

MINNESOTA LAND EXCHANGE BOARD MINUTES

The Minnesota Land Exchange Board met virtually on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. Board members Governor Tim Walz, State Auditor Julie Blaha, and Attorney General Keith Ellison were present. Luke Anderson and Tom Kerr represented the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

1. The minutes of the March 21, 2025, Land Exchange Board meeting were considered and unanimously approved.
2. DNR recommended final approval of Land Exchange A10036 between The Conservation Fund and the State of Minnesota. The exchange will consolidate land holdings for the state. The Conservation Fund, in turn will sell the land to Ecosystem Investment Partners (EIP) adding to a currently existing wetland mitigation bank owned and managed by EIP.

The request was considered and unanimously approved.

3. DNR recommended final approval of Land Exchange B10026 between The Conservation Fund and St. Louis County. The exchange will consolidate tax forfeited land holdings and The Conservation Fund, in turn will sell the land to Ecosystem Investment Partners (EIP) adding to a currently existing wetland mitigation bank owned and managed by EIP.

The request was considered and unanimously approved.

4. DNR recommended final approval of Land Exchange B10028 an internal exchange involving tax forfeited land for county fee owned land in Beltrami County. The exchange will consolidate tax forfeited land holdings and allow for the facilitation of a wastewater treatment facility in Northern Township.

The request was considered and unanimously approved.

5. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requested that they be authorized to purchase 200.01 acres of fee land, 49.62 acres of wetland easements and 877.31 acres of habitat easements. Additionally, the service requested they be authorized to purchase 309.81 acres of habitat easements. This acquisition request had been held over from the postponed, then canceled May 2025 meeting. The acquisitions had the certification of the respective County Boards.

The request was considered and unanimously approved by the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Julie Blaha
State Auditor and Secretary
of the Land Exchange Board