

Lessard - Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
Meeting Summary

September 7, 2011

Members Present:

Les Bensch (phone)
Ryan Bronson
Jim Cox
Chair David Hartwell

Wayne Enger
Sen. Bill Ingebrigtsen
Jane Kingston
Rep. Leon Lillie

Rep. Denny McNamara
Scott Rall
Ron Schara
Sen. Tom Saxhaug

Members Absent: none

Call to order: 8:53 a.m. A quorum was present.

Review and Approve Agenda

Motion by W. Enger to approve the agenda for September 7 & 8, 2011. Motion adopted.

Review and Approve Minutes: August, 23, 2011

Motion by J. Kingston to approve the minutes as presented. Motion adopted.

Members report any Conflict of Interest on Today and Tomorrow's Agenda

J. Cox – HA 02 – Metro Big Rivers Habitat, Phase III -- sits on the board on the National Wildlife Refuge Trust and will not be participating in the discussion of that project.

J. Kingston – PA 04, Minnesota Prairie Recovery Project, Phase III and PA07, Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition -- is a former The Nature Conservancy Trustee and might be a perception of conflict of interest and will not be participating in the discussion of that project.

Executive Director's Report

- Reminded members of the schedule enclosed in the packet
- Great River Greening Advance status letter from DNR update will be on the September 20th meeting
- DNR Contract Administration was kept at \$175,000
 - Account for past appropriations in status report
- DNR Restoration Evaluation was reduce to \$45,000
- Clarified that interpersonal contact one to one via telephone ok, concerns are in communication with several members on the same topic (serial)
- UPM-Blandin Forest Legacy Utility Easement Exchange, materials are in members packets, will be on the agenda for September 20th when a DNR representative will be here to answer questions.

ML 2012 / FY 2013 Program Hearings

<i>Estimated start time on audio</i>	<i>Ref. No.</i>	<i><u>Prairie Acquisition</u></i>	<i>Amt Requested</i>	<i>Applicant</i>
00:11:00	P A 01	Conserving Grasslands and Working Lands for Wildlife	\$10,000,000	MN DNR / BWSR
00:39:45	P A 02	SNA and Native Prairie Bank Easement Acquisition	\$3,276,027	MN DNR
00:55:27	P A 03	Minnesota Buffers for Water and Wildlife - II	\$5,000,000	Pheasants Forever
01:27:15	P A 04	Minnesota Prairie Recovery Project 3	\$7,699,181	The Nature Conservancy
01:54:03	P A 05	Cannon River Headwaters Habitat Complex II	\$2,888,000	The Trust for Public Land
02:07:12	P A 06	DNR Wildlife Management Area Acquisition	\$8,028,000	MN DNR

02:36:46	P A 07	Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition	\$3,500,000	The Nature Conservancy and US Fish and Wildlife Service
02:57:36	P A 08	Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program Phase 4	\$6,700,000	Pheasants Forever
03:11:26	P A 09	Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Program, Phase 4	\$7,500,000	Pheasants Forever
03:33:20	P A 11	Green Corridor Legacy Program Phase IV	\$6,306,000	Redwood Area Development Corporation
03:59:04	P A 10	Prairie Chicken Wildlife Habitat Partnership	\$3,150,000	MN Prairie Chicken Society Pheasants Forever
		<u>Prairie Restore/Enhance</u>		
04:21:10	P RE 01	DNR Prairie/Grassland Habitat Restoration and Enhancement	\$4,440,767	MN DNR
04:55:03	P RE 03	Mid-Minnesota River Corridor Habitat Restoration and Enhancement	\$1,317,000	MN DNR
05:10:55	P RE 02	Habitat Restoration/Enhancement in the Anoka Sandplain -Phase 2	\$1,455,720	Great River Greening
??	P RE 04	Enhanced Public Land Grasslands	\$3,000,000	MN Prairie Chicken Society and Pheasants Forever
		<u>Forest Acquisition</u>		
6:00:53	F A 02	Mississippi River Northwoods Habitat Complex Protection	\$14,500,000	The Trust for Public Land and Partners
6:40:00	F A 01	Protecting Mississippi River Corridor Habitat ACUB Partnership	\$3,097,900	Morrison SWCD, Camp Ripley, BWSR
07:02:15	F A 04	Root River Watershed Acquisition and Restoration	\$3,239,987	MN DNR
07:24:00	F A 05	Conservation Easements in the Avon Hills using MMAPLE	\$1,354,000	Saint Johns Arboretum
07:47:09	F A 06	Northeastern Minnesota Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat Partnership	\$3,909,500	Minnesota Sharp-tailed Grouse Society
08:05:47	F A 07	Protect (Acquire) Key Forest Habitat Lands Cass County	\$718,400	Cass County
08:32:22	F A 08	Lower Mississippi River Habitat Partnership	\$4,058,000	MN DNR
08:19:00	F A 09	Acquisition: State Forest Land	\$2,110,000	MN DNR
		<u>Forest Restore/Enhance</u>		
??	F RE 01	MN DNR Accelerated Forest Wildlife Habitat Program	\$1,720,000	MN DNR
09:11:11	F RE 02	Minnesota Moose Habitat Collaborative	\$6,566,151	Minnesota Deer Hunters Association (MDHA)

