

LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

MINUTES

Monday, October 15, 2007

8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Note: ending time change

Basement Hearing Room, State Office Bldg,

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

St. Paul, MN 55155

Co-Chair: Sen. Jim Vickerman

Commission Members Present: Sen. Ellen Anderson, Al Berner, Jeffrey Broberg, Rep. Lyndon Carlson, 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: J. Velin, S. Thornton, M. McDonough, M. Banker, D. Griffith

Excused: Sen. Satveer Chaudhary

Sen. Jim Vickerman called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

1. Approve agenda for LCCMR meeting

David Hartwell moved to approve the agenda for October 15, 2007 – motion prevailed.

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

Rep. Jean Wagenius again mentioned her son's affiliation with Ruth Shaw (Line #4 titled "Prairie Restorations: Genetic Sources and Microbial Associates", not as a conflict of interest but for information.

3. Proposal presentations every 30 minutes starting at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m. with lunch break from noon until 1:00 p.m. Proposal presentation schedule for October 15, 2007 at <http://www.lccmr.leg.mn/RequestforProposals/2008/October15.pdf>

See attached presentation schedule for today's presentations.

Kathy Smith (Line #60 titled "Martin County Open Ditch Riparian Initiative") will check on what happens for not complying with existing regulations.

John Hunt requested more details on budget from Lucinda Johnson (Line #37 titled "Demonstrating Replicable Physical and Biological Monitoring of Streams").

John Hunt requested more details on budget from Richard Axler (Line #43 titled "Superior Streams Watershed and Stormwater Protection, Restoration, Education").

4. Discussion of scoring for final selections

Discussion started at 5:00 p.m. Rep. Kathy Tingelstad handed out a new sheet that shows subtotals by Request for Proposal (RFP) category of projects under consideration.

David Hartwell opened the discussion on the scoring plan and suggested that October 29 be used for discussion of the proposals presented and October 30 be used to make actual allocations.

David Hartwell proposed using last year's scoring process and explained that all members should go through and score each of the proposals presented – proposals scoring below an agreed upon threshold based on the average scores of all commission members be dropped.

David Hartwell advised that it might be helpful to look at geographic distribution.

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Mary Mueller said that as commission members go through the scoring process they should also list the \$ amount they think should be allocated to any project they want to fund, with the total \$ amount for all desired projects not exceeding the availability of funds.

Sen. Jim Vickerman decided that the commission should go around the table and allow each member to voice any ideas or comments on how to go about scoring for allocations.

Rep. Jean Wagenius stated that she thought proposal line # 104, Public Land for Minnesotans" needed some specific discussion because of its unique nature, possible implications, and legality.

Sen. Ellen Anderson noted that she agreed with Mary's proposal to include \$ amount in the scoring process.

Rep. Nancy Gibson explained that she was disappointed there had been no proposals for prairie acquisition and suggested the commission have a discussion on what was lacking from the proposals received.

Rep. Lyndon Carlson suggested that there were a number of expensive projects and wondered if some of them might be able to do part of their proposed project with only part of the requested funds. He thought that if they were proposals members thought might be worthy of partial funding, the project team for that proposal should be asked what they could do with less money.

John Herman stated he thought it was important to remember that the commission could pose some conditions on certain projects. Additionally, he stated that some projects are following a long-term vision, and so projects should be judged on more than just ranking.

Sen. Dennis Frederickson thought proposal line # 104, Public Land for Minnesotans" needed some specific attention and noted members should keep in mind that for the Vermillion State Park portion to be approved it would need to go through the full legislature before any spending may occur. He also thought it important to look at existing projects requesting additional funding.

Rep. Kathy Tingelstad thought members should pay special attention to categories with few projects and projects that were particularly expensive.

Sen. Pat Pariseau noted that there can be no supplanting in the projects chosen for funding.

John Hunt explained that he thought there should be some deliberation among the full commission before commission members turn in their scores since people might change their minds. He noted that the goal was to fund the best projects of the highest priorities.

Jeff Broberg agreed with John that it was helpful to hear the various perspectives of different commission members on projects in making personal determinations about what projects to support. He also agreed that commission members should score based on the available budget.

Al Berner stated that members need to look at what good a project is providing and what the project will do for a particular resource.

Rep. Ron Erhardt stated that the LCCMR should not fund debt service. He also thought it important to look at the matching funds of each proposal.

David Hartwell explained that they should have this same discussion again before members actually do their scoring. He asked that LCCMR staff create a handout listing proposals according to the regions of the state to which they are most relevant. David explained that on the compiled scores of commission members there should be a threshold under which no further consideration will be given to a proposal, that this would cut off a number of proposals, and that the commission

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should then have a new discussion, followed by new scoring, and then finally have a final discussion.

Rep. Lyndon Carlson stated that the commission needed to take a look at the legal question of proposal line # 104, Public Land for Minnesotans".

David Hartwell moved to have a score sheet created that would allow members to give proposals a score of "High / Medium / No" with each member giving a dollar amount rounded to \$22,800,000 for 2008 funding. Each member will return their sheet to staff and staff has been directed to compile and the bottom 40% based on compiled member scores will be dropped from discussion on October 29, 2007 by the commission – motion prevailed.

5. Other business

6. Next Meeting is on October 16, 2007

Chair for the next meeting is Rep. Kathy Tingelstad.

7. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


