

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

MEMO: Agenda Items 8 and 9

DATE: June 5, 2023

SUBJECT: **Discuss and Select 2024 ENRTF proposals for further consideration and presentation**

Summary

218 proposals were received in response to the LCCMR's 2024 RFP. 73 proposals have been provisionally selected for presentation and further consideration as a result of members' evaluations #1 and the process approved by the LCCMR at its April 24, 2023 meeting. Additionally, the DNR Grants Unit request (2024-117) and a placeholder for LCCMR Administration (2024-###) will advance. At the June 8, 2023 meeting, members need to identify up to 9 additional selections (up to 3 each by the House, Senate, and Citizens) and finalize plans for presentations. Options are also provided if members want to select additional proposals, since the total amount of funding requested by the 73 provisional selections is significantly less than the total amount available.

Background

In response to the 2024 Request for Proposals, LCCMR received 218 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$174 million. Approximately \$79 million is available for appropriations from the ENRTF for this RFP cycle, including for an LCCMR supplemental administrative budget. Commission members have individually completed their first evaluation of these 218 proposals and now need to finalize the proposals that will be selected by the LCCMR for presentation and further consideration of funding.

On April 24, 2023, the commission voted to select the top 80 proposals chosen by the greatest number of individual members during their evaluation #1. If the 80 cut-off were to fall in the middle of a group of proposals that had been selected by the same number of members, the cut-off would be moved up or down to whichever total number of selected proposals was closer to 80. Consequently, the group containing the tie is either fully captured or fully removed from the proposals selected for presentation. The commission also agreed that up to an additional 9 proposals would be selected for presentation and further consideration for funding; up to 3 each by the House, Senate, and Citizen groups.

Results of Evaluation #1

As a result of individual members' Evaluation #1, 73 proposals have been provisionally selected for presentation and further consideration. These 73 proposals are shown in the attached spreadsheet. The 80 cut-off landed in a group of proposals that were selected by the same number of members. Including all the tied proposals would have resulted in 93 proposals being selected; excluding all the tied proposals would have resulted in 73 proposals being selected, which is closer to 80. Therefore, 73 proposals have been provisionally selected for presentation and further consideration for funding. The total amount requested by those 73 is \$63,044,000. These results were emailed to members and posted to the meeting page of the website on 6/5/23.

Selection of up to 9 additional proposals

During the June 8, 2023 meeting, the House, Senate, and Citizen groups may each caucus to come to final agreement on their additional projects. Agreements will be made by consensus among each group or by a simple majority if needed. Each group will provide the LCCMR Director with a written list of up to three (3) proposals it wishes to select. At the end of caucus time, the Director will read the selections out loud.

Options since the total request by top 73 selected is less than amount available

Since the total amount requested by the 73 provisionally selected projects is less than the amount available for appropriation this year, the commission may want to consider additional adjustments. Some options could be:

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1. Invite for presentation the next tier of proposals, i.e., those selected by 6 of 17 members. This would bring the total provisionally selected to 93 proposals requesting \$77,461,000, plus up to 9 additional = 102 presentations.
2. Increase the additional number of proposals selected by the House, Senate, and Citizen groups from up to 3 each to up to 7 each. This could bring the total to 94 presentations but may or may not bring the requested amount up to the total funding available.
3. Proceed as is, with the understanding that money may be left on the bottom line (to be returned to ENRTF; directed by the Legislature; directed to Emerging Issues, etc.)

Presentations

Presentation meetings are reserved for June 22-23, and 27-30 (6 days), though not all these days may be needed. Additional business on presentation days will include approval of work plans for projects funded in 2023. Some members have expressed interest in having presentations held in person. Logistically, it could work to have members be all remote or hybrid (a mix of in person and remote). If hybrid, the chair would need to be in person. If all remote, one legislative member would need to participate from the Capitol complex. Per revised LCC policy, screens would need to be turned on when members participate remotely.

Logistically, it would work to have presenters be in person or remote but not hybrid. It has been suggested that remote may be more equitable, since being in-person can require a long day of travel for some and smaller entities may not have capacity to allow for that travel. Remote also makes it easier to adjust presenters if members go faster or slower than the schedule.

Staff Recommendation:

- Presentations would be given by Zoom for the efficiency, ease, and accessibility it provides to all.
- Members would have the option to attend in person or remotely; however, the chair would be in-person.
- Presentations would each be 15 minutes: 5 to present and 10 for Q&A (same as past years) with additional discretion to go over this time allotment if needed, especially for proposals requesting over \$1m.
- No PowerPoints (to cut down on transition time; same as past years)
- Presentations would be roughly 9am-5pm (8-hour long days of presentations, other business, and 30-minute lunch breaks). Excess meeting dates would be cancelled.

Approximate LCCMR meeting scenarios for different number of presentations and length of meeting days

Time Slot (minutes)	# of Proposal Presentations	Total Hours Presentations (rounded)	# Of 8-hour Meeting Days (rounded)	# Of 6-hour Meeting Days (rounded)	# Of 4-hour Meeting Days (rounded)
15	88	27	3-4	4-5	6
15	94	29	3-4	5	7 (not possible with current schedule)
15	102	31	4	5	7 (not possible with current schedule)