

# Minnesota State Senate

Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee  
Thursday, April 3, 2025  
3:00 PM, 1150 Minnesota Senate Bldg.

## Minutes

**Present:** Senator FOUNG Hawj - **Chair**, Senator Steve Green - **Ranking Minority Member**, Senator Steve Drazkowski, Senator Grant Hauschild, Senator John A. Hoffman, Senator Ann M. Johnson Stewart, Senator Mary K. Kunes, Senator Andrew R. Lang, Senator Nathan Wesenberg

**Absent:** Senator Jennifer A. McEwen - **Vice Chair**

Senator FOUNG Hawj called the meeting to order at 3:06pm. Quorum is present. Senator Hoffman has gavel. Senator Hawj gets gavel back at 3:50pm.

### Call To Order

**S.F. 2077: Senator Hawj: Environment and natural resources appropriations and provisions modifications.**

Senator Green offered the A1 amendment. Passed by a voice vote.

The following individuals testified on S.F.2077:  
Bob Meier, Assistant Commissioner, DNR  
Andrew Morley, Director, Environment Policy, MN Chamber of Commerce

Senator Hoffman moved that S.F. 2077, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

**S.F. 2547: Senator Hawj: Environment and natural resources trust fund community grant program grants appropriation.**

The following individuals testified on S.F.2547:

- o Bob Meier, Assistant Commissioner Department of Natural Resources
- o Mike Harley, Executive Director, Environmental Initiative
- o James Trice, Founder & CEO, Public Policy Project

Senator Hoffman moved that S.F. 2547, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

**S.F. 3015: Senator McEwen: Water availability atlas development appropriation and siting methodology.**

Johnson-Stewart presenting  
The following individuals testified on S.F.3015:

- o Katie Smith, Ecological and Water Resources Division Director, Department of Natural Resources
- o Dr. Carrie Jennings, Research and Policy Director, Freshwater

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 3015, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

**S.F. 593: Senator Hauschild: St. Louis County and City of Duluth all-terrain vehicle trails and studies appropriations.**

Senator Hauschild offers the A-2 amendment. Passed by voice vote.

The following individuals testified on S.F.0593:

- o Paul McDonald (REMOTE)
- o Susan Schubert, Minnesota Public Lands Coalition (REMOTE)
- o Willis Mattison, Professional Ecologist, Izaak Walton League of America (REMOTE)

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 593, as amended, laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

**S.F. 594: Senator Hauschild: St. Louis County all-terrain vehicle trails appropriation.**

The following individuals testified on S.F.0594:

- o Nick Wognum, Prospector Loop ATV & ATV Minnesota
- o Bruce Beste

Susan Schubert (REMOTE)

Willis Mattison

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 594, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

**S.F. 2258: Senator Kunesh: Provisions to petition for preparation of environmental assessment worksheets modifications.**

Senator Green offered the A-1 amendment. Roll called 4/4. Amendment does not pass.

The following individuals testified on S.F.2258:

- o Catherine Neuschler, Environmental Quality Board Ex. Dir.

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 2258, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

**S.F. 1247: Senator Kunesh: Pesticide provisions modification to protect wild rice waters.**

Senator Kunesh offered the A-2 amendment. Passed by voice vote.

The following individuals testified on S.F.1247:

- o Eugene Sommers - District 2 Representative White Earth Nation (REMOTE)
- o Leanna Goose, Rise and Repair Alliance Co-Facilitator and Organizer
- o Evan Mulholland, Program Director, MCEA
- o Bob Meier, Assistant Commissioner, DNR
- o Steve Morse, MN Environmental Partnership
- o Rev. Susie Hayward, Minister of Justice and Formation, Creekside UCC
- o David Toutloff - Elder of the Bois Forte Band
- o Patty O'Keefe, Community Member
- o Annette Drewes, Wild Rice Connections
- o Joshua Preston, R.I.S.E. Coalition
- o Alison (Doe) Hoyer, Student, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities
- o Gina Peltier
- o Thomas Houle
- o David Toutloff, Elder of the Bois Forte Band (REMOTE)
- o Dawn Goodwin (REMOTE)

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 1247, as amended, laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

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**The meeting was adjourned at 5:38pm**



Senator Fong Hawj, Chair



Maikao Vue, Legislative Assistant