Adjournment: 7:13 p.m. (09:55:59)

Lessard - Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
Meeting Summary
September 8, 2011

Members Present:

Les Bensch (phone)
Ryan Bronson
Jim Cox
Chair David Hartwell

Wayne Enger
Sen. Bill Ingebrigtsen
Jane Kingston
Rep. Leon Lillie

Rep. Denny McNamara
Scott Rall
Ron Schara
Sen. Tom Saxhaug

Members Absent: none

Call to order: 7:51 a.m. A quorum was present.

ML 2012 / FY 2013 Program Hearings

Estimated start time on audio		<u>Wetland Acquisition</u>		
00:00:00	W A 01	The RIM-WRP Partnership	\$25,000,000	Board of Water and Soil Resources
00:31:40	W A 02	Columbus Lake Conservation Area	\$1,017,000	Anoka County Parks and Recreation
		<u>Wetland Restore/Enhance</u>		
00:55:54	W RE 01	Living Shallow Lakes & Wetlands Initiative	\$8,000,000	Ducks Unlimited
01:15:40	W RE 02	Wetland and Shallow Lake Enhancement	\$6,000,000	MN DNR Div. of Fish and Wildlife
01:32:09	W RE 03	Marsh Lake Enhancement	\$3,264,000	MN DNR Div. of Fish and Wildlife
		<u>Habitat Acquisition</u>		
01:46:30	H A 01	DNR Aquatic Habitat Program	\$12,204,000	MN DNR
02:20:28	H A 02	Metro Big Rivers Habitat Phase 3	\$8,453,310	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc.
02:33:20	H A 03	Riparian and Lakeshore Protection/ Management in Dakota County	\$3,200,000	Dakota County

(02:53:22) Review the Individual Member Allocation worksheet

Mr. Becker explained the process for each individual member allocation and how the calculation of those dollars will be used to formulate a starting point for discussion at September 20th meeting. Members discussed the individual allocation process including defining a “significant” allocation, not giving all project \$1 just to give it a “vote”; not allocating more than the original requested amount; and allocating a reasonable percentage of the requested dollar amount would be. It was concluded that members would use their best judgment in their individual process and not allocate over the requested amount.

		<u>Other</u>		
03:22:12	X 01	Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program	\$6,000,000	MN DNR
		<u>Habitat Restore/Enhance</u>		
03:40:40	H RE 01	Lower St. Louis River Habitat Restoration	\$3,793,772	MN DNR Fisheries

(04:10:30) Members discussed an appropriation cancellation and discussed whether that amount should be free to appropriate in addition to the \$96 million or be assigned to that specific proposal. Motion by J. Cox to assign the cancellation of ML 2009, 2(e) Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Protection (\$1,583,000) to the FY 2013 Proposal P A 07 Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition which would reduce the balance of their funding request to \$1,917,000. Motion adopted (8 yes, 4 no)

(04:17:09) Motion by W. Enger to reconsider the previous Cox motion. Motion to reconsider adopted. (7 yes, 4 no). Members discussed clarification and process of previous motion.

Reconsideration of the motion by J. Cox to assign the cancellation of ML 2009, 2(e) Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Protection (\$1,583,000) to the FY 2013 Proposal P A 07 Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition which would reduce the balance of their funding request to \$1,917,000. Motion adopted (6 yes, 5 no)

04:31:32	H RE 02	Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Habitat Enhancement Program	\$2,699,000	Minnesota Trout Unlimited
04:51:28	H RE 03	Grand Marais Creek Outlet Restoration	\$2,764,000	Red Lake Watershed District
05:07:15	H RE 04	Seven Mile Creek Watershed Habitat Restoration and Enhancement	\$518,000	Nicollet Soil & Water Conservation District
05:38:01	H RE 05	Knife River Habitat Restoration	\$400,000	Lake Superior Steelhead Association
06:01:54	H RE 06	Zequanox as the control for Zebra Mussels	\$350,000	Douglas County Lakes Association

(06:20:00) Opportunity for Public to Address the Council

Bonnie Huettl spoke about a DNR Grant Program, and the difficulty for lake associations to come up with 50% of the money ahead of time and not asking for us to pay for it in advance instead of waiting for reimbursement as it has been difficult process.

Members continued discussion on invasive species, specifically the zebra mussel proposal.

Adjournment: 3:15 a.m. (06:30:52)

APPROVED:

Wayne Enger, Secretary

Date