

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

MEMO: Agenda Item #6

DATE: February 17, 2021

SUBJECT: 2019 Strategic planning: options for completion

Summary

LCCMR is required to adopt a strategic plan to guide funding for “the next six years.” LCCMR began a strategic planning process in calendar year 2019 but for various reasons did not finish. While the commission received a report containing all of the input collected during the 2019 strategic planning process (the “Strategic Planning Process Results”), a final prioritization and strategic plan document were not produced. The commission instead readopted the 2013 strategic plan (the “Current Strategic Plan”) in July 2020 and requested staff present options at the first meeting in 2021 for completing the 2019 strategic planning. These options are presented below.

Background

Per M.S. 116P.08 Subd. 3, the LCCMR is required to adopt a strategic plan for identifying priority areas for funding for “the next six years.” The statute lays out what kind of information should be considered and included in the strategic plan; additional statutes provide authority for collecting additional information in establishing priorities.

116P.08 TRUST FUND EXPENDITURES.

Subd. 3. Strategic plan required. (a) The commission shall adopt a strategic plan for making expenditures from the trust fund, including identifying the priority areas for funding for the next six years. The strategic plan must be reviewed every two years. The strategic plan must have clearly stated short- and long-term goals and strategies for trust fund expenditures, must provide measurable outcomes for expenditures, and must determine areas of emphasis for funding.

(b) The commission shall consider the long-term strategic plans of agencies with environment and natural resource programs and responsibilities and plans of conservation and environmental organizations during the development and review of the strategic plan.

116P.07 INFORMATION GATHERING.

(a) The commission may convene public forums or employ other methods to gather information for establishing priorities for funding.

116P.09 ADMINISTRATION.

Subd. 3. Appraisal and Evaluation

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

(a) The commission shall obtain and appraise information available through private organizations and groups, utilizing to the fullest extent possible studies, data, and reports previously prepared or currently in progress by public agencies, private organizations, groups, and others, concerning future trends in the protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, forests, fish, wildlife, native vegetation, and other natural resources. Any data compiled by the commission shall be made available to any standing or interim committee of the legislature upon the request of the chair of the respective committee.

LCCMR Process for 2019

After voting on a general outline of a process in December 2018, LCCMR began its strategic planning during calendar year 2019 with the help of hired consultants from the Management and Analysis Division (MAD) of the Department of Management and Budget (MMB). The process involved issue identification and input on priorities from LCCMR members, past and current project managers, stakeholders, and members of the public. This input was gathered through interviews, surveys, open houses, and informal conversations as part of LCCMR's 2019 site visits. For various reasons, the commission was not able to complete work as envisioned at a member workshop in November 2019. While the commission received a report containing all of the input collected during the 2019 strategic planning process (the "Strategic Planning Process Results"), a final prioritization and strategic plan document were not produced. Members instead approved the previous strategic plan for purposes of releasing the 2021 RFP; requested some materials from the November 2019 workshop (the "Member Workshop Document") be appended to the Strategic Planning Process Report; and requested that MAD be invited back to complete the 2019 strategic planning.

MINUTES Thursday, January 16, 2020

RENEWED MOTION: Commissioner Reese renewed his motion to move to add notes from the November 13 strategic planning retreat as an appendix to the Strategic Planning Process Report and request MAD come back to continue strategic planning at a future meeting. – motion prevailed.

MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved to direct staff to work with MMB to develop a new proposal where MMB would continue guiding the LCCMR through the strategic planning process with completion within six months and to give Tri-Chairs authority to accept the proposal and enter into contract with MMB accordingly – motion prevailed.

In July, after receiving a letter from MAD about how the process would proceed, members re-adopted the 2013 strategic plan, which is now in effect (the "Current Strategic Plan"). Members also asked that for the January 2021 meeting, staff present some options for completing the 2019 strategic planning.

MINUTES Wednesday, July 01, 2020

RENEWED MOTION: Commissioner Hansen renewed his motion as amended to stop the strategic planning process for now; adopt the previous strategic plan until new strategic plan is adopted; and that options be presented to members in January 2021 with staff soliciting proposals to complete the 2019 strategic plan – motion prevailed (15 Yes / 1 No / 1 Absent).

Options for completion

Following are four options for member consideration:

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

1. Keep the Current Strategic Plan in effect and thus complete the 2019 strategic planning process. No formal action would be required.
2. Append onto the Current Strategic Plan the 2019 Strategic Planning Process Results, which includes all input received and the Member Workshop Document, thus completing the 2019 strategic planning process.
3. Hire a consultant to pick up approximately at the beginning of the 2019 member workshop and complete the 2019 strategic planning process. Generally speaking, this would include:
 - i. Building agreement from members on the details of the process
 - ii. Holding a workshop in August or September 2021 (likely & generally) to:
 - a. Re-orient to the process thus far and the work remaining to be done
 - b. Re-orient to the input received during the 2019 process
 - c. Re-orient to the draft Priorities and Areas of Emphasis for Funding
 - d. Provide opportunities for member input, language clean-up, and consensus building
 - e. Reach agreement among members
 - iii. Finalizing a written strategic plan document
4. Work with the Office of Conflict and Dispute Resolution (OCDR; in the Department of Administration) for a more intensive assessment of sticking points and to design a process to complete the 2019 strategic planning work. This would generally follow the OCDR's "collaborative problem solving process," which may include some training in collaborative problem solving. Alternately, OCDR may also be willing to serve as consultant for option 3.

Materials

All materials are posted to the 2/22/21 Meeting Page of the website:

[Current Strategic Plan](#)

[2019 Strategic Planning Process](#) - 1 page visual

[2019 Strategic Planning Process Results](#) - 137 pages

[Member Workshop Document](#)