

LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

100 REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD.
ROOM 65 STATE OFFICE BUILDING
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155-1201

Phone: (651) 296-2406
Email: lccmr@lccmr.leg.mn
Web: www.lccmr.leg.mn
TTY: (651) 296-9896 or 1-800-657-3550

Susan Thornton, Director

MINUTES

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

State Office Building, Room 200

St. Paul, MN 55155

Members Present: Jeff Broberg, Sen. Gary Dahms, Sen. Kari Dziedzic, William Faber, Bonnie Harper-Lore, Sen. John Hoffman, Gary Lamppa, Rep. Denny McNamara, Norman Moody, Rep. John Persell, Sen. David Tomassoni, Rep. Paul Torkelson, Rep. Jean Wagenius, Sen. Torrey Westrom, Della Young

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

Members Excused: Nancy Gibson and Rep. Tom Hackbarth

Co-Chair: Sen. David Tomassoni

Co-Chair Tomassoni started the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

1. Approve the minutes for July 12-13, 2016

MOTION: Commissioner Lamppa approved the minutes for July 12-13, 2016 – motion prevailed.

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

MS 116P.09 Subd 6 Conflict of interest. A commission member, technical advisory committee member, a peer review panelist, or an employee of the commission may not participate in or vote on a decision of the commission, technical advisory committee, or peer review panel relating to an organization in which the member, panelist, or employee has either a direct or indirect personal financial interest. While serving on the commission, technical advisory committee, or peer review panel, or being an employee of the commission, a person shall avoid any potential conflict of interest.

Susan Thornton reminded members that all conflict of interests statements that were reported last summer are in this meeting packet and remain as declared conflicts of interest. Members reported no new conflicts of interest for today's meeting.

3. LCCMR Staff Updates

- Grants Management System

Michael Varien gave an overview of the Smartsimple grants management system.

- 2017 Peer Review

Michael McDonough gave an overview of the 2017 peer review process.

- Update on Final Reports Received July 2015 – 2016

Susan Thornton reviewed the final reports received for 2015 and 2016.

- Update on U of MN adjustments being requested for post-doctoral salaries per the federal mandate

LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

Susan Thornton discussed the U of MN adjustments being requested for post-doctoral salaries per the federal mandate. Commissioner Hoffman asked staff to review work plans to see if there is a significant change in what work will be completed in the work plans affected. Susan Thornton explained staff already reviewed the work plans affected by the federal mandate and there are no significant changes in the work plans.

4. **Report of Executive Committee**

Co-Chair Tomassoni gave an overview of the Executive Committee discussions on the LCCMR administrative budget and adoption of \$1,200,000 for FY18-19.

5. **Review and adopt LCCMR 2017 Calendar**

Susan Thornton reviewed the 2017 Calendar.

6. **Update from U of MN regarding resolution of the issues raised in the Office of the Legislative Auditor's report on the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund released on February 11, 2016 – Mike Volna, U of MN Interim Chief Financial Officer**

Michael Volna, U of MN Interim Chief Financial Officer and Koryn Zewers, Senior Analyst U of MN discussed the issues resolved in in the Office of the Legislative Auditor's report on the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund released on February 11, 2016. (See Attached Letter #1)

Co-Chair Tomassoni moved to Agenda Item #8.

7. **Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center (MITPPC) – U of MN, Dr. Robert Venette, Director**

- **Update on research priorities and research funding**
- **Review related LCCMR Recommendation July 13, 2016**

Dr. Robert Venette, Director and Heather Koop, Assistant Director provided an overview of the Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center research. Members discussed.

Co-Chair Tomassoni moved to Agenda Item #9.

8. **Minnesota's Aquatic and Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) – U of MN, Dr. Nick Phelps, Director**

- **Update on research priorities and research funding**
- **Review related LCCMR Recommendation July 13, 2016**

Dr. Nick Phelps, Co-Director of MAISRC, Becca Nash, Assistant Director; and Dan Larkin, Assistant Professor provided an overview of the Minnesota Aquatic and Invasive Species Research Center research. Dan Larkin discussed the Starry Stonewort research.

Co-Chair Tomassoni returned to Agenda Item #7.

9. **Final Report Update on M.L. 2013, Chp. 52, Sec. 2, Subd. 04I "Restoration Evaluation", U of MN, Dr. Susan Galatowitsch, \$200,000**

Dr. Susan Galatowitsch, U of MN and Julie Bohnen, Great River Greening provided an overview of their final report for M.L. 2013, Chp. 52, Sec. 2, Subd. 04I "Restoration Evaluation". Members discussed. Commissioner Wagenius requested that staff provide suggestions as to how they can use the findings of the project in guiding future restoration projects.

LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

10. **Review draft recommendations in the LCCMR Appropriations Bill for the 2017 MN Legislative Session Funding Recommendations from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)**
11. **Continue review draft recommendations in the LCCMR Appropriations Bill for the 2017 MN Legislative Session Funding Recommendations from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)**

Susan Thornton reviewed the Draft LCCMR Appropriations recommendations Bill and draft staff edits to 2017 ENRTF language.

MOTION: Commissioner Dziejcz moved to approve the recommended staff edits to the 2017 ENRTF language – motion prevailed.

MOTION: Commissioner Dziejcz moved to approve the LCCMR Appropriations Recommendation Bill as amended – motion prevailed (unanimous – 15 members present).

Co-Chair Tomassoni moved to Agenda Item #13.

12. **Overview FY18-19 Clean Water Fund (CWF) and Policy Recommendations – Pat Flowers, Clean Water Council Chair; Todd Renville, Budget Subcommittee Vice Chair; and John Barten, Policy Subcommittee Vice Chair**

Pat Flowers, Clean Water Council Chair and John Barten, Policy Subcommittee Vice Chair provided an overview of the FY18-19 Clean Water Fund FY18-19 funding recommendations and policy recommendations. Members discussed.

Co-Chair Tomassoni moved to Agenda Item #14.

13. **Begin Discussion FY19 LCCMR 2018 ENRTF Request for Proposal (RFP)**

Susan Thornton began discussions on the FY19 LCCMR 2018 ENRTF Request for Proposal using the previous 2017 RFP.

Staff reviewed with members the proposed addition under “Project Requirements” to add under the bullet regarding restoration projects the following: and 3) must follow restoration and evaluation practices “Restoration Evaluation Project: Vegetation Monitoring Tool”, “Advancing Ecological Restoration Practice in Minnesota”, “Vegetation Monitoring Protocol”, and “Implementing Planning: Guidance For Determining Best Practices For Restoring Minnesota Ecosystems”. Also, nonprofits organizations must provide 990 tax information from the previous three years and submit a copy of their most recent Guidestar report. In addition there was background provided on capital expenditures to enable further discussion about such initiatives proposals and whether the members wish to address it in the RFP.

Commissioner Wagenius suggested adding in the 2017 Funding Priorities under Category B “Water Resources” a new vi. titled “Maintaining drinking water quality” (i.e. for research to make a plant more effective not to build a plant – no capital investment). Members discussed and decided to add “vi. Drinking Water” under Funding Priority B. Water Resources.

Members discussed the letter from Commissioner Landwehr and his recommendations for the RFP.

There was discussion about ensuring outreach and education for all renewable energy projects funded. It was suggested that under funding priority C. Environment Education (1) “locally led” be

LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

removed to broaden it to enable agencies such as the DNR (in Commissioner's letter) to apply for efforts to engage diverse and changing demographics.

Commissioner Lamppa discussed whether there was any indication in the RFP to encourage local communities to apply for recreation opportunities. Member discussion focused on reworking funding priority G. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation item #4 to be more explicit on encouraging community proposals.

Commissioner McNamara recommended not adopting the 2018 ENRTF Request for Proposal and have the new LCCMR Members after January adopt the 2018 ENRTF Request for Proposal.

Members concurred to have staff update the 2017 ENRTF Request for Proposal and make the edits members suggested at today's meeting.

Members recessed at 12:45 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

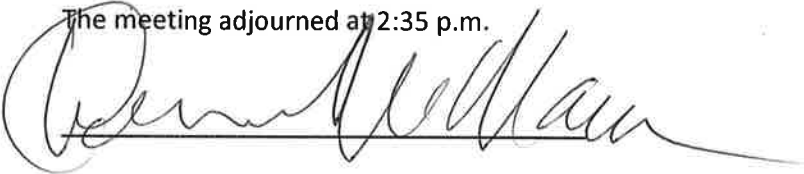
Co-Chair Tomassoni returned to Agenda Item #12.

14. Other business (as needed)

- Next steps in the process
- Next meeting Tuesday, December 6, 2016

15. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan McNamara", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and extends to the right of the line.