
Susan Thornton, Director

MINUTES

December 7, 2011

8:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Room 5, State Office Building

St. Paul, MN 55155

Members Present: Al Berner, Jeff Broberg, Tom Cook, Sen. Gary Dahms, Sen. Al DeKruif, Nancy Gibson, Rep. Tom Hackbarth, John Herman, Sen. Linda Higgins, Rep. Denny McNamara, Norman Moody, Sen. Rod Skoe, Elizabeth Wilkens

Staff Present: S. Thornton, M. McDonough, M. Banker, D. Griffith

Members Absent: Rep. David Dill, Sen. Gen Olson, Rep. Tom Rukavina, Rep. Ron Shimanski

Co-Chair: Sen. Gen Olson

Co-Vice Chair: Sen. Linda Higgins

1. Approve agenda for LCCMR meeting for December 7, 2011

Vice-Co Chair Higgins called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Broberg moved approval of the agenda for December 7, 2011 – motion prevailed.

2. Members approve minutes for November 17, 2011

MOTION: Commissioner Dahms moved approval of the minutes for September 27, 2011 – motion prevailed.

3. Members report potential conflicts of interest regarding today's business

Members reported no conflicts of interest for today's meeting.

4. Review of work plans for approval

- **M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art. 3, Sec. 2**
- **Subd. 9d "Reinvest in Minnesota Wetlands Reserve Acquisition and Restoration Program Partnership" - \$1,645,000, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) – Julie Blackburn and Karli Swenson**

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Julie Blackburn and Karli Swenson, BWSR, reviewed the work plan. Members discussed many aspects of the project at Crooked Lake.

MOTION: Commissioner Gibson moved to approve M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art. 3, Sec. 2, Subd. 9d “Reinvest in Minnesota Wetlands Reserve Acquisition and Restoration Program Partnership” and the use of classified staff.

Amendment: Commissioner Dahms amended the motion to include the County has the right to maintain right of ways at a minimum maintenance level if they choose.

Commissioner Wilkens suggested changing the words ‘right of ways’ to ‘public entity’. Members conferred on wording and Commissioner Dahms agreed to change the words ‘right of ways’ to ‘road authority’.

Amendment: Commissioner Dahms renewed his amendment to include the County has the right to maintain road authority at a minimum maintenance level if they choose – motion did not prevail.

MOTION: Commissioner Gibson renewed her motion to approve M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art. 3, Sec. 2, Subd. 9d “Reinvest in Minnesota Wetlands Reserve Acquisition and Restoration Program Partnership” and the use of classified staff – motion prevailed.

- **Subd. 9a “Minnesota Conservation Apprentice Academy” - \$200,000, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), including an overview of progress on M.L. 2010, Chp. 362, Sec. 2, Subd. 8a “Minnesota Conservation Apprenticeship Academy” – Steve Woods**

Steve Woods, BWSR, reviewed the work plan. Kristen Kieta and James Adkinson explained to members their experiences being a part of the program in the past.

MOTION: Commissioner Dahms moved to approve M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art. 3, Sec. 2, Subd. 9a “Minnesota Conservation Apprentice Academy” – motion prevailed.

- **Subd. 3p “Species of Concern; Investigations” - \$500,000 (Part B – “Baseline Information on Statewide Bird Distribution and Reproductive Status” - \$250,000)**

DNR staff was present to answer any questions regarding Part B – “Baseline Information on Statewide Bird Distribution and Reproductive Status”.

Commissioner Gibson asked if DNR intended to continue this work with Audubon Minnesota.

DNR staff assured members that Part B of this appropriation will continue under contract with the same research team of Audubon Minnesota in collaboration with the Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) and Cornell University.

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MOTION: Commissioner Gibson moved to approve M.L. 2011, First Special Session, Chp. 2, Art. 3, Sec. 2, Subd. 3p “Species of Concern; Investigations” - \$500,000 (Part B – “Baseline Information on Statewide Bird Distribution and Reproductive Status” - \$250,000) – motion prevailed.

5. Review and approve Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) 2012-2013 Request for Proposal (RFP) to be issued by LCCMR

Susan Thornton reviewed the 2012-2013 Request for Proposal draft and the changes.

Members reviewed the “2012-2013 Proposed Acquisition List” and discussed that proposal should include criteria used for selection of parcels.

Members also discussed the Acquisition List template and agreed to add the following language at the top of the page “This list is intended to reflect your best knowledge at the time of the proposal. Be as specific as possible. There will be future opportunities to modify the list if a project is selected to receive a funding recommendation.”

Members discussed the letter from Commissioner Landwehr dated December 5, 2011.

Members discussed and affirmed the eligible and ineligible list including the language in the RFP that state “otherwise approved” and proposal budgets would be evaluated accordingly. Direct administration costs have always been eligible and members have adopted procedures in the LCCMR Six-Year Strategic Plan adopted January 16, 2009; Procedures of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) adopted September 23, 2008; and the 2012-2013 Request for Proposal.

Members also discussed these documents in their meetings provide openness and transparency.

MOTION: Commissioner Gibson moved to delete Geographic Coordinates and add the word “Proposed” in columns “# of Acres” and “# of Shoreline Miles (if applicable)” to the Acquisition List template – motion prevailed (voice vote 7-Yes / 4-No).

MOTION: Commissioner Broberg moved to approve the 2012-2013 Request for Proposal with changes and associated links – motion prevailed.

6. Overviews and ENRTF final report presentations

10:30 am - 11:15 am • M.L. 2009, Chp. 143, Sec. 2, Subd. 5f “Minnesota Drainage Law Analysis and Evaluation”, \$87,000, Louis Smith (Smith Partners PLLP)

Louis Smith, Smith Partners PLLP, presented an overview of M.L. 2009, Chp. 143, Sec. 2, Subd. 5f “Minnesota Drainage Law Analysis and Evaluation”.

11:15 am - 11:45 am • Background and Overview Invasive Species and Ballast Water (MPCA)

Rebecca Walter and Jeff Stollenwerk

- **M.L. 2009, Chp. 143, Sec. 2, Subd. 6a “Ballast Water Sampling Method Development and Treatment Technology”, \$366,000 (MPCA)**
- **M.L. 2009, Chp. 143, Sec. 2, Subd. 6b “Emergency Delivery System Development for Disinfecting Ballast Water”, \$125,000 (USGS)**

Rebecca Walter and Jeff Stollenwerk, MPCA, presented an overview and gave background information on Invasive Species and Ballast Water.

11:45 am - 12:15 pm • Lake and Stream Water Quality Background / Update (MPCA)
Glenn Skuta

Glenn Skuta, MPCA, presented background information on Lake and Stream Water Quality.

12:15 pm - 12:45 pm • M.L. 2008, Chp. 367, Sec. 2, Subd. 4h “South-Central Minnesota Groundwater Monitoring and County Geologic Atlases”, \$894,000, Jim Berg and Jan Falteisek (MN DNR)

Vice Co-Chair Higgins announced this presentation will be presented at the next LCCMR Meeting.

7. Other business

Next meeting dates: December 14, 2011 and January 10, 2012

Commissioner Higgins announced the next LCCMR Meeting will be on January 10, 2012.

8. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.