

LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

MINUTES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Room 107 – Capitol

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, Rep. Kathy Tingelstad, Sen. Pat Pariseau, Sen. Jim Vickerman, Rep. Jean Wagenius.

Staff Present: Dir. John Velin, Susan Thornton, Michael McDonough, Diana Griffith

Excused Absence: Sen. Satveer Chaudhary, David Hartwell, John Herman, John Hunt, Mary Mueller, Rep. Tom Rukavina

**1. Approve agenda**

Co-Chair Sen. Jim Vickerman called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Sen. Ellen Anderson moved approval of the agenda – motion prevailed.

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

Jeff Broberg has a conflict with a project in the Outstate Corridors program.

Nancy Gibson has a conflict with the non-game wildlife program.

**5. 2007 Session Report**

John Velin explained what was included in the Session Report and briefly went into Item C related to "Meetings by Telephone or Other Electronic Means".

**7. Review for approval the annual work program for Non Game Wildlife**

Carrol Henderson reviewed the Non Game Wildlife work program for FY08 & FY09.

Carrol discussed the ongoing and future activities of the program.

Dennis Fredrickson moved to approve the Non Game Wildlife Work Program – motion prevailed.

**3. Approve minutes of May 29, 2007 – Co-Chair signs approved minutes**

Al Berner and Sen. Dennis Frederickson approved the minutes from May 29, 2007 – motion prevailed.

**6. Review and approve work programs for 2007 funding including Consent and non-consent items**

- **Work program booklet was handed out May 29 and posted on website since May 22**

John Velin explained the two worksheets (one for consent agenda and another for approval later). Al Berner asked to move Subd. 5n (Cedar Creek Groundwater Project using Prairie Biofuel Buffers) and Subd. 5c (Land Retirement Effects on Minnesota River Basin Streams) and Nancy Gibson asked for Subd. 4b2e1 (HCP – Lower Butcher Knife Chain Waterfowl Restoration) be moved to the agenda for later approval.

The following work programs have been moved from the consent agenda to the agenda for later approval:

Subd. 4b2c&3c (HCP – Living Lakes Enhancements and Easements);

**Summary**  
**June 5, 2007 Notes**

**Biofuels and Prairie Grasses**

- Need evaluation of impact on prairies
- Need evaluation of habitat implications
- How expand local genetic seed sources to meet potential demand?
- Concern about impact on local genetics of native plants
- Restriction on RIM acres – this could be a source of seeds to harvest
- How repopulate the landscape with native plants? Strategize and expand the seed stock.
- Need an ecological approach – high diversity
- Need to inventory on a watershed basis what is available to raise native plants
- Need to review BWSR inventory on marginal lands, RIM reserve easements
- Review the map produced by Clarence Lehman of the potential for biofuel production.
- State operated native prairie seed nursery?

**Forest Management and fragmentation**

- Native species management
- Review conservation options, including zoning
- Development pressures
- Impacts from global warming

**Trails**

- Important to the population
- Use Native species along trails
- Cost share with federal funding?

**Roadsides**

- Plant with native species

**Water**

- Groundwater quantity and quality
- More proactive with grey water reuse
- Great Lakes Compact – prevention of pollution and protection of quantity
- Need to change culture to more water conservation orientation
- Drinking water
- Water use impacts on natural resources
- Wetlands: Should we have easement to protect groundwater supported wetlands?

- Shoreline management – need demonstrations and enforcement of buffer requirements
- Research on springs/streams
- What is sustainable yield?
- Relationship to Clean Water Legacy funding and activities?

#### **Invasive species**

- Research - aquatic and terrestrial

#### **Carbon footprint**

- Education and evaluation

#### **Population and land**

- More people in MN and What can we do in 2008 about having more people in the future and less land available? How can we more proactively accommodate the future growth of the population?

#### **Wildlife**

- Need research on different population (e.g. moose)

#### **2006 Process**

- Consider using the same priorities and process

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