

MEETING NOTES: State Emblems Redesign Commission: Dec. 12 Mtg.

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2023

1-5 pm; 6-8 pm

[Meeting was held hybrid (in-person, with a Zoom link available)]

Location:

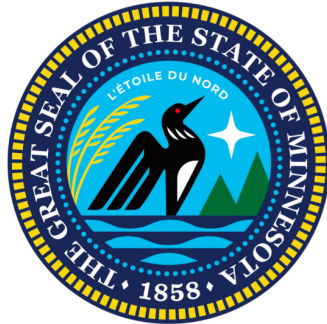
Room 1200, Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Ave W, St. Paul, MN 55155

AGENDA

- Call to Order / Welcome
 - *Chair Fitch called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm*
- Roll Call / Attendance
 - *Lindsey Dyer conducted attendance:*
 - *12/13 voting SERC members present (not present: President Robert 'Deuce' Larsen)*
 - *4/4 ex officio SERC members present*
- Adoption of Agenda
 - *Motion to approve the agenda was made by Wittnebel; seconded by Harralson*
 - *No discussion; agenda was approved*
- Updates from Chair/Vice Chair
 - *Chair Fitch welcomed the media and the public to the meeting and expressed gratitude for the contributions to the SERC process thus far; Secretary Simon was wished a Happy Birthday*
 - *The finalist flag designers were acknowledged and welcomed*
 - *Expectations were set for the day's meeting: review and potentially adopt the seal, and review the flag designs with the hopes of narrowing the number of finalists*
- Finalize adoption of seal design elements, then finalize adoption of seal
 - *Chair Fitch led a discussion of various design and content elements for the state seal; multiple motions resulted in the eventual adoption of the seal:*
 - *Wittnebel made a **motion to include a red eye on the loon***
 - *The motion was seconded by Harralson*
 - *The motion was voted on by roll call:*
 - *12/12 present voting members voted aye, which was a unanimous approval of the motion*
 - *Harralson made a **motion to include the trees from Sample B** (reference attachment: 2023_12_12_SERC_Flag_Seal_Variations)*
 - *The motion was seconded by Jackson*
 - *The motion was voted on by roll call:*

- 12/12 present voting members voted aye, which was a unanimous approval of the motion

Seal - B



UPDATED A - NO STARS, RED EYE

- Wittnebel made a ***motion not to include the 19 stars from the original design***
 - The motion was seconded by Whitworth
 - The motion was voted on by roll call:
 - 12/12 present voting members voted aye, which was a unanimous approval of the motion
- Wittnebel made a ***motion approve the 4 pointed star for use in the seal***
 - The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Gaul
 - The motion was voted on by roll call:
 - 12/12 present voting members voted aye, which was a unanimous approval of the motion
- Vice Chair Gaul made a ***motion to remove the motto on the seal as represented on Seal F***
 - The motion was seconded by Wittnebel
 - The motion was voted on by roll call:
 - 11/12 present voting members voted aye
 - 1/12 abstained (Wittnebel)

Seal - F



NO WRITING

- **Secretary Simon made a *motion to include 1858 on the seal***
 - *The motion was seconded by McKenzie*
 - *The motion was voted on by roll call:*
 - *3/12 present voting members voted aye (McKenzie, Secretary Simon, Wittnebel)*
 - *8/12 present voting members voted no (Dr. Beane, Bennett McGinty, Buck, Chair Fitch, Vice Chair Gaul, Harralson, Jackson, Mazone)*
 - *1/12 abstained (Whitworth)*
 - *The motion did not pass, and was not adopted.*
- **Buck made a *motion not to include the date and year on the state seal as represented on Option L***
 - *The motion was seconded by Dr. Beane*
 - *The motion was voted on by roll call:*
 - *9/12 present voting members voted aye (Dr. Beane, Bennett McGinty, Buck, Chair Fitch, Vice Chair Gaul, Harralson, Jackson, Mazone, McKenzie)*
 - *(not present: President Robert 'Deuce' Larsen)*
 - *2/12 present voting members voted no (Secretary Simon, Wittnebel)*
 - *1/12 abstained (Whitworth)*

Seal - L



NO DATE, NO MOTTO

- **Buck made a motion to include “MNI SÓTA MAKOCE” where the state motto is located as represented on Seal K**
 - The motion was seconded by Harralson
 - The motion was voted on by roll call:
 - 7/12 present voting members voted aye (Dr. Beane, Bennett McGinty, Buck, Chair Fitch, Vice Chair Gaul, Harralson, Mazone)
 - 4/12 present voting members voted no (Jackson, McKenzie, Secretary Simon, Whitworth)
 - 1/12 abstained (Wittnebel)

Seal - K



ENGLISH V2

- **Harralson made a motion to adopt the Great Seal of Minnesota as amended through today's proceedings**
 - The motion was seconded by Buck
 - The motion was voted on by roll call:
 - 10/12 present voting members voted aye (Dr. Beane, Bennett McGinty, Buck, Chair Fitch, Vice Chair Gaul, Harralson, Jackson, Mazone, McKenzie, Secretary Simon)

- 2/12 present voting members voted no (Whitworth, Wittnebel)
- Statements by flag design finalists
 - Flag design finalists were invited to present on their design process and rationale; they were given 4 minutes to testify with a brief Q&A period to follow
 - Presenters included:
 - F1154: Ross Bruggink
 - F1435: Sarah (Giizh) Agaton Howes
 - F29: Brandon Hundt
 - F2100: John Muller
 - F944: Todd & Peter Pitman
 - F1953: Andrew Prekker (via written testimony)
 - Commission members thanked the designers for their presentations
- Flag finalist design review / working session
 - Chair Fitch led a discussion of the final 6 flag design variations
 - Commission members were offered 6 stickers to select their preferred design(s); members were presented with the opportunity to select a single design (with all 6 stickers) or break them up into multiple selections

Recess (60 mins)

- Commission reconvened at 6pm
- [Continued] Flag finalist design review / working session
 - Chair Fitch presented the commission with the results of the first sticker selections:
 - F1953: 19 stickers
 - F2100: 15 stickers
 - F944: 12 stickers
 - F1154: 10 stickers
 - F1435: 8 stickers
 - F29: 8 stickers
 - Harralson made a **motion to move forward with F1953, F2100, and F944 while keeping elements from other designs in consideration**
 - The motion was seconded by McKenzie
 - The motion was voted on by roll call:
 - 12/12 present voting members voted aye, which was a unanimous approval of the motion
 - Chair Fitch continued a discussion of the design elements from the flags that were resolved to move forward in the process (F1953, F2100, and F944)
 - Commission members discussed variants to keep or remove, thus winnowing down the variant options
- Future meetings and next steps
 - The commission discussed whether/not to meet on Dec. 15 due to fast design/production turnaround of the final variants; it was decided to meet in

person on Dec. 15 pending the ability of designers to complete the variants prior to meeting

- Adjourn
 - *Chair Fitch adjourned the meeting at 8pm*

Attachments:

- *2023_12_12_SERC_Flag_Seal_Variations*