
Susan Thornton, Director

MINUTES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

8:30 a.m. – 6:15 p.m.

State Office Building, Room 5

St. Paul, MN 55155

Members Present: Al Berner, Jeff Broberg, Tom Cook, Sen. Gary Dahms, Sen. Al DeKruif, Sen. Kari Dziedzic, Nancy Gibson, John Herman, Rep. Tom Hackbarth, Norman Moody, Sen. Gen Olson, Rep. Ron Shimanski, Sen. Rod Skoe, Rep. Paul Torkelson, Elizabeth Wilkens

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

Members Absent: Rep. David Dill, John Herman, and Rep. Tom Rukavina

Co-Chair: Nancy Gibson

1. Approve agenda for LCCMR meeting for June 27, 2012

Co-Chair Gibson called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Dahms moved to approve the agenda for LCCMR meeting for June 27, 2012 – motion prevailed.

2. Approve minutes for June 19, 2012 and June 20, 2012

MOTION: Commissioner Cook moved to approve the minutes for June 19, 2012 and June 20, 2012 – motion prevailed.

3. Members report potential conflicts of interest regarding today's business (M.S. 116P.09, Subd. 6, "Conflict of Interest")

Commissioner Broberg reminded members of a letter sent to LCCMR members listing the proposals that he has a conflict of interest. For today, Commissioner Broberg wanted to make note of ENRTF ID: 017-B "Controlling Terrestrial Invasive Plants with Grazing Animals", Hiawatha Valley Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.

4. Process discussion

Commissioner Gibson discussed how the allocations process worked in the past. Members received a written summary of the past allocations process. Members discussed the merits of a biennial or an annual funding cycle. Members agreed to use the allocations process summarized on the handout and confirmed the decision of an annual funding cycle at this time.

Report from working group on contract services and DNR's request for funding of "direct support services": Commissioner Skoe explained to the members that several LCCMR members met on June 26, 2012 to discuss these issues.

Members present were: Nancy Gibson, Jeff Broberg, Sen. Rod Skoe, Rep. Paul Torkelson, Tom Cook.

LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

In summary, Commissioner Skoe report that the members discussed:

DNR "Direct Support Services" requested in the 2012-2013 proposals submitted

- Regarding legislative auditor's report: ENRTF is not a dedicated account of the DNR.
- Indirect costs and institutional overhead are considered ineligible costs. Proposers should be aware of this from the RFP. Allowing overhead is not a good precedent to set, slippery slope.
- Potentially willing to allow costs that are direct and necessary if they are clearly itemized. Not willing to do a flat 6.5%. All costs must be approved in the work plan.
- LCCMR needs to be consistent with all organizations.
- Projects that apply for these funds are expected to be able to support the efforts with existing infrastructure. Funds are intended to supplement and accelerate, not supplant regular budget. Organizations should be ready, willing and able.
- If DNR would like to come in with different budgets before allocations in July that itemize direct and necessary costs we would be willing to consider and make a determination if they will be allowed. This would be viewed favorably. The 6.5% is not viewed favorably.
- They should meet with legislative auditor and then write letter to DNR from co-chairs.

DNR Contract Management

- Contract management services provided by DNR are less than satisfactory.
- We will be exploring other options than DNR between now and December when the final appropriations language is approved.
- We are still willing to work with DNR but if situations can't be resolved then will go with someone else.
- The contract managers are providing a service to LCCMR and LCCMR is the client.

5. Work plan approval: M.L. 2012, Chp. 264, Art. 4, Sec. 3 "Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center" – Peter Sorensen, U of MN

Dr. Peter Sorensen presented an overview.

MOTION: Commissioner Gibson moved to approve the work plan for M.L. 2012, Chp. 264, Art. 4, Sec. 3 "Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center" for \$2,000,000 – motion prevailed.

6. 2012-2013 ENRTF Proposal Presentations – see attached schedule

See Attachment #1 for Presentation Schedule for June 27, 2012.

Members recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

7. Continue 2012-2013 ENRTF Proposal Presentations – see attached schedule

See Attachment #1 for Presentation Schedule for June 27, 2012.

8. Other business (as needed)

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.


