



**LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES**

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Becca Nash, Director

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, July 20, 2023**

**Time: 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM**

**Location: HYBRID: Room G23, Minnesota State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155 and through electronic means ([YouTube](#))**

**Members Present:** Rep. Patty Acomb, Rita Albrecht, Rep. Jeff Backer, Sen. Kari Dziedzic, William Faber, Nancy Gibson, Sen. Steve Green, Rep. Rick Hansen, Rep. Josh Heintzeman, Rep. Athena Hollins, Sen. Founq Hawj, Shona Langseth, Seth Moore, Sen. Kelly Morrison, Jeremy Peichel, Michael Reese, Sen. Torrey Westrom

**Staff Present:** B. Nash, M. Varien, M. Campana, N. Fribley, D. Griffith

**Members Excused:**

**Members Absent:**

**Co-Chair: Rep. Rick Hansen**

Commissioner Hansen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**1. [00:00:46] Roll call attendance**

Chair Hansen asked for a roll call. Diana Griffith took roll call for attendance. There were 11 members present at the time of roll call, and nine were needed for a quorum.

Member	Attendance	Member	Attendance
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	Yes	Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	absent
Commissioner Albrecht	Yes	Commissioner Hollins – Rep	Yes
Commissioner Backer – Rep	Yes	Commissioner Langseth	Yes (remote)
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	excused	Commissioner Moore	absent
Commissioner Faber	Yes	Commissioner Morrison – Sen	absent
Commissioner Gibson	Yes	Commissioner Peichel	Yes
Commissioner Green - Sen	Yes (remote)	Commissioner Reese	Yes (remote)
Commissioner Hansen – Rep	Yes	Commissioner Westrom – Sen	excused
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	absent		

**2. [00:02:37] (Agenda Item #3) Members report potential conflicts of interest regarding today's business**

Commissioner Moore joined the meeting remotely.

**Member Conflict of Interest Report - M.L. 2024 (FY25)**

Rep. Patty Acomb, Rita Albrecht, Rep. Jeff Backer, Sen. Kari Dziedzic, William Faber, Nancy Gibson, Sen. Steve Green, Rep. Rick Hansen, Rep. Josh Heintzeman, Rep. Athena Hollins, Sen. Founq Hawj, Shona Langseth, Seth Moore, Sen. Kelly Morrison, Jeremy Peichel, Michael Reese, Sen. Torrey Westrom

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<b>Proposal ID</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Members With Conflict of Interest</b>	<b>Direct Personal Financial Interest in the Organization</b>
2024-022	Shannon	Wettstein	Morrison County Historical Society Streambank Stabilization and Restoration	Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District	William Faber	Yes
2024-064	Audrey	Mularie	Local Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Grant Programs	MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division	Jeremy Peichel	
2024-076	Eric	Buchanan	Improving Agricultural Ecosystems through Autonomous Weed Control	U of MN, WCROC	Michael Reese	Yes
2024-136	Kent	Skaar	Minnesota State Trails Development	MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division	Jeremy Peichel	
2024-139	Alison	Nyenhuis	The Boundary Waters is Our Backyard	Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness	Kelly Morrison	
2024-277	Edward	Quinn	Growing the Minnesota Bison Conservation Herd	MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division	Jeremy Peichel	

**3. [00:04:22] (Agenda Item #2) Approve minutes for June 27, 2023 and June 28, 2023**

MOTION [00:04:27]: Commissioner Faber moved the minutes for June 27, 2023 – motion prevailed.

MOTION [00:04:51]: Commissioner Faber moved the minutes for June 28, 2023 – motion prevailed.

**4. [00:05:08] Director’s report**

Commissioner Hawj joined the meeting.

Commissioner Heintzeman joined the meeting.

Commissioner Morrison joined the meeting.

Commissioner Westrom joined the meeting remotely.

Director Nash provided an update on the following items:

- a. The site visits will be discussed later today.
- b. The Clean Water Council has sent an invitation to attend their site visits on September 18 and 19.
- c. On August 23, we will be having our project manager orientation and training, and members are welcome to attend.
- d. There is a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Peer Review currently open to review research projects recommended for funding.
- e. LCCMR’s office will be temporarily moving to the Centennial Building on December 1 for the next 2 years.

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- f. We are hiring two grant monitoring specialists, and the deadline for applications is Monday, July 24 at 4:30 pm.

### 5. [00:09:26] Action: Proposal Allocation Recommendations for the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund for FY25

Director Nash provided an explanation of the materials for this agenda item, and Mike Campana provided an overview of the members evaluation #2 results. Members discussed.

Commissioner Dziedzic joined the meeting remotely.

MOTION: Commissioner Hawj moved the Chairs' Motion as follows:

To recommend the Initial Agreement as shown on lines 5 to 107 in the column titled "Compiled Member Evaluation #2 Average \$ Amount" on the spreadsheet labeled "Members 2024 RFP LCCMR Proposal Allocations Initial Agreement, as of July 18, 2023" with the following adjustments:

1. Reduce the Emerging Issues Account (line 102) to \$821,000.
2. Increase from the average allocation to the full request amount all proposals selected by 17 members, with the following exception:
  - a. 2024-073 Enhancing Wastewater Treatment while Bioprospecting for Novel Pharmaceuticals (line 12) remains at the average allocation amount.
3. Increase from the average allocation to the full request amount all proposals selected by 16 members.
4. Increase the average allocation by 4% for all proposals selected by 15 members, with the following exceptions:
  - a. 2024-277 Growing the Minnesota Bison Conservation Herd (line 84) remains at the average allocation amount.
  - b. 2024-113 Spring Lake Park Reserve Restoration and River Access (line 74) remains at the average allocation amount.
5. Remove the following proposal from the recommendations:  
2024-152 Red River Basin Nutrient Offset Plan (line 106)
6. Specify that funding for the following projects would be provided through a grant agreement with the State of Minnesota and that work would be in cooperation with the public agenc(ies) and academic entities named in the proposal:
  - a. 2024-251 Effects of Conservation Grazing on Solar Pollinator Habitat
  - b. 2024-257 Breaking the PFAS Cycle with a Full-Scale Demonstration
7. Request staff to develop draft bill language for review by the commission and to allow staff to make small dollar amount and technical changes as needed to correct any errors.

Director Nash explained the conflict of interest for the members.

Chair Hansen explained Commissioner Hawj's motion. Members discussed.

AMENDMENT: Commissioner Westrom moved to amend Commissioner Hawj's motion to fund Line 12 titled "Enhancing Wastewater Treatment while Bioprospecting for Novel Pharmaceuticals", U of MN, (ID: 2024-073) from the spreadsheet titled "Members 2024 RFP LCCMR Proposal Allocations Initial Agreement, as of July 18, 2023" at the fully requested amount of \$690,000.

Members discussed.

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RENEWED AMENDMENT [00:45:41]: Commissioner Westrom moved to amend Commissioner Hawj’s motion to fund Line 12 titled “Enhancing Wastewater Treatment while Bioprospecting for Novel Pharmaceuticals”, U of MN, (ID: 2024-073) from the spreadsheet titled “Members 2024 RFP LCCMR Proposal Allocations Initial Agreement, as of July 18, 2023” at the fully requested amount of \$690,000 and reduce the emerging issues account (line 102) by \$137,000 – motion did not prevail (6 Yes / 11 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Acomb - Rep		X	Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	X	
Commissioner Albrecht		X	Commissioner Hollins – Rep		X
Commissioner Backer – Rep	X		Commissioner Langseth		X
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen		X	Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber		X	Commissioner Morrison – Sen		X
Commissioner Gibson		X	Commissioner Peichel		X
Commissioner Green - Sen	X		Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hansen – Rep		X	Commissioner Westrom – Sen	X	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen		X			

Members continued the discussion.

AMENDMENT [01:16:21]: Commissioner Westrom moved to amend Commissioner Hawj’s motion to fund Line 106 titled “Red River Basin Nutrient Offset Plan”, Red River Basin Commission, (ID: 2024-073) from the spreadsheet titled “Members 2024 RFP LCCMR Proposal Allocations Initial Agreement, as of July 18, 2023” at \$469,000, subject to the contingency that funds are only allocated to municipalities with populations under 5,000, and reduce the emerging issues account (line 102) by \$469,000 – motion did not prevail (7 Yes / 10 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Acomb - Rep		X	Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	X	
Commissioner Albrecht		X	Commissioner Hollins – Rep		X
Commissioner Backer – Rep	X		Commissioner Langseth		X
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen		X	Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber		X	Commissioner Morrison – Sen		X
Commissioner Gibson		X	Commissioner Peichel	X	
Commissioner Green - Sen	X		Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hansen – Rep		X	Commissioner Westrom – Sen	X	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen		X			

Members continued the discussion.

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RENEWED MOTION [01:24:30]: Commissioner Hawj renewed his motion:

To recommend the Initial Agreement as shown on lines 5 to 107 in the column titled “Compiled Member Evaluation #2 Average \$ Amount” on the spreadsheet labeled “Members 2024 RFP LCCMR Proposal Allocations Initial Agreement, as of July 18, 2023” with the following adjustments:

1. Reduce the Emerging Issues Account (line 102) to \$821,000.
2. Increase from the average allocation to the full request amount all proposals selected by 17 members, with the following exception:
  - a. 2024-073 Enhancing Wastewater Treatment while Bioprospecting for Novel Pharmaceuticals (line 12) remains at the average allocation amount.
3. Increase from the average allocation to the full request amount all proposals selected by 16 members.
4. Increase the average allocation by 4% for all proposals selected by 15 members, with the following exceptions:
  - a. 2024-277 Growing the Minnesota Bison Conservation Herd (line 84) remains at the average allocation amount.
  - b. 2024-113 Spring Lake Park Reserve Restoration and River Access (line 74) remains at the average allocation amount.
5. Remove the following proposal from the recommendations:  
2024-152 Red River Basin Nutrient Offset Plan (line 106)
6. Specify that funding for the following projects would be provided through a grant agreement with the State of Minnesota and that work would be in cooperation with the public agenc(ies) and academic entities named in the proposal:
  - a. 2024-251 Effects of Conservation Grazing on Solar Pollinator Habitat
  - b. 2024-257 Breaking the PFAS Cycle with a Full-Scale Demonstration
7. Request staff to develop draft bill language for review by the commission and to allow staff to make small dollar amount and technical changes as needed to correct any errors.

– motion prevailed (11 Yes / 3 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	X		Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep		X
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Hollins – Rep	X	
Commissioner Backer – Rep		X	Commissioner Langseth	X	
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	X		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber	abstained		Commissioner Morrison – Sen	X	
Commissioner Gibson	X		Commissioner Peichel	X	
Commissioner Green - Sen		X	Commissioner Reese	abstained	
Commissioner Hansen – Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	excused	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X				

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6. **[01:27:20] Action: Revenue reinvestment and extension for M.L. 2022, Chp. 94, Sec. 2, Subd. 10k, ‘Developing Markets for Continuous Living Cover Crops’, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Margaret Wagner, \$500,000**

Director Nash provided an overview. Members discussed.

MOTION [01:31:00]: Commissioner Backer moved to recommend to the 2024 Legislature a technical correction to exempt M.L. 2022, Chp. 94, Sec. 2, Subd. 10k titled “Developing Markets for Continuous Living Cover Crops (ID: 2022-305) from the net income requirements in 116P.10 (c) and to extend the appropriation from June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2026 – motion prevailed (15 Yes / 0 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	X		Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	X	
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Hollins – Rep	X	
Commissioner Backer – Rep	X		Commissioner Langseth	X	
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	excused		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner Morrison – Sen	X	
Commissioner Gibson	X		Commissioner Peichel	X	
Commissioner Green - Sen	X		Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hansen – Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	excused	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X				

7. **[01:32:01] Action: Work plans for projects funded in M.L. 2023**

- a. **Approve workplans ready for consideration**  
- Posted workplans for M.L. 2023 appropriations
- b. **Plan for remaining work plan(s)**

Michael Varien provided an update on M.L. 2023 appropriations ready for approval. Members discussed.

MOTION [01:35:29]: Commissioner Gibson moved to approve the work plan for Line 4, “Neonicitinoid Impacts on Minnesota Deer and Prairie Chickens”, on the spreadsheet titled “Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Final Work Plan Review and Approvals – M.L. 2023 (FY2024) – July 20, 2023”, including any approval notes and contingencies listed on the spreadsheet – motion prevailed (12 Yes / 3 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	X		Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep		X
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Hollins – Rep	X	
Commissioner Backer – Rep		X	Commissioner Langseth	X	
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	excused		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner Morrison – Sen	X	
Commissioner Gibson	X		Commissioner Peichel	X	
Commissioner Green - Sen		X	Commissioner Reese	X	

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Commissioner Hansen – Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	excused	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X				

**8. [01:40:18] (Agenda Item #9) Update on site visits on September 19-21, 2023**

Noah Fribley provided an overview of the upcoming site visits on September 19-21. Mr. Fribley reminded members there will be survey sent that will be due Wednesday, July 26.

**9. [01:46:00] (Agenda Item #8) Presentation: Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center, Nicholas Phelps and Cori Mattke**

- M.L. 2013, Chp. 52, Sec. 2, Subd. 06a; M.L. 2017, Chp. 96, Sec. 2, Subd. 06a
  - Subproject 24: Genetic method for control of invasive fish species
- M.L. 2019, 1st Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 6(a)
  - Subproject 35: Genetic biocontrol of invasive species - understanding attitudes and risk perceptions
  - Subproject 36: RNA-interference screens for zebra mussel biocontrol target genes

Nicholas Phelps, MAISRC, provided an overview of the MAISRC subprojects listed above. Members discussed.

**10. [02:23:14] Presentation: Invasive Species Biocontrol in Bee Lawns and Parklands, U of MN, Vera Krischik**

- M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 06d - \$425,00

Vera Krischik provided an overview of Invasive Species Biocontrol in Bee Lawns and Parklands. Members discussed.

**11. LCCMR Other Business**

Commissioner Moore proposed changes to future allocation processes. Members discussed.

**12. Public Testimony**

There was no public testimony.

**13. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.