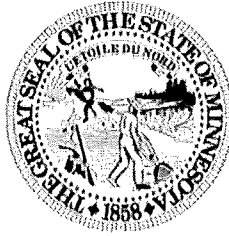


**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
Executive Department



**Governor Tim Walz**

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**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT**

President of the Senate

**David Hartwell**

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed you to the office of:

**Public Member**

**Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council**

Effective: March 30, 2021

Expires: January 6, 2025

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

Signed and sealed March 25, 2021.



Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

**Tim Walz**  
Governor

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.

**Steve Simon**  
Secretary of State

Reappointment

Filed on March 25, 2021  
Office of the Minnesota  
Secretary of State,  
Steve Simon

# Application for the position Public Member

## Part I: Position Sought

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**Agency Name:** Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council  
**Position:** Public Member

## Part II: Applicant Information

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**Name:** MN David Hartwell  
**Phone:** (763) 201-6556  
**County:** Hennepin  
**Mn House District:** 61A  
**US House District:** 5  
**Recommended by the Appointing Authority:** False

## Part III: Appending Documentation

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### Cover Letter and Resume

Type	File Type
Cover Letter	application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document
Resume	application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document

### Additional Documents (.doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt)

Type	File Name
No additional documents found.	

**Veteran:** No Answer

## Part V: Signature

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**Signature:** David Hartwell  
**Date:** 11/22/2020 10:01:23 AM

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President of the Senate

## DAVID HARTWELL

1767 Fremont Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55403  
763-201-6556  
[david@dbhartwell.com](mailto:david@dbhartwell.com)

November 20, 2020

Governor Tim Walz  
130 State Capitol  
75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Speaker Melissa Hortman  
463 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Walz and Speaker Hortman,

I am writing you to request reappointment to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. I have served on the council since its inception after the passage of the Legacy Amendment in 2008 and twice elected as the chair by council members.

I was first appointed by Speaker Kelliher, reappointed by Speaker Theisen and then reappointed by Governor Dayton. Governor Dayton reappointed me when it was clear that Speaker Daught would not consider me after I challenged him over the Republican move to remove a project from the White Earth Nation after being recommended by the LSOHC (something I felt was a racist decision - I am proud to have voiced my concerns).

I have brought an unusual set of conservation skills and understandings to the council. This includes:

- Experience in land protection both directly and on a strategic level. I negotiated my first conservation easement in 1986 and have been directly involved in well over to 50 conservation fee and easement transactions. On a strategic level, I lost track years ago of the number of transactions I have advised on through my service as the founding president of the Minnesota Land Trust, on the lands committee of the National Audubon Society and advising other organizations. I was also a founder of the Land Trust Accreditation Commission which set up an accreditation program for lands trusts nationwide insuring sustainable and high-quality land protection projects.
- Experience in habitat restoration and enhancement work through work with dirty hands and strategic involvement. This includes prairie and savannah restoration and enhancement (including 35 years' experience as a burn crew boss), vertebrate and plant based invasive species management and streambank restoration.
- Clear strategic understanding of conservation issues though decades of work with numerous non-profit environmental organizations doing work in Minnesota, nationally and internationally. My experience you can find on my resume but the exposure I have gotten as a result of the exposure to

complex conservation issues around the world and the development of strategic initiatives is quite significant and includes landscape level protection strategy development, specific species focused conservation plans to policy development and promotion.

- Exposure to and involvement with conservation related scientific study. Early in my career, I worked at a waterfowl research center which gave me a deep appreciation of the value of (and sometimes limitations from) scientific research. I have over the years worked with many scientists and their studies and have a deep appreciation of how science can and should lead practical conservation work and its importance.

I am the only member of the council who has served on it since its inception and therefore bring a unique historical perspective to the recommendations and decisions. Importantly, I have worked successfully with other council members who often come from and with very different perspectives. The council has elected me as chair of the council 3 times (as well as vice chair and treasurer).

The last time I was elected chair, it was with a request from me that the council also elect Ron Schara as vice chair so we could work as a team. Ron and I have points where we disagree, sometimes significantly, on approaches to conservation issues but have agreed to disagree respectfully at times, work together on what we agree upon and support the overall will of the council even if it is not what we would do independently. The council has been well served by having us serve together and work through challenging conservation issues constructively. This is something I have tried to do with every councilmember during my service.

There are many conservation issues that our state faces and the council through its strategic plan and recommendations address. One of my great strengths is that I do not approach the work of the council from the perspective of a single conservation organization or species, but rather, from an overall conservation perspective.

If I had one piece of advice I could give you, if you choose not to reappoint me, please appoint someone that brings this general perspective rather than a focus on a species, habitat or geography.

It has been a great honor to serve the state in my role on the council and I would like to believe I have brought both a diverse conservation perspective and a solid background in strategic thinking and management. I have earned the respect of the other members of the council and its staff and would respectfully request that in a way you manage internally, one of you reappoint me.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have. Thank you for your consideration of my application for reappointment to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.

Sincerely,

David Hartwell

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President of the Senate

## DAVID HARTWELL

1767 Fremont Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55403 – (763) 201-6556 – [david@dbhartwell.com](mailto:david@dbhartwell.com)

### Summary

Seasoned executive and strategic entrepreneur who understands and thrives dealing with the complexities of creating, managing and changing businesses and organizations. Built and ran a successful composite panel manufacturing business while at the same time providing leadership guidance to numerous, mostly environmental entities. After an exit in 2015 from the composites business, he continues involvement in businesses, primarily on a board level as well as environmental work.

David's environmental work runs from the hands on side of removing buckthorn and managing prescribed fires to managing a multitude of fee and conservation easement transactions to leading complex board level efforts on strategic and governance issues. He is one of the few conservation leaders with the diversity of actual experience to help guide strategic decisions based on fieldwork.

### Work History

2015 – Current – Consulting and board work in privately held enterprises. This has involved business transitions and turnarounds, strategic planning, trust/estate/charitable planning for individuals and families and board work.

1989 – 2015 – Bellcomb, Inc., Minneapolis, MN – Founder and President. Built the company into a leading designer and supplier of structural lightweight panels and panel systems for OEMs not involved in the aerospace industry supplying customers in North America, Europe and Asia. Developed unique Minnesota production capacities able to make a wide diversity of products with of 50M square feet of panel production annually in 225,000 square feet of manufacturing space which included internal production of various honeycomb core materials. Beyond general management/oversight, managed large customer relationships, led the manufacturing design/innovation efforts and was deeply involved in product design effort.

1983 – 1989 – Consultant – Worked in numerous industries and roles including setting up a soft sided waterbed manufacturing facility in Texas, leading a turnaround of a Minnesota investment advisory business, assisting numerous Minneapolis nonprofits with fundraising/management efforts and providing business management services.

1979 – 1982 – Wave Manufacturing, Rapid City, SD – President – Built this bedroom furniture manufacturing company from a small company supplying locally based businesses into one with customers in 27 states.

1975 – 1979 – Land-O-Nod, Minneapolis, MN – Positions included product manager and developer of soft sided waterbed product line, territory sales, transportation manager. Started on the manufacturing floor and as a truck driver and was promoted up from there.

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### Community Involvement – Non-Profit Board Memberships

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1974 – Current – Belwin Conservancy, Afton, MN – President (1986 – Current). Led the organization from being a 225-acre environmental education facility for St. Paul Public Schools to one having 1,500 acres with active community

recreational facilities, extensive habitat restoration programs, research, bison, art programs, public hiking trails and environmental education programs.

2006 – Current – National Audubon Society, New York, NY – Vice Chair (2012 – Current), Chair of Finance Committee and Revenue Task Force as well as on the Executive, Land, Investment, Conservation Committees. Was the point person on the board that forced a change and transition from an underperforming, deficit ridden organization with inadequate leadership to a high performing one. The story of this turnaround was investigated and written up as a Harvard Business School Case Study.

2008 – Current – Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council, St. Paul, MN – (Chair 2011 – 2015 & 2019 - Current), Past Secretary and Treasurer. LSOHC recommends allocation of 1/3 of the funds from the Minnesota voter approved Constitutional Legacy Amendment, over \$120M annually, to projects protecting, restoring and enhancing habitat around Minnesota. Appointed twice to four-year terms by two Speakers of the House and once by the Governor.

2001 – 2011 and 2018 to Current – Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Chair (2008 – 2011), Finance Committee Chair (2003 – 2008 and 2019 - present) and elected as a Life Trustee in 2018 – This art and design college is one of the top rated in the country with growing enrollment and budget surpluses.

2002 – 2020 – Conservation Minnesota and Conservation Minnesota Voter Fund – Served as Chair (2011 – 2014), Treasurer and member of Executive Committee.

2009 – 2019 – Island Conservation – Chair (2012 – 2016), Treasurer (2016 – 2019). This organization does eradications of invasive species from islands around the world to protect endangered and threatened species.

1993 – 2015 – Land Trust Alliance – Treasurer (1995 – 2004), Chair of Development Committee, Chair of Program Committee and a member of the Executive Committee for most of the time of board service. Served as a founding Land Trust Accreditation Commissioner from 2006 through 2010.

2005 – 2008 – Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources. – Co-Chair – Recommends funds to the legislature from the Environmental Trust Fund. Previously served as a member of the Citizen’s Advisory Committee to the LCMR and worked to convert it to a legislative citizen commission. Elected Co-Chair upon establishment and served in that capacity until resigning to join the LSOHC.

2000 – 2008 – Campaign for Conservation, Chair and Vote Yes Legacy Campaign, Treasurer – Founded this effort and led the coalition that established a significant revenue source for habitat conservation, clean water, parks and cultural heritage through a constitutional amendment in Minnesota raiding sales taxes 3/8 of 1% for 25 years or \$7.5B. This involved passage by the legislature and approval of the voters of the state by a 56% margin.

1991 – 2001 – Minnesota Land Trust, founding President – helped create this first land trust in Minnesota and led the conversion from a regionally focused to statewide organization which has now, 29 years later, has protected almost 600 properties which include about 2,000,000’ of shoreline in Minnesota.

1991 – present – board member of six family foundations and charitable trusts, President of three of these entities.

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**Corporate Boards**

1996 – Current – Burr Oak Group, Inc. – Board Chair – Established this investment advisory company/family office providing investment services, accounting, tax, financial advice, estate management, philanthropic services, trust services and general financial advice. Set up a captive trust company in South Dakota for Burr Oak Group clients in 1997. This includes being a trustee in many situations (some going back to 1980) and general partner of most of the investment partnerships offered clients.

2008 – Current – Scherer Brothers Lumber – Member of governance and compensation committees. Company is a large, family owned regional retail building products/lumber supplier, primarily to contractors through its retail lumberyards.

2009 – Current – Lakes Gas – White Bear Lake, MN – Co-Chair – Beyond serving as a board member and overseeing the rebooting of the business, the work involves helping this 60-year-old family business transfer from the active founder to a trust owned business. After the founder's death in 2017, was asked to become a board member and president of the real estate holding and investment management LLCs affiliated with the founder's family.

2010 – Current – MaxTech, Inc., Hamel, MN - Company founders created Gyp-Crete, the original self-leveling flooring underlayment. Intimately involved in transitioning from 2<sup>nd</sup> generation family and home-grown management to professional leadership. Was asked to step in and negotiate the company's supply agreement with their primary vendor, Georgia Pacific, when management team failed to do so and received a contract cancelation notice jeopardizing the business. Negotiated a 10-year agreement covering \$400-\$500M in supply on very favorable terms to the company.

1979 – 1994 – Perrybell Investments – Minneapolis, MN – Registered investment advisor/family office for high net worth individuals. Chair of the Executive Committee 1984 - 1994.

1985 – 1988 – Wesco Resources, Billings, MT – Company involved in numerous natural resource development efforts in the Montana and Wyoming.

#### **Awards**

- 2016 – Land Trust Alliance and the Lincoln Institute of Land Conservation - Kingsbury Brown Conservation Leadership Award
- 2011 – Minneapolis College of Art and Design – Doctor of Humane Letters
- 2010 – National Geographic Society, Eastman Kodak Company, Conservation Fund - Kodak American Greenways Award
- 2010 – Minnesota DFL – Willard Munger Award for Distinguished Environmental Stewardship

#### **Other**

- Extensively traveled around the world visiting over 85 countries
- 4 children, 8 grandchildren
- Recreational pursuits include birding, hiking, gardening and fly fishing

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