

LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Basement Hearing Room, State Office Bldg,

100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

St. Paul, MN 55155

Co-Chair: Rep. Kathy Tingelstad

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

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

Excused Absence: Rep. Tom Rukavina, Sen. Jim Vickerman

Rep. Kathy Tingelstad called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

John Velin discussed the meeting materials for today's meeting. Al Berner requested the scores be sorted by average score instead of by median score.

1. Approve agenda for LCCMR meeting

Rep. Kathy Tingelstad moved to approve the agenda for 10/9/07 – motion prevailed.

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

Rep. Jean Wagenius reported a possible conflict of interest with Ruth Shaw's proposal (Line 4) titled "Prairie Restorations: Genetic Sources and Microbial Associates". Rep. Jean Wagenius did not score on this proposal.

David Hartwell reported a conflict of interest with Line 81 titled "The Minnesota Breeding Bird Atlas" by the Audubon Minnesota and Line 86 titled "Democratizing the Data: Empowering Citizens with Local Information" by 1000 Friends of Minnesota.

Mary Mueller did not declare any conflict of interest but wanted to remind members she does work in the prairie industry and a lot of these proposals are related to the prairie industry.

John Herman reported two conflicts of interest: 1) he is on the Advisory Board for the Trust for Public Land; and 2) is a lawyer for the MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust.

3. Approve minutes of Sept. 24 and Sept. 25, 2007

Sen. Ellen Anderson moved to approve the minutes of 9/24/07 with the year changed from 2008 to 2007 – motion prevailed.

Mary Mueller moved to approve the minutes of 9/25/07 – motion prevailed.

4. A. Members review the results of 2008 proposal scoring

B. Discuss / decide which proposals to call in for presentations

C. Members select proposals for Oct. 15, 16, 22, and 29

John Hunt moved to take the top 51% of the median equalized percentage of all proposals received.

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Dennis Frederickson amended to change it to 50% instead of 51% of the median equalized percentage of all proposals received and include the following four proposals:

Line 117 – titled “County Trail systems for Recreation & Environmental Awareness”

Line 125 – titled “Innovative Low Cost Carbon Footprint Reduction for Schools”

Line 115 – titled “Ojiketa Regional Park”

Line 96 – “Weinberger Lake Shoreland Acquisition”

John Hunt agrees with changing to 50% and would like a discussion on the four proposals under the invited proposals.

Sen. Ellen Anderson discussed the issues of balance in the proposals. She stated that the LCCMR is guardian of the lottery money. We need to consider urban projects and not just out of the metro area. She would like a discussion on some of the metro area.

Rep. Kathy Tingelstad handed out an article from the New York Times dated October 7, 2007 titled “For Schools, Lottery Payoffs Fall Short of Promises”

Al Berner believes that southwestern Minnesota is also lacking in proposals. Nancy Gibson stated she lives in the Metro but doesn't believe we should get into individual projects.

Rep. Jean Wagenius stated that there needs to be protection, conservation, and preservation in the urban areas and that is missing in these proposals. She thought in the future we need to be sensitive to that issue. Nancy Gibson stated she tries to keep that in mind. Rep. Jean Wagenius explained that there is a difference between Metro and Urban.

Rep. Ron Erhardt thinks there should be a list or breakdown of where proposals are located.

Sen. Ellen Anderson completely agrees we need to protect, preserve and enhance all the land in Minnesota. She is concerned a disproportionate amount is out of the urban area. The issues are different, for example:

Line #75 titled “Effects of Urbanization on Terrestrial Carbon Dynamics”

Line # 40 titled “Study of Lawn Subsoil Infiltration on Runoff Volume and Pollutant Export”

Line #38 titled “Inspiring Change in Water Conservation Through Ecological Design”

The issues are different and are not always understood as natural resource issues.

Rep. Jean Wagenius wanted to caution that many urban people have cabins outside of the metro area.

Sen. Pat Pariseau said we have to remember that we are using lottery dollars that come from all over the state. It is expected the Metro will have higher dollars because there is a greater population in Minnesota.

John Hunt renewed his motion to take 51% or above of the median equalized percentage of all proposals received and including Sen. Dennis Frederickson amendment to change it to 50% of the median equalized percentage of all proposals.

Dennis Frederickson moved to amend his proposal to add the following four proposals: Line 117, Line 125, Line 115, Line 96 - Sen. Dennis Frederickson moved for division of the motion

Line 117 – titled “County Trail systems for Recreation & Environmental Awareness” – motion prevailed.

Line 125 – titled “Innovative Low Cost Carbon Footprint Reduction for Schools” – motion withdrawn.

Line 115 – titled “Ojiketa Regional Park” – motion prevailed.

Line 96 – “Weinberger Lake Shoreland Acquisition” – motion prevailed.

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Sen. Ellen Anderson moved to amend John Hunt's motion with the following four proposals:

Line # 38 titled "Inspiring Change in Water Conservation Through Ecological Design"

Line # 40 titled "Study of Lawn Subsoil Infiltration on Runoff Volume and Pollutant Export"

Line #75 titled "Effects of Urbanization on Terrestrial Carbon Dynamics"

Line # 43 titled "Superior Streams Watershed and Stormwater Protection, Restoration, Education"

- motion did not prevail.

Al Berner said he would like to see all proposals with an average equalized score of 50% or higher average equalized % be heard – a total of seven additional proposals.

Sen. Ellen Anderson moved to amend John Hunt's motion to add the seven proposals Al Berner suggested that have a score of 50% or higher average equalized % and also include Line #38 and Line #40.

Proposals 50% or higher with members average equalized %:

Line #84 titled "Restorable Wetlands Inventory"

Line #58 titled "Incentives for Shoreland Conservation through Property Tax Reductions"

Line #9 titled "Best Practices for Native Prairie Management"

Line #42 titled "Land Use, Nutrients, Rough Fish, and Minnesota Wetlands"

Line #85 titled "Wildlife Disease Surveillance: Emerging Disease Assessment System"

Line #75 titled "Effects of Urbanization on Terrestrial Carbon Dynamics"

Line # 43 titled "Superior Streams Watershed and Stormwater Protection, Restoration, Education"

Proposals Sen. Ellen Anderson suggested being included:

Line # 38 titled "Inspiring Change in Water Conservation Through Ecological Design"

Line # 40 titled "Study of Lawn Subsoil Infiltration on Runoff Volume and Pollutant Export"

Sen. Pat Pariseau requested division of the motion to first vote on the proposals that are 50% or higher with members average equalized %:

Line #84 titled "Restorable Wetlands Inventory"

Line #58 titled "Incentives for Shoreland Conservation through Property Tax Reductions"

Line #9 titled "Best Practices for Native Prairie Management"

Line #42 titled "Land Use, Nutrients, Rough Fish, and Minnesota Wetlands"

Line #85 titled "Wildlife Disease Surveillance: Emerging Disease Assessment System"

Line #75 titled "Effects of Urbanization on Terrestrial Carbon Dynamics"

Line # 43 titled "Superior Streams Watershed and Stormwater Protection, Restoration, Education"

- motion prevailed.

Sen. Ellen Anderson requested division of the two proposal remaining.

Line # 38 titled "Inspiring Change in Water Conservation Through Ecological Design" – motion did not prevail (Yes 5, No 9).

Line # 40 titled "Study of Lawn Subsoil Infiltration on Runoff Volume and Pollutant Export" – motion prevailed (Yes 8, No 6).

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Sen. Salveer Chaudhary moved to include Line #21 titled "Roadsides for Wildlife GIS Mapping Project – motion did not prevail (Yes 6, No 9).

John Hunt renewed his motion as amended by members – motion prevailed.

6. Consider approval of Minimum Standards for Forest Conservation Easements for M.L. 2007, Chap. 30, Subd. 4a (continuation)

Members started discussion at 11:15 a.m. and will continue discussion again, if needed after the presentations at 2:30 p.m.

Rep. Tom Rukavina (not present) had a letter for distribution in his absence for all members. Rep. Tom Rukavina requested in his letter a change in the draft of the "Minimum Standards for State Forest Legacy Easements in Minnesota" dated Sept. 25, 2007 on line 309 from "twenty-five acres" to "three-acres".

John Herman moved to put the subcommittee report as recommended by the subcommittee to the full commission as the recommended Minimum Standards Guideline on the table for discussion – motion prevailed.

David Hartwell started discussion on his 3 page of amendment. (Attached)

Break for lunch at noon. Members returned at 1:00 p.m.

5. Begin 2008 Proposal Presentations (as adopted on Sept. 25, 2007)

1:00 p.m. - Presentation on Line # 116 – "Conservation Partners / Environmental Partnerships Matching Grants Program – Wayne Sames (DNR) - \$150,000

1:30 p.m. - Presentation on Line #120 – "Metropolitan Regional Park System Land Acquisition – Arne Stefferud (Metropolitan Council)- \$2,500,000

2:00 p.m. - Presentation on Line #122 – "Local Water Management Matching Challenge Grants – David Wierens (BWSR) - \$1,000,000

Sen. Ellen Anderson asked David Wierens (BWSR) to send the members 4-7 examples of projects that they have.

6. Consider approval of Minimum Standards for Forest Conservation Easements for M.L. 2007, Chap. 30, Subd. 4a

Attached is a strike / underline version of the Minimum Standards that shows numerous amendments considered. Some were withdrawn, some were modified and some merged. The underlined language shows what was adopted. A cleaned up version will be attributed and forwarded to DNR as the LCCMR adopted Minimum Standards.

7. If needed, continue discussion on 2008 proposals

8. Other business

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

