

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

Present: Robert Kuylen, OHF Advisory Board Chairman
Randy Bina, OHF Advisory Board
Tyler Dokken, OHF Advisory Board
Brad Erickson, OHF Advisory Board
David Dewald, OHF Advisory Board
Daryl Lies, OHF Advisory Board
Wade Moser, OHF Advisory Board
Kent Reiersen, OHF Advisory Board
Rachel Retterath, OHF Advisory Board
Rhonda Kelsch, OHF Advisory Board
Terry Steinwand, OHF Advisory Board
Randy Kreil, OHF Advisory Board
Tom Claeys, OHF Advisory Board
Tom Hutchens, OHF Advisory Board
Andrea Travnicek, OHF Advisory Board

Also

Present: This meeting was open through Microsoft Teams so not all attendees are known

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. Pfennig provided a Post Legislative Update. Bills were discussed as follows.

- HB 1088: Removed requirement for SWC to include OHF as local match, effective August 1st, 2021.
- SB 2014: Industrial Commission appropriations bill; includes an appropriation for OHF of \$7.5 million per fiscal year, for a total \$15 million for the biennium.
- HB 1009: Ag Department appropriations bill; directs the Ag Dept. to apply to OHF for up to \$400,000 for a soil health cover crop grant program. The OHF Advisory Board shall consider the application.
- HB 1452: Establishes the Clean Sustainable Energy Authority to support research, development, and technological advancements through partnerships and financial support for the large-scale development and commercialization of projects, processes, activities, and technologies that reduce environmental impacts and increase sustainability of energy production and delivery. CSEA consists of 8 voting members and 8 nonvoting technical advisors, which includes 1 member appointed by the OHF Advisory Board.
- HB 1215: This bill had many variations over the course of the session. A hoghouse amendment was introduced that would have established an OHF Grasslands Fund that would run parallel with OHF. The amendment failed. Another hoghouse amendment was introduced and passed by S ENR to exempt buildings that need repairs or replacement due to damage caused by an act of God from needing a comprehensive conservation plan, and to modify Directive A to read: Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen the public, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen recreation and enhance the recreational experiences and opportunities on public lands. The amendment failed on the Senate floor.

General themes of the legislative session were discussed. There appeared to be misinformation about OHF and its accomplishments. Staff is developing a communication plan to address this in the interim. However, we will need help from our partners to get information out.

There was significant interest in funding parks – deferred maintenance on infrastructure and new infrastructure. Covid has brought a renewed interest in outdoor activities.

There was also significant interest in maintaining grasslands. However, the timing of topic impacted the funding.

Ms. Kelsch provided a report on the Conservation Marketing Program. This project is in the early development stages. Federal funding was obtained for the project, but it will have many partners. This will be a tool for people to find information about OHF as well.

Ms. Pfennig suggested the following grant application deadlines be recommended to the Industrial Commission for the 21-23 biennium: September 1st, 2021, March 1st, 2022, September 1st, 2022, May 1st, 2023.

It was moved by Tom Hutchens and seconded by Tyler Dokken to recommend the grant application deadlines for the 2021-2023 biennium as follows: September 1st, 2021, March 1st, 2022, September 1st 2022, May 1st, 2023.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Pfennig notified the Board that the terms for the Chair and Vice Chair were expiring, and elections would be held at the June 15, 2021 meeting.

Ms. Pfennig reported that the following projects have been completed since the Board last met.

- 014-148 Cattail Bay Recreation Area Improvement
- 016-168 Turtle Lake Park
- 016-167 Columbus Cougar Park
- 012-132 Hay Creek Bank Stabilization
- 009-112 Grand Forks County Prairie Management Toolbox
- 015-161 McKenzie Bay Recreation Area Improvements
- 001-010 Antelope Creek Wild Rice Corridor Watershed Restoration Project
- 011-122 Middle Sheyenne River Watershed Project
- 014-147 Richardton Park Beautification
- 012-131 Livestock & Wildlife Dams – Wetland Creation & Enhancement

With no further business, Chairman Kuylen adjourned the meeting at 4:02 p.m.



Bob Kuylen, Chairman