

Minutes of a Meeting of the Outdoor Heritage Advisory Board  
Held on March 10, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.  
Microsoft Teams

Present: Robert Kuylen, OHF Advisory Board Chairman  
Randy Bina, OHF Advisory Board  
Tyler Dokken, OHF Advisory Board  
Rhonda Kelsch, OHF Advisory Board  
Wade Moser, OHF Advisory Board  
Rachel Retterath, OHF Advisory Board  
Randy Kreil, OHF Advisory Board  
David Dewald, OHF Advisory Board  
Tom Claeys, OHF Advisory Board  
Tom Hutchens, OHF Advisory Board  
Andrea Travnicek, OHF Advisory Board

Also

Present: Andrea Pfennig, Industrial Commission

Chairman Robert Kuylen called the meeting of the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board (“Board”) to order at 3:00 p.m. with a quorum being present.

Ms. Andrea Pfennig, Industrial Commission Deputy Executive Director, provided an overview of bills that reference the Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF), as follows.

- HB 1088: This bill would remove requirement for SWC to include OHF as local match.
  - Status: Passed House and Senate.
- SB 2014: Industrial Commission appropriations bill. It includes an appropriation of \$7.5 million per fiscal year, for a total \$15 million for the biennium.
  - Hearing: Thursday, March 11th at 2:00 p.m. – Brynhild Haugland room (House Appropriations – Gov Ops Division)
- HB 1009: Ag Department appropriations bill. It includes an appropriation of \$200,000 from OHF to the Ag Dept. for a soil health cover crop grant program.
  - Status: Hearing was held on Monday, March 8th by the Senate Appropriations.
- HB 1215: This would create a revolving loan fund from 10% of the funds deposited into OHF, not to exceed \$25 million for all projects that would be eligible for an OHF grant. The funds would start accumulating after July 31, 2021 but would not be able to be spent until after July 31, 2025. The loan program would be administered by BND, but the Board would make recommendations regarding loans.
  - Hearing: Friday, March 12th at 10:00 a.m. – Peace Garden room (Senate ENR)

Discussion was held regarding the bills. It was noted by several members that a joint letter would be submitted from their respective organizations regarding HB 1215 outlining shared concerns with the bill. The letter also requests that the bill be amended into an interim study resolution. The potential focus of a study was discussed. Mr. Hutchens suggested that the study could include possibilities of an endowment. Ms. Pfennig suggested a study regarding the economic impact OHF projects have in the State. It was the consensus of the Board that this could provide good information and Ms. Pfennig should determine an estimated cost of the study.

Some members expressed a wish to have the proposed soil health cover crop program go through the current OHF review procedures. The Board asked Ms. Pfennig to determine which senators are serving on the subcommittee for HB 1009 and provide contact information.

A question was raised regarding the impetus for HB 1088. Ms. Pfennig indicated that this provides consistency for the State Water Commission. Currently, OHF funds must be considered part of the local match, while other state funds such as Game and Fish Dept. funds are not.

No formal action was taken by the Board.

With no further business, Chairman Kuylen adjourned the meeting at 3:38 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert Kuylen". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line. A small green cursor is visible above the end of the signature.

Bob Kuylen, Chairman