



**Lake Superior Zoo -
The History of the Lake Superior Zoo: Educational Exhibit**

Grant #207024 PO#300-11385
Project supported by the Legacy Amendment's
Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund FY 2022

**Report to the Minnesota Governor and
the Minnesota State Legislature**
Fiscal Year 2022

Submitted by
Haley Hedstrom, Chief Executive Officer
Lake Superior Zoological Society

January 15, 2023



**Our mission is to provide
*close-up animal experiences that
inspire connections to wildlife and
action towards conservation in
our region and around the world.***

Introduction

In 2008, the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment to the Minnesota Constitution, called the “Legacy Amendment,” was approved by Minnesota voters to: protect drinking water sources; to protect, enhance, and restore wetlands, prairies, forests, and fish, game, and wildlife habitat; to preserve arts and cultural heritage; to support parks and trails; and to protect, enhance, and restore lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater. The Legacy Amendment increased the state sales tax by three-eighths of one percent from July 1, 2009, through 2034. This sales tax revenue is distributed into the Legacy Amendment’s four funds as follows: 19.75 percent to the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, 33 percent to the Clean Water Fund, 33 percent to the Outdoor Heritage Fund, and 14.25 percent to the Parks and Trails Fund. The Lake Superior Zoological Society (Society) has received funding for several programs and projects from the Legacy Amendment’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF). The ACHF supports arts, arts education and arts access, and preserves Minnesota's history and cultural heritage.¹

Appropriations, FY 2022 and FY 2023

For the State of Minnesota’s Fiscal Year (FY)² 2022-2023 biennium³ a total of \$150,000 was appropriated to the Society from the Legacy Amendment’s ACHF. Pursuant to 2021 Minnesota Session Laws, Regular Session, Chapter 1, Article 4, Section 2, Subd. 6, “\$75,000 each year is to develop educational exhibits and programs.” According to the “Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Grant Agreement for the Lake Superior Zoological Society Project” (Contract # 207024 PO#300-11385) between the Society and the Minnesota Department of Administration, effective July 1, 2021:

Under the provisions contained in the aforementioned 2021 Minnesota Session Laws, the State of Minnesota has allocated \$75,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$75,000 in fiscal year 2023, less 2% and 3% respectively, for the State Entity’s administrative costs, for a total of \$145,000, which is given to the Grant Recipient as a grant for use of this project.

Payments. Payments shall terminate as of June 30, 2023, even if all of the Grant has not been disbursed by such date (p.3).

¹ More information about the Legacy Amendment is available on the Internet at <http://www.legacy.leg.mn/>.

² The Minnesota state budget fiscal year (FY) begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 of the following year and is designated by the year in which it ends. Thus, FY 2022 begins July 1, 2021, and ends June 30, 2022.

³ The Minnesota state budget operates on a biennium, which is a budget cycle covering two fiscal years. A biennium begins on July 1 of odd-numbered years. Thus, the FY 2022-2023 biennium begins July 1, 2021, and ends June 30, 2023.

Reporting

As a recipient of funds from the ACHF, the Society must abide by certain reporting requirements as stated in Minnesota Statutes § 3.303, Subd. 10, and § 129D.17 Subd. 2 