson
Ron Schara (Acting Chair)	Rep. Leon Lillie
Suzanne Baird	Sen. Andrew Lang
Rep. John Burkel	
Kristin Eggerling	
Sen. Founj Hawj	
Mark Holsten	
Tom Saxhaug	
Jamie Swenson	

A quorum was present.

1. Review and Approve Agenda: (00:01:38)

Councilmember Saxhaug made a motion to approve the agenda. – **Motion Prevailed**

2. Review and Approve Minutes: (00:02:00)

Councilmember Eggerling made a motion to approve the minutes from August 27th, 2024, and August 28th, 2024. – **Motion Prevailed**

3. Conflicts of Interest Reported: (00:02:24) No conflicts of interest were reported.

4. Chair's Comments: [\(00:02:33\)](#)

Chair Hartwell highlighted an issue to be discussed during the Executive Director's Report: ongoing discussions with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry on prevailing wage issues.

5. Executive Director's Report: [\(00:02:56\)](#)

Executive Director Mark Johnson briefed the Council on a meeting that took place between Council staff, the MN Department of Natural Resources, and the MN Department of Labor and Industry. The Department of Labor and Industry is considering information provided by NGO OHF recipients and DNR on job descriptions funded by Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars to determine how the prevailing wage job classifications should be applied to each particular job. Mr. Johnson noted that during the upcoming November 19th Council meeting, any amendments for, extensions to appropriations, or changes to proposals will be addressed. Mr. Johnson reminded Council members of an upcoming non-public event: a tour of the St. Louis River Estuary on October 8th, 2024.

6. Presentation / Discussion: Minnesota Invasive Carp Update [\(00:06:36\)](#)

Kelly Pennington, Invasive Species Program Supervisor at the MN DNR, updated Council members on ongoing efforts to limit invasive carp passage by implementing deterrents at lock and dam 5 on the Mississippi River.

7. Easement Acquisition with Partial Existing Protection – ML 2022, Ch. 77, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd. 2(b) – RIM Grasslands Reserve, Phase IV: [\(00:14:16\)](#)

Assistant Director Joe Pavelko briefed the Council on the action item by explaining that Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars cannot be used to acquire parcels that are already protected. However, the Council is able to approve an exception to this policy with nine votes in favor. Sharon Doucette, Board of Water and Soil Resources, presented the Council with background information on the proposed action, which would provide for additional conservation protections over an existing FmHA easement. BWSR recommended approval of the additional easement to provide for additional conservation protections not covered by the existing easement. Council discussion followed.

Action: Councilmember Holsten made a motion to approve the conservation easement acquisition request as presented.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:	NAY:	ABSENT:
Hartwell		Edmondson
Baird		Sen. Lang
Rep. Burkel		Rep. Lillie
Eggerling		
Sen. FOUNG Hawj		
Holsten		
Saxhaug		
Schara		
Swenson		

9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 3 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

8. Chairs' Recommendation and Allocation Selection: [\(00:24:14\)](#)

Mr. Hartwell outlined the Chairs' Allocation Recommendation package, assembled by Vice Chair Schara and himself. Mr. Hartwell explained that with a few exceptions, the average allocation from all members was used to determine the amount granted to each proposal. Council discussion of the proposal followed.

Action: Mr. Hartwell moved to recommend funding based on the Chairs' proposal, with the understanding that WRE04 staffing be reviewed to ensure legal eligibility for funding as outlined in the project's proposal.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYE:	NAY:	ABSENT:
Hartwell		Edmondson
Baird		Sen. Lang
Rep. Burkel		Rep. Lillie
Eggerling		
Sen. Founq Hawj		
Holsten		
Saxhaug		
Schara		
Swenson		

9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 3 ABSENT – **Motion Prevailed**

No public testimony was heard.

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.