

LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 29, 2007

Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Room 107 – Capitol

St. Paul, MN 55155

Co-Chair: David Hartwell

Commission Members Present: Sen. Ellen Anderson, Al Berner, Jeffrey Broberg, Rep. Lyndon Carlson, Rep. Ron Erhardt, Sen. Dennis Frederickson, Nancy Gibson, David Hartwell, John Hunt, Mary Mueller, Rep. Kathy Tingelstad, Sen. Pat Pariseau, Sen. Jim Vickerman, Rep. Jean Wagenius.

Staff Present: Dir. J. Velin, M. McDonough, D. Griffith

Excused Absence: S. Thornton, Sen. Satveer Chaudhary, John Herman, Rep. Tom Rukavina

1. Approve agenda

Co-Chair David Hartwell called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. Rep. Lyndon Carlson moved approval of the agenda – motion prevailed.

2. Approve minutes of Dec. 20, 2006 and Jan. 5, 2007 – Co-Chair signs approved minutes

Sen. Jim Vickerman moved to approve the minutes of Dec. 20, 2006 and Jan. 5, 2007 – motion prevailed. Co-Chair Nancy Gibson signed the minutes.

Old Business

3. Update on appointments to LCCMR

John Velin announced that there were two new commission members Rep. Ron Erhardt and Rep. Tom Rukavina.

4. Consider approval of a work program amendment for "Metropolitan Conservation Corridors (MeCC) – Phase II" - M.L. 2005, 1st Special Session, Chp. 1, Art. 2, Sec. 11, Subd. 5b to allow payment for classified staff for the Metro Corridors project with specific accounting for Trust Fund expenditures separate from the regular budget.

John Velin explained the amendment to M.L. 2005, 1st Special Session, Chp. 1, Art. 2, Sec. 11, Subd. 5b. Members would like a better explanation of the word "strategic" on page three of the work program and how it would supplement the regular budget. Rep. Jean Wagenius explained that the Legislative Auditor could provide advice on the supplant/supplement issue.

John Hunt moved approval of the work program amendment - motion prevailed.

7. Review 2007 peer review panel report

Michael McDonough briefly described the peer review process for 2007 projects. Michael passed out a book containing all the information regarding the peer review process from the beginning to the final report. John Velin thanked Michael for a job well done regarding the peer review process. Jeff Broberg said he was very impressed by the work completed by the peer review panel. Rep. Kathy Tingelstad asked what would be the cost to complete a peer review process in the private sector. John Velin explained that it would probably cost several thousands of dollars based on rates these people could charge. John Velin said that a very effusive thank you letter will be written for the peer reviewers for signature by the commission Co-Chairs.

New Business

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- Break at 1:00 p.m. for Ceremonial signing of ML 2007, Chapter 30 in the Governor's Reception Room, Capitol with Governor Tim Pawlenty
5. Introductions – members and staff
All members gave a brief introduction of themselves.
 6. Introductory discussion - (a) reflections on last year and (b) discuss this year's process*
David Hartwell started discussion on reflections from past year. David discussed the fact that they worked as a group instead of anyone's specific agenda.
Nancy Gibson wanted to say as a reflection that she thought there was a lot of time getting to know each other and at the end thought that the group was really getting along. Nancy suggested creating a panel of Minnesota scientists to come in to answer questions from the commission.
Al Berner said last year there was a fair amount of time put towards ranking and how much money towards each project. Any process used this year should be used to the fullest extent possible. Al said he would like to see a plan for a scoring process.
Jim Vickerman would like to have this group look at trails because nothing was in the bonding bill this year.
Ron Erhardt said there is federal money for trails.
Mary Mueller wanted to remind everyone to look at easements. Bring in some experts from other states (i.e. forest easements). Mary is very happy to see there is more time this year. She would like some time to discuss projects with each other before funding recommendations are complete.
Dennis Frederickson wanted to know when Nancy Gibson wanted to have discussion with a scientific panel. Nancy said it was before selecting the next projects.
Jeff Broberg wanted to discuss foundational documents. Jeff Broberg discussed leveraging. He asked staff to find other funding sources for some potential work programs that do not get Trust Fund funding to help them out.
John Hunt was also interested in a panel and would like to see it before establishing the priorities for the RFP. John Hunt would prefer to have the outcome of the statewide plan and other sources before selecting the criteria for the RFP.
David Hartwell would like to see the dollars set upfront for each priority area of new Request for Proposal (RFP).
Lyndon Carlson thinks there should be some form of feedback on the proposals to ask: what are the consequences if there was less or more money?
Al Berner would like to have all day meetings rather than come in for a two hour meeting.
 8. Consider and adopt a "Work program review and approval process" including a consent agenda
John Velin discussed the memo and spreadsheet regarding the work programs. John Velin explained the meaning of a consent agenda for approval of a group of work programs instead of one at a time. John also explained that the work programs not on the consent agenda would be considered one at a time and may even be brought in for another presentation for discussion. It is important that any "consent" agenda process allows any member for any reason to remove an item from the "consent" agenda and place it for individual consideration, even to the extent of requesting a presentation. Some work programs will not be ready for approval by June 5 and 6.
Jean Wagenius brought up the topic of easements. Jean wanted to know if there is a list of the easements in this year's funding cycle. Examples: MLT, TNC, Jean wanted to know what are the different types of easements being discussed this year. David does not know what the answer would be. Jean isn't looking at every details just a draft of what each work program is expecting from their easement. Mary wanted to know if there could be something put together by June 12th.

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John Hunt wanted to remind everyone that work programs all needed to be reviewed and approved by the end of June so the work programs may be started on July 1, 2007. David Hartwell reminded everyone that the consent agenda of work programs should be done quickly so at least the majority of them could be approved and started by July 1, 2007.

Members agreed by consensus to compile and approve a consent agenda on June 5, 2007 and work with specific work programs at future meetings.

9. Review, revise and approve summer / fall calendar

Mary Mueller likes the idea of having an outline of the calendar for the full year. David asked for adoption of the calendar. All members agreed to the calendar.

10. Approve and announce general RFP Issuance and due dates for 2008 and 2009 RFP.

Rep. Kathy Tingelstad moved that the 2008 Request for Proposal (RFP) issue date would be soon after June 26, 2007 LCCMR meeting and the due date would be August 24, 2007 – motioned prevailed.

11. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David Gibson

