



LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

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Becca Nash, Director

MINUTES

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location: In Person: Room G-23, Minnesota State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155 and through electronic means ([YouTube](#))

Members Present: Rita, Albrecht, Michelle Beeman, William Faber, Rep. Peter Fischer, Sen. Steve Green, Sen. Fong Hawj, Rep. Josh Heintzeman, Rep. Sydney Jordan, Rep. Leon Lillie, Sen. Jennifer McEwen, Seth Moore, Sen. Aric Putnam, Michael Reese, Rep. Roger Skraba, Sen. Torrey Westrom

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

Members Excused: Monica Hedstrom and Shona Langseth

Members Absent:

Co-Chair: Senator Fong Hawj

Co-Chair Sen. Hawj called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. Roll call attendance

Chair Hawj asked for a roll call. Diana Griffith took roll call for attendance. There were 10 members present at the time of roll call, and nine were needed for a quorum.

Member	Attendance	Member	Attendance
Commissioner Albrecht	Yes	Commissioner Langseth	Excused
Commissioner Beeman	Yes	Commissioner Lillie - Rep	Absent
Commissioner Faber	Yes (remote)	Commissioner McEwen - Sen	Yes (remote)
Commissioner Fischer – Rep	Yes (remote)	Commissioner Moore	Absent
Commissioner Green – Sen	Yes	Commissioner Putnam – Sen	Absent
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	Yes	Commissioner Reese	Yes
Commissioner Hedstrom	Excused	Commissioner Skraba – Rep	Absent
Commissioner Heintzeman - Rep	Yes (remote)	Commissioner Westrom – Sen	Absent
Commissioner Jordan - Rep	Yes (remote)		

2. Approve minutes for April 28, 2025

MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved to approve the minutes for April 28, 2025 – motion prevailed.

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

Members reported the following conflicts of interest for 2026 proposals:

Agenda Item: 02a

Rita Albrecht, Michelle Beeman, William Faber, Rep. Peter Fischer, Sen. Steve Green, Sen. Fong Hawj,
Monica Hedstrom, Rep. Josh Heintzeman, Rep. Sydney Jordan, Shona Langseth, Rep. Leon Lillie,
Sen. Jennifer A. McEwen, Seth Moore, Sen. Aric Putnam, Michael Reese, Rep. Roger Skraba, Sen. Torrey Westrom

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Member Conflict of Interest Report - M.L. 2026 (FY27)					
Proposal ID	First Name	Last Name	Project Title	Organization	Members With Conflict of Interest
2026-149	Veluchamy	Chitraichamy	Ambient Alkaline Hydrolysis, an Emergency Livestock Mortality Disposal	U of MN, WCROC	Michael Reese
2026-168	Veluchamy	Chitraichamy	Integrating Biological-Carbon Capture and Microalgae for Sustainable Biofuel Production	U of MN, WCROC	Michael Reese
2026-255	Kim	Melton	Red River Basin Soil Health Initiative	Red River Basin Commission	Monica Hedstrom
2026-303	Veluchamy	Chitraichamy	Greenhouse Gas Mitigation in Minnesota Livestock Farming	U of MN, WCROC	Michael Reese
2026-318	Tiffany	Wolf	United in Responding to CWD in Minnesota	U of MN, College of Veterinary Medicine	Monica Hedstrom
2026-329	Eric	Buchanan	Making Solar Work for Minnesota Dairy Farmers	U of MN, WCROC	Michael Reese
2026-338	Soon Li	Teh	Evaluating Agrivoltaics on Minnesota's Novel Cold-Hardy Table Grapes	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Michael Reese
2026-396	Skip	Langer	Southeast Minnesota Groundwater Protection and Soil Health Initiative	Olmsted County	Shona Langseth
2026-465	Kerry	Holmberg	Managing Climate using Inverse Modeling: Central Sands Aquifer	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Monica Hedstrom
2026-472	Josh	Pennington	Assessing Recruitment Threats for Imperiled Blanding's Turtles	Department of Military Affairs	William Faber
2026-481	Isaac	Haagen	Resilient Dairy Calf Systems to Support Minnesota's Communities	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Michael Reese

Commissioner Skraba joined the meeting.

Commissioner Lillie joined the meeting.

Commissioner Westrom joined the meeting.

4. Thank you to past commission members

Chair Hawj and Director Nash thanked past members for their contributions to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

5. Director's report

Director Nash provided an update on the following:

- A. Final reports
- B. M.L. 2025 draft work plans
- C. LCCMR staff open positions
- D. Crane Lake visitor center grand opening
- E. Public testimony

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Members discussed.

6. Information and possible discussion: 2025 Session Report

Chair Hawj provided an overview of the special session that occurred on June 9, 2025. Director Nash announced there will be a Session Report at a future LCCMR meeting.

Commissioner Putnam joined the meeting remotely.

7. Action: Emerging Issues presentations and funding recommendations

Director Nash provided a review of the emerging issues account. Members discussed.

a. U of MN, Targeted Outreach for New MN CWD Management Zones, \$185,996, Michael Osterholm

Michael Osterholm and Dr. Cory Anderson gave a presentation on his emerging issues proposal titled, "Targeted Outreach for New MN CWD Management Zones". Members discussed.

Commissioner Moore joined the meeting remotely.

b. U of MN, Accelerating the Revegetation of Peatland Restoration Projects to Enhance Success, \$117,056, Chris Lenhart

Chris Lenhart gave a presentation on his emerging issues proposal titled, "Accelerating the Revegetation of Peatland Restoration Projects to Enhance Success". Members discussed.

c. St. Louis County, Scandinavian Cemetery, \$2,550,000, Rachel Gregg, Carol Andrews, and Jim Foldesi

Rachel Gregg, Carol Andrews, and Jim Foldesi gave a presentation on her emerging issues proposal titled, "Scandinavian Cemetery". Members discussed.

MOTION: Commissioner Albrecht moved to recommend \$325,000 to the project titled "Scandinavian Cemetery", Rachel Gregg, St. Louis County, from the emerging issues account with the caveat that staff can approve the work plan – motion tabled.

MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved to table the motion by Chair Albrecht on approving the emerging issues proposal titled "Scandinavian Cemetery" by Rachel Gregg, St. Louis County – motion prevailed (11 Yes / 4 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Albrecht		X	Commissioner Langseth	Excused	
Commissioner Beeman		X	Commissioner Lillie - Rep	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner McEwen - Sen	X	
Commissioner Fischer – Rep	X		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Green – Sen	X		Commissioner Putnam – Sen	X	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen		X	Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hedstrom	Excused		Commissioner Skraba – Rep		X
Commissioner Heintzeman - Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	X	
Commissioner Jordan - Rep	X				

MOTION: Commissioner Lillie moved to recommend \$186,000 to the project titled, "Targeted Outreach from New MN CWD Management Zones", Michael Osterholm, U of MN, from the emerging issues account– motion did not prevail (7 Yes / 8 No).

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Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Albrecht		X	Commissioner Langseth	Excused	
Commissioner Beeman	X		Commissioner Lillie - Rep	X	
Commissioner Faber		X	Commissioner McEwen - Sen	X	
Commissioner Fischer – Rep	X		Commissioner Moore		X
Commissioner Green – Sen		X	Commissioner Putnam – Sen	X	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X		Commissioner Reese		X
Commissioner Hedstrom	Excused		Commissioner Skraba – Rep		X
Commissioner Heintzeman - Rep		X	Commissioner Westrom – Sen		X
Commissioner Jordan - Rep	X				

MOTION: Commissioner Lillie moved to recommend \$117,000 to the project titled, “Accelerating the Revegetation of Peatland Restoration Projects to Enhance Success”, Chris Lenhart, U of MN from the emerging issues account – motion did not prevail (4 Yes / 11 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Langseth	Excused	
Commissioner Beeman	X		Commissioner Lillie - Rep		X
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner McEwen - Sen		X
Commissioner Fischer – Rep		X	Commissioner Moore		X
Commissioner Green – Sen		X	Commissioner Putnam – Sen		X
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X		Commissioner Reese		X
Commissioner Hedstrom	Excused		Commissioner Skraba – Rep		X
Commissioner Heintzeman - Rep		X	Commissioner Westrom – Sen		X
Commissioner Jordan - Rep		X			

MOTION: Commissioner Skraba moved to take off the table Commissioner Albrecht’s motion to recommend \$325,000 to the project titled, “Scandinavian Cemetery”, Rachel Gregg, St. Louis County, from the emerging issues account with the caveat that staff can approve the work plan – motion prevailed (9 Yes / 6 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Langseth	Excused	
Commissioner Beeman		X	Commissioner Lillie - Rep	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner McEwen - Sen		X
Commissioner Fischer – Rep		X	Commissioner Moore		X

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Commissioner Green – Sen	X		Commissioner Putnam – Sen	X	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen		X	Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hedstrom	Excused		Commissioner Skraba – Rep	X	
Commissioner Heintzeman - Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	X	
Commissioner Jordan - Rep		X			

MOTION: Commissioner Albrecht moved to recommend \$325,000 to the project titled, “Scandinavian Cemetery”, Rachel Gregg, St. Louis County, from the emerging issues account with the caveat that staff can approve the work plan – motion did not prevail (7 Yes / 8 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Langseth	Excused	
Commissioner Beeman	X		Commissioner Lillie - Rep	X	
Commissioner Faber		X	Commissioner McEwen - Sen	X	
Commissioner Fischer – Rep		X	Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Green – Sen		X	Commissioner Putnam – Sen		X
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X		Commissioner Reese		X
Commissioner Hedstrom	Excused		Commissioner Skraba – Rep	X	
Commissioner Heintzeman - Rep		X	Commissioner Westrom – Sen		X
Commissioner Jordan - Rep		X			

8. Action: Continuation of proposal evaluation and recommendation process for 2026 RFP: Presentations time and format

Mike Campana provided a review of the memo with the subject line, “Proposal evaluation and recommendation process - Part 2”. Members discussed.

MOTION: Commissioner Albrecht moved to adopt the following presentation format and timing:

1. Presentations will be held via zoom.
2. Members can attend in person or remotely. Six members (including chair) would need to attend in person to be hybrid.
3. No PowerPoints will be used.
4. Presentations will be 10 minutes each: 5 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for questions and answers, with discretion to go over this time allotment if needed.
5. 30-minute lunch breaks will be provided.

Members discussed.

RENEWED MOTION: Commissioner Albrecht moved to adopt the following presentation format and timing:

1. Presentations will be held via zoom.
2. Members can attend in person or remotely. Six members (including chair) would need to attend in person to be hybrid.

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3. No PowerPoints will be used.
 4. Presentations will be 10 minutes for small projects: 5 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for questions and answers, with discretion to go over this time allotment if needed.
 5. Presentations will be 15 minutes for large projects: 10 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for questions and answers, with discretion to go over this time allotment if needed.
 6. 30-minute lunch breaks will be provided.
- motion prevailed (14 Yes / 0 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Langseth	Excused	
Commissioner Beeman	X		Commissioner Lillie - Rep	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner McEwen - Sen	X	
Commissioner Fischer – Rep	Excused		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Green – Sen	X		Commissioner Putnam – Sen	X	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X		Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hedstrom	Excused		Commissioner Skraba – Rep	X	
Commissioner Heintzeman - Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	X	
Commissioner Jordan - Rep	X				

9. [Agenda Item 10.] Action: Continuation of proposal evaluation and recommendation process for 2026 RFP: Evaluation #2

Mike Campana provided a review of Memo #2 subject line “Proposal evaluation and recommendation process - Part 2”. Members discussed.

MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved to adopt the Evaluation #2 and results compilation process as described in the staff memo with the subject line, “Proposal evaluation and recommendation process - Part 2”.

- motion prevailed (15 Yes / 0 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Langseth	X	
Commissioner Beeman	X		Commissioner Lillie - Rep	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner McEwen - Sen	X	
Commissioner Fischer – Rep	X		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Green – Sen	X		Commissioner Putnam – Sen	X	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X		Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hedstrom	Excused		Commissioner Skraba – Rep	X	
Commissioner Heintzeman - Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	X	
Commissioner Jordan - Rep	X				

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MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved to adopt the process for achieving an initial agreement on recommendations as described in the staff memo with the subject line, "Proposal evaluation and recommendation process - Part 2".

- motion prevailed (14 Yes / 0 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Langseth	Excused	
Commissioner Beeman	X		Commissioner Lillie - Rep	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner McEwen - Sen	X	
Commissioner Fischer – Rep	X		Commissioner Moore	Excused	
Commissioner Green – Sen	X		Commissioner Putnam – Sen	X	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X		Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hedstrom	Excused		Commissioner Skraba – Rep	X	
Commissioner Heintzeman - Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	X	
Commissioner Jordan - Rep	X				

10. [Agenda Item 9.] Action: Discuss and approve selection of 2026 (FY27) Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund proposals for further consideration and presentation

- a. The top 91 (rounded for any ties) proposals determined by tallying individual member selections**
- b. 9 additional proposals selected: 3 each by House, Senate, and Citizens**
- c. Possible additional adjustments**

Mike Campana provided an overview of members' evaluations. Members discussed.

MOTION: Commissioner Westrom moved to invite for presentation and further consideration all proposals selected by 10 or more member (70 projects) as shown on the spreadsheet titled, "Member Compiled Evaluation #1 – M.L. 2026 (FY27)" - motion withdrawn.

Members recessed at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened at 12:18 p.m.

Michael Varien announced the results from House/Senate/Citizen member groups on their selections from the spreadsheet titled, "Member Compiled Evaluation #1 – M.L. 2026 (FY27)":

House Members:

1. ID: 2026-293: "Expanding Adaptive Outdoor Recreation Opportunities Around the BWCA" (Line 153)
2. ID: 2026-450: "Facility Outdoor Improvements" (Line 200)
3. ID: 2026-542: "Anoka Rum River Dam Reconstruction and Modification Project" (Line 239)

Senate Members:

1. ID: 2026-292: "Lake Brophy Park Trail Armoring and Trail Improvements" (Line 227)
2. ID: 2026-293: "Expanding Adaptive Outdoor Recreation Opportunities Around the BWCA" (Line 153)
3. ID: 2026-334: "Scandia Cemetery Shoreline Restoration Project" (Line 192)

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Citizen Members:

1. ID: 2026-292: "Lake Brophy Park Trail Armoring and Trail Improvements" (Line 227)
2. ID: 2026-065: "Fostering Environmental Stewardship through Art" (Line 249)
3. ID: 2026-508: "Climate-Smart Counties and Communities: Collaborative Resiliency Solutions" (Line 169)

Mike Campana reviewed additional Senate proposal selections:

1. ID: 2026-165: "College-School Collaborative to Restore Campuses and Activate Stewardship" (Line 115)
2. ID: 2026-210: "Ash Recovery and Recycling Center" (Line 118)
3. ID: 2026-329: "Making Solar Work for Minnesota Dairy Farmers" (Line 294)
4. ID: 2026-112: "Pollinator Education for Minnesota's Diverse Cultural Communities" (Line 337)

Noah Fribley reviewed additional House proposal selections:

1. ID: 2026-265: "Enhancing Forest Resilience through Collaborative Partnerships" (Lines 371)
2. ID: 2026-382: "Determining Fracture Characteristics for Karst Groundwater Flow Modeling" (Line 125)
3. ID: 2026-384: "Alleviating PFAS Impacts of Biosolids on Agricultural Lands" (Line 158)
4. ID: 2026-182: "A State Trail System for 21st-Century Minnesota" (Line 117)

Becca Nash reviewed additional Citizen proposal selections:

1. ID: 2026-293: "Expanding Adaptive Outdoor Recreation Opportunities Around the BWCA" (Line 153)

Members discussed.

MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved from the spreadsheet titled "Member Compiled Evaluation #1 – M.L. 2026 (FY27)" to invite for presentation and further consideration all proposals selected by 9 or more members (106 proposals) and the following 15 additional proposals selected by the House, Senate, and Citizen members:

1. ID: 2026-065: "Fostering Environmental Stewardship through Art" (Line 249)
2. ID: 2026-112: "Pollinator Education for Minnesota's Diverse Cultural Communities" (Line 337)
3. ID: 2026-165: "College-School Collaborative to Restore Campuses and Activate Stewardship" (Line 115)
4. ID: 2026-182: "A State Trail System for 21st-Century Minnesota" (Line 117)
5. ID: 2026-210: "Ash Recovery and Recycling Center" (Line 118)
6. ID: 2026-265: "Enhancing Forest Resilience through Collaborative Partnerships" (Lines 371)
7. ID: 2026-292: "Lake Brophy Park Trail Armoring and Trail Improvements" (Line 227)
8. ID: 2026-293: "Expanding Adaptive Outdoor Recreation Opportunities Around the BWCA" (Line 153)
9. ID: 2026-329: "Making Solar Work for Minnesota Dairy Farmers" (Line 294)
10. ID: 2026-334: "Scandia Cemetery Shoreline Restoration Project" (Line 192)
11. ID: 2026-382: "Determining Fracture Characteristics for Karst Groundwater Flow Modeling" (Line 125)
12. ID: 2026-384: "Alleviating PFAS Impacts of Biosolids on Agricultural Lands" (Line 158)
13. ID: 2026-450: "Facility Outdoor Improvements" (Line 200)
14. ID: 2026-508: "Climate-Smart Counties and Communities: Collaborative Resiliency Solutions" (Line 169)
15. ID: 2026-542: "Anoka Rum River Dam Reconstruction and Modification Project" (Line 239)

– motion prevailed (14 Yes / 0 No).

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Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Langseth	Excused	
Commissioner Beeman	X		Commissioner Lillie - Rep	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner McEwen - Sen	X	
Commissioner Fischer – Rep	X		Commissioner Moore	Excused	
Commissioner Green – Sen	X		Commissioner Putnam – Sen	X	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X		Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hedstrom	Excused		Commissioner Skraba – Rep	X	
Commissioner Heintzeman - Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	X	
Commissioner Jordan - Rep	X				

11. LCCMR other business

After recess under Agenda Item 10, Director Nash reminded members there will be a poll for attendance for the presentation meetings.

The members general consensus was for staff to schedule at a future LCCMR meeting time for an emerging issues discussion.

12. Public testimony

Written testimony was provided to the members. There was no additional oral public testimony.

13. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.