



**LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES**

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Becca Nash, Director

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 7, 2023**

**Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

**Location: REMOTE through electronic means ([YouTube](#))**

**Members Present:** Rep. Patty Acomb, Rita Albrecht, William Faber, Nancy Gibson, Sen. Steve Green, Rep. Rick Hansen, Sen. Fong Hawj, Rep. Josh Heintzeman, Rep. Athena Hollins, Shona Langseth, Seth Moore, Sen. Kelly Morrison, Jeremy Peichel, Michael Reese

**Staff Present:** B. Nash, M. Varien, M. Campana, N. Fribley, T. Dietrich, D. Griffith

**Members Excused:** Rep. Jeff Backer, Sen. Kari Dziedzic, Sen. Torrey Westrom

**Members Absent:**

**Co-Chair: Rep. Rick Hansen**

Chair Hansen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**1. Roll call attendance**

Chair Hansen asked for a roll call. Diana Griffith took roll call for attendance. There were 12 members present at the time of roll call, and nine were needed for a quorum.

Member	Attendance	Member	Attendance
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	Excused	Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	Yes
Commissioner Albrecht	Yes	Commissioner Hollins – Rep	Yes
Commissioner Backer – Rep	Excused	Commissioner Langseth	Yes
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	Excused	Commissioner Moore	Absent
Commissioner Faber	Yes	Commissioner Morrison – Sen	Yes
Commissioner Gibson	Yes	Commissioner Peichel	Yes
Commissioner Green - Sen	Yes	Commissioner Reese	Yes
Commissioner Hansen – Rep	Yes	Commissioner Westrom – Sen	Excused
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	Yes		

**2. Approve minutes for November 16, 2023**

MOTION: Commissioner Albrecht moved the minutes for November 16, 2023 – motion prevailed.

Commissioner Moore joined the meeting remotely.

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

Rep. Patty Acomb, Rita Albrecht, Rep. Jeff Backer, Sen. Kari Dziedzic, William Faber, Nancy Gibson, Sen. Steve Green, Rep. Rick Hansen, Sen. Fong Hawj, Rep. Josh Heintzeman, Rep. Athena Hollins, Shona Langseth, Seth Moore, Sen. Kelly Morrison, Jeremy Peichel, Michael Reese, Sen. Torrey Westrom

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Members reported the following conflicts of interest:

Proposal ID	First Name	Last Name	Project Title	Organization	Members With Conflict of Interest	Direct Personal Financial Interest in the Organization
2024-022	Shannon	Wettstein	Morrison County Historical Society Streambank Stabilization and Restoration	Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District	William Faber	Yes
2024-064	Audrey	Mularie	Local Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Grant Programs	MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division	Jeremy Peichel	
2024-076	Eric	Buchanan	Improving Agricultural Ecosystems through Autonomous Weed Control	U of MN, WCROC	Michael Reese	Yes
2024-136	Kent	Skaar	Minnesota State Trails Development	MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division	Jeremy Peichel	
2024-139	Alison	Nyenhuis	The Boundary Waters is Our Backyard	Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness	Kelly Morrison	
2024-277	Edward	Quinn	Growing the Minnesota Bison Conservation Herd	MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division	Jeremy Peichel	

In addition, Commissioner Peichel reported a potential conflict for M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art 6. Sec. 2, Subd. 09u – State Parks and State Trails In-Holdings (Agenda Item 7).

#### 4. Director’s report

Director Nash announced staff is working from home until December 18 because of the renovation occurring at the State Office Building, the tunnel from the State Office Building to the Capitol is closed, and the subcommittee meeting will start 30 minutes after adjournment today.

#### 5. Completed Project Presentation: M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 04f - Improving Drinking Water for Minnesotans through Pollution Prevention, U of MN, Raymond Hozalski, \$345,000

Raymond Hozalski and William Arnold, U of MN, provided an overview of their completed project titled, “Improving Drinking Water for Minnesotans through Pollution Prevention”. Members discussed.

#### 6. Completed Project Presentation: M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 05b - Connecting Students to Boundary Waters, Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, Alison Nyenhuis, \$450,000

Alison Nyenhuis, Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, provided an overview of their completed project titled, “Connecting Students to Boundary Waters”. Members discussed.

#### 7. Action: Request for approval to purchase land in public ownership - M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art 6. Sec. 2, Subd. 09u – State Parks and State Trails In-Holdings (2021-371), MN DNR State Parks and Trails Division, Shelby Kok, \$2,560,000

Michael Varien provided an overview of MN DNR’s request for approval to purchase land in public ownership, known as the Illgen Truck Station, currently owned by the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Shelby Kok, MN DNR, gave a presentation on their request.

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MOTION: Commissioner Gibson moved to approve the purchase of land in public ownership under M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 09u – State Parks and State Trails In-Holdings (ID: 2021-371).

Members discussed. Joseph Pignato, Director of Land Management, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Shelby Kok, MN DNR, and Phil Leversedge, Deputy Director, Parks and Trails Division, MN DNR, answered members' questions.

Chair Hansen tabled the motion.

### 8. Information: Final reports for projects completed in 2023

Director Nash provided an overview of the final report spreadsheet. Members discussed.

### 9. Action: Approve 2025 RFP

Director Nash provided an overview of the changes in the 2025 Request for Proposals (RFP).

Noah Fribley provided an overview of the results from the survey titled "LCCMR Member 2025 RFP Feedback Survey". Members discussed.

MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved to go with the majority responding to questions #2 and #3 on the survey titled "LCCMR Member 2024 RFP Feedback Survey – Results" so the following changes would not be included in the 2025 RFP:

1. Deleting "Proposals to develop new curriculum will not be considered" as shown under Environmental Education (Category C, subsection 2) on page 4 of the draft RFP.
2. Adding "Establishment of ecosystem service markets" as a new subsection as shown under Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat (Category F, subsection 5) on page 5 of the draft RFP.

AMENDMENT: Commissioner Gibson amended Commissioner Reese's motion by retaining the struck language under Environmental Education (Category C, subsection 2) on page 4 of the draft RFP and editing it to read, "Proposals to develop new curriculum may be considered". Commissioner Reese accepted the amendment.

RENEWED MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved to:

1. Retain the struck language under Environmental Education (Category C, subsection 2) on page 4 of the draft RFP and edit it to read, "Proposals to develop new curriculum may be considered".
2. Not add "Establishment of ecosystem service markets" as a new subsection as shown under Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat (Category F, subsection 5) on page 5 of the draft RFP.

Members discussed.

RENEWED AMENDMENT – Commissioner Gibson renewed her amendment to Commissioner Reese's motion by retaining the struck language under Environmental Education (Category C, subsection 2) on page 4 of the draft RFP and editing it to read, "Proposals to develop new curriculum will not be considered except to allow new modules within existing curriculum or updating curriculum to reflect current state of knowledge and art." Commissioner Reese accepted the amendment.

RENEWED MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved to:

1. Retain the struck language under Environmental Education (Category C, subsection 2) on page 4 of the draft RFP and edit it to read, "Proposals to develop new curriculum will not be considered except to

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allow new modules within existing curriculum or updating curriculum to reflect current state of knowledge and art.”

2. Not add “Establishment of ecosystem service markets” as a new subsection as shown under Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat (Category F, subsection 5) on page 5 of the draft RFP.

Members discussed.

Commissioner Reese divided his motion into two motions.

MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved to go with the majority responding to question #3 on the survey titled “LCCMR Member 2024 RFP Feedback Survey – Results” so the following change would not be included in the 2025 RFP:

Adding “Establishment of ecosystem service markets” as a new subsection as shown under Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat (Category F, subsection 5) on page 5 of the draft RFP.

- motion prevailed (10 Yes / 1 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	Excused		Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	Excused	
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Hollins – Rep	X	
Commissioner Backer – Rep	Excused		Commissioner Langseth	X	
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	Excused		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner Morrison – Sen	Excused	
Commissioner Gibson	X		Commissioner Peichel		X
Commissioner Green - Sen	X		Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hansen – Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	Excused	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X				

Commissioner Acomb joined the meeting remotely.

MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved to retain the struck language under Environmental Education (Category C, subsection 2) on page 4 of the draft RFP and edit it to read, “Proposals to develop new curriculum will not be considered except to allow new modules within existing curriculum or updating curriculum to reflect current state of knowledge and art.” - motion prevailed (12 Yes / 1 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	X		Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	Excused	
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Hollins – Rep	X	
Commissioner Backer – Rep	Excused		Commissioner Langseth	X	
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	Excused		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner Morrison – Sen	X	
Commissioner Gibson	X		Commissioner Peichel	X	

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Commissioner Green - Sen		X	Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hansen – Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	Excused	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X				

MOTION: Commissioner Reese moved to adopt the 2025 Request for Proposal (RFP) including edits adopted today with the caveat that staff can make technical changes – motion prevailed (12 Yes / 1 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	X		Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	Excused	
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Hollins – Rep	X	
Commissioner Backer – Rep	Excused		Commissioner Langseth	X	
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	Excused		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner Morrison – Sen	X	
Commissioner Gibson	X		Commissioner Peichel	X	
Commissioner Green - Sen		X	Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hansen – Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	Excused	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X				

Director Nash announced the RFP will be available online January 2 or 3, 2024, whichever is the first day of business.

**10. Action: Approve M.L. 2024 Recommendations**

**a. Peer review results (if available)**

Director Nash provided an update on the projects being peer reviewed.

**b. Draft bill language**

Director Nash provided an overview of the ENRTF Recommendations bill. Members discussed.

MOTION: Commissioner Hollins moved to approve the LCCMR Recommendations bill for the 2024 Legislative Session with the caveat that staff may make technical changes – motion prevailed (10 Yes / 1 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	X		Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	Excused	
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Hollins – Rep	X	
Commissioner Backer – Rep	Excused		Commissioner Langseth	X	
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	Excused		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber	Abstained		Commissioner Morrison – Sen	X	

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Commissioner Gibson	X		Commissioner Peichel	X	
Commissioner Green - Sen		X	Commissioner Reese	Abstained	
Commissioner Hansen – Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	Excused	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X				

**11. LCCMR Other Business**

Chair Hansen announced that Commissioner Morrison would like to be an alternate when Commissioner Hawj cannot attend the Subcommittee on Strategic Planning meetings.

MOTION: Commissioner Albrecht moved to have Commissioner Morrison as an alternate member of the Subcommittee on Strategic Planning – motion prevailed (13 Yes / 0 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	X		Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	Excused	
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Hollins – Rep	X	
Commissioner Backer – Rep	Excused		Commissioner Langseth	X	
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	Excused		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner Morrison – Sen	X	
Commissioner Gibson	X		Commissioner Peichel	X	
Commissioner Green - Sen	X		Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hansen – Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	Excused	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X				

Members discussed creating a recommendation for a second bill to the 2024 Legislature related to Agenda Item #7.

MOTION: Commissioner Langseth moved to make a recommendation to the 2024 Legislature to facilitate the transfer of an approximately 39-acre parcel of land in Lake County from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) for an addition to Tettegouche State Park – motion prevailed (10 Yes / 2 No).

Member	Y	N	Member	Y	N
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	X		Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	Excused	
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Hollins – Rep	X	
Commissioner Backer – Rep	Excused		Commissioner Langseth	X	
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	Excused		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner Morrison – Sen	X	
Commissioner Gibson	X		Commissioner Peichel	Excused	

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Commissioner Green - Sen		X	Commissioner Reese		X
Commissioner Hansen – Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	Excused	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	X				

Chair Hansen thanked Commissioner Gibson for her years of service on the LCCMR. Commissioner Gibson made some remarks.

MOTION: Commissioner Gibson moved to cancel the December 14, 2024, meeting – motion prevailed (12 Yes / 0 No).

<b>Member</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
Commissioner Acomb - Rep	X		Commissioner Heintzeman – Rep	Excused	
Commissioner Albrecht	X		Commissioner Hollins – Rep	X	
Commissioner Backer – Rep	Excused		Commissioner Langseth	X	
Commissioner Dziedzic - Sen	Excused		Commissioner Moore	X	
Commissioner Faber	X		Commissioner Morrison – Sen	X	
Commissioner Gibson	X		Commissioner Peichel	X	
Commissioner Green - Sen	X		Commissioner Reese	X	
Commissioner Hansen – Rep	X		Commissioner Westrom – Sen	Excused	
Commissioner Hawj – Sen	Excused				

**12. Public Testimony**

There was no public testimony.

**13. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

*Signed by Dr. William Faber  
Minutes approved at LCCMR meeting on February 5, 2024*