

**Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) Meeting
Meeting Summary
January 7, 2016**

Members Present

Bob Anderson, Chair
Julie Blackburn
David Hartwell
Jane Kingston

Rep. Leon Lillie
Rep. Denny McNamara
Susan Olson
Sen. Tom Saxhaug

Ron Schara (phone, non-
voting)
Barry Tilley

Members Absent

Sen. Bill Ingebrigtsen, Elizabeth Wilkens

Call to Order: Call to order at 8:06 a.m. A quorum was present.

Review and Approve Agenda

Ms. Kingston asked to add appointing a Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) Grant Program liaison to the business meeting agenda. She also asked to switch agenda items 7 and 8 and have the council extend the time allotted for agenda item 7 to allow for discussion during the business meeting. Motion by Ms. Kingston to approve the agenda with those suggested changes for January 7, 2016. Motion adopted.

Review and Approve Minutes – December 3, 2015

Motion by Sen. Saxhaug to approve the minutes. Motion adopted.

Conflicts of Interest:

No new conflicts were noted.

(00:04:30 – Business Meeting Audio) Executive Director’s Report

Executive Director Mark Johnson provided a status update on the Land Acquisition Report mandated by ML 2015, First Sp. Session, Ch. 2, Art. 1, Subd. 6(d). Project Analyst Manager Sandy Smith reviewed updates to draft accomplishment plans for proposals PA 04, Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition, Phase VII, WA 01, Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Acquisition, Phase VIII, HRE 01, Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement and Restoration, Phase VIII, and CPL 1, Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program: Statewide and Metro Habitat, Phase VIII based on the results of the Dec. 3, 2015 council meeting.

Mr. Johnson referenced an update submitted to the council by CPL Program Coordinator Jessica Lee. Mr. Johnson summarized staff outreach activities. Ms. Kingston requested council members be notified of outreach activities in a timely manner so members may participate when possible. Mr. Johnson informed the council of staff’s ongoing review of 97A.056 Subd. 8. Revenues. Staff will provide the Council with a full review and recommendations at a future meeting. Mr. Johnson called the council’s attention to a letter from Chairman Anderson regarding a federal funding issue with proposal WRE 02, Marsh Lake, Phase II.

(00:21:10) ML 2016/FY 2017 Draft Bill Language

Mr. Johnson reviewed additional language for the draft bill as presented to the council for Subd. 3(b), Jack Pine Forest/Crow Wing River Watershed Habitat Acquisition. Members discussed the process for including the additional language in the bill.

(00:31:15) Motion by Rep. McNamara to offer the language from lines from 8.5 through 8.8 of the draft bill, as presented, to the legislature as an amendment. He noted the additional language was left out due to an oversight and a unanimous vote would indicate to the legislature it is the council’s wish that the language be included in the bill. A roll call vote was requested.

Roll call vote on the motion:

Bob Anderson, Chair - Yes	Jane Kingston - Yes	Susan Olson - Yes
Julie Blackburn - Yes	Rep. Leon Lillie - Yes	Sen. Tom Saxhaug - Yes
David Hartwell - Yes	Rep. Denny McNamara - Yes	Barry Tilley - Yes

Motion adopted (9-yes, 0-no).

Mr. Schara stated he supports the motion.

(00:36:25) Mr. Johnson summarized a proposed change to language written by staff in the draft bill as presented to the council for Subd. 3(j), Protecting Forest Wildlife Habitat in the Wild Rice River Watershed. He proposed replacing the language from lines 12.17-12.26 with the verbatim language from Mr. Hartwell’s motion at the December 3, 2015 council meeting. Members discussed the proposed change. They were in agreement that the draft bill should be presented to the legislature using the verbatim language from Mr. Hartwell’s motion.

Mr. Johnson asked members to confirm the council’s intent that land acquisition by the White Earth Nation under Subd. 3(j) would be conditional upon the creation of a “special single hunting zone” and perpetual ownership would be contingent upon continued successful implementation of an agreed upon management plan. Members discussed and agreed with Mr. Johnson’s characterization.

(00:51:50) Myron Jesme, of the Red Lake Watershed District and Jeff Langan of Houston Engineering presented completed outdoor heritage fund project ML 2012, Ch. 264, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 5(f), Grand Marais Creek Outlet Restoration.

(01:55:45) Appointing a CPL Liaison

Chair Anderson appointed Mr. Hartwell to serve as liaison to the administrator of the CPL grant program. Mr. Hartwell requested input from members regarding their expectations for the position. Members discussed.

(01:59:45) Opportunity for Public to Address the Council

Les Bensch, owner of Viking Valley Hunt Club and former LSOHC member addressed the council.

(02:10:48) Introduction to Council Work Session

Ms. Kingston introduced materials regarding the ML 2017/FY 2018 Call Criteria and Request for Funding and proposed a process for making changes to the materials.

(02:13:30) Chair Anderson noted the council no longer had a quorum.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

APPROVED:

Bob Anderson, Chair

Date:

David Hartwell, Secretary

Date: