

**Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council Meeting**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**June 20, 2019**

**Members Present**

Bob Anderson, Chair	Kristin Eggerling	Rep. Dan Fabian
David Hartwell (phone)	Denny McNamara	Sen. Andrew Lang (phone)
Jane Kingston	Ron Schara	Sen. David Tomassoni
Julie Blackburn	Rep. Jamie Becker – Finn	

**Members Absent**

Jamie Swenson

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

**Review and Approve Agenda**

Motion by Ms. Kingston to remove agenda item number 5: Elections of Council Officers and approve the agenda (less the Election of Council Officers) for June 20, 2019. Council members discussed.

Roll call vote on the motion:

Bob Anderson, Chair – no	Rep. Dan Fabian – no	Denny McNamara – no
Julie Blackburn – yes	David Hartwell (phone) – yes	Ron Schara – yes
Rep. Jamie Becker – Finn – yes	Jane Kingston – yes	Jamie Swenson – absent
Kristin Eggerling – yes	Sen. Andrew Lang (phone) – no	Sen. David Tomassoni – no

**Motion adopted** (6 – yes, 5 – no).

**Review and Approve Minutes – December 11, 2018**

Motion by Ms. Kingston to approve the minutes.

Roll call vote on the motion:

Bob Anderson, Chair – yes	Rep. Dan Fabian – yes	Ron Schara – yes
Julie Blackburn – yes	David Hartwell (phone) – yes	Jamie Swenson – absent
Rep. Jamie Becker – Finn – abstained	Jane Kingston – yes	Sen. David Tomassoni – yes
Kristin Eggerling – yes	Sen. Andrew Lang (phone) – yes	
	Denny McNamara – yes	

**Motion adopted** (10 – yes, 0 – no, 1 – abstained).

**Conflicts of Interest:**

No new conflicts of interest were noted.

**(00:34:54 – Audio #1) Executive Director’s Report**

Executive Director Mark Johnson provided an update on recent staff activities including a number of meetings and events.

Mr. Johnson also pointed member’s attention to a request from the Itasca County Highway Department for a minor conveyance. The state interest in the land was purchased by the MN DNR with Outdoor Heritage Funds (ML 2009, Ch. 172, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 3). Motion by Mr. Hartwell to deny the conveyance request. Council members discussed.

Roll call vote on the motion:

Bob Anderson, Chair – no  
Julie Blackburn – no  
Rep. Jamie Becker – Finn – no  
Kristin Eggerling – no

Rep. Dan Fabian – no  
David Hartwell (phone) – yes  
Jane Kingston – no  
Sen. Andrew Lang – absent

Denny McNamara – no  
Ron Schara – no  
Jamie Swenson – absent  
Sen. David Tomassoni – no

**Motion not adopted** (1 – yes, 9 – no).

Motion by Rep. Fabian to adjourn. Council members raised points of order. Motion withdrawn.

**(01:05:47 – Audio #1) Information: ML 2019 Legacy Bill review (ML 2019, First Special Session, Ch. 2, Art. 1)**  
Executive Director Mark Johnson provided a brief summary of the ML 2019 Legacy Bill. Mr. Johnson noted a few minor deviations from the Council’s recommendations. Rep. Fabian provided his insight into the session. Mr. Schara shared his experience at the Legacy Bill signing ceremony. Mr. Johnson expressed on behalf of the Council thanks to each of the legislative authors for their help toward passing the Council’s recommendations for appropriations as part of the Legacy Omnibus bill.

**(01:11:28 – Audio #1) Action: ML 2019 Accomplishment Plan Approvals**  
Sandy Smith, Program Analyst Manager, reviewed the ML 2019 / FY 2020 Accomplishment Plans. Ms. Smith identified programs that had changes to their Draft Accomplishment Plan and explained the nature of the changes made.

Motion by Ms. Blackburn to approve the ML 2019 Accomplishment Plans.

Roll call vote on the motion:

Bob Anderson, Chair – yes  
Julie Blackburn – yes  
Rep. Jamie Becker – Finn – yes  
Kristin Eggerling – yes

Rep. Dan Fabian – yes  
David Hartwell (phone) – yes  
Jane Kingston – yes  
Sen. Andrew Lang – absent

Denny McNamara – yes  
Ron Schara – yes  
Jamie Swenson – absent  
Sen. David Tomassoni – yes

**Motion adopted** (10 – yes, 0 – no).

**(01:13:40 – Audio #1) Information: OHF Restoration & Enhancement Evaluations Report**  
Wade Johnson, Program Coordinator, provided historical context for restoration evaluations and gave a general overview about the evaluation process. Dr. Gina Quiram, Restorations Evaluation Specialist, provided an overview of the projects evaluated in 2018, noting successes and opportunities for improvement. Council members discussed.

**(01:52:40 – Audio #1) Information: Recap of April 18, 2019 SE MN Trout Stream Tour**  
Executive Director Mark Johnson provided contextual information about what initiated discussions about trout streams restorations, and a recap of the April 18, 2019 SE MN trout stream tour. Mr. McNamara and Mr. Schara shared their thoughts about the tour.

**(02:16:02 – Audio #1) Information: DNR SE MN Stream Restorations – Enhancing aquatic habitat that endures extreme weather events.**  
Brian Nerbonne, DNR Fisheries, gave a general overview of Southeast Minnesota trout stream habitat and explained the complex nature of trout stream restoration work. Mr. Nerbonne reviewed past successful restorations and outlined reasons projects can fail. Jason Moeckel, DNR Eco Waters, provided an overview of the DNR’s permitting process as it related to trout stream restorations. Council members discussed at length.

**(03:15:25 – Audio #1) Information: Strategies for reconnecting rivers**

Dr. Luther Aadland, River Scientist, DNR Eco Waters, gave a presentation on the various strategies for reconnecting rivers, noting a number of challenges related to restoration work on streams and rivers. Mr. Aadland provided examples of past successes and a reasons those projects were successful. Council questions and discussion followed.

**(00:00:26 – Audio #2) Update: Communications and Outreach**

Carol Russell, CEO, Russell Herder, provided an update on the communications and outreach efforts being implemented and noted accomplishments to date. Ms. Russell also mentioned a number of objectives that are in progress. Council members discussed.

**(00:15:58 – Audio #2) Presentation: NAWMP Blue-winged Teal Award**

Jon Schneider, Ducks Unlimited, briefly described why the Council was nominated for the award. Tom Cooper and Charlie Wooley, US Fish and Wildlife Service, presented the NAWMP Blue-winged Teal award to the Council.

**(00:26:25 – Audio #2) Opportunity for Public to Address the Council**

Barton Winter provided testimony regarding increasing the number trout stream easements in Minnesota.

**(00:36:41 – Audio #2) Additional Council Business – Upcoming Meetings**

Council members discussed dates of upcoming meetings and hearings.

Motion by Rep. Fabian to send out a survey to Council members regarding dates for the next meeting and the ML 2020 proposal hearings and to allow the Chair to select the appropriate dates of change. **Motion adopted.** (voice vote taken. Roll-call requirement removed as phone-in attending members were no longer attending via phone.)

**Acknowledgement & thanks** – Chair Anderson extended to Members Jane Kingston and Julie Blackburn the thanks of the Council for their dedicated and excellent service during their terms on the Council. The council supported the comments.

Meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

APPROVED: August 7, 2019. A signed copy is on file with LSOHC staff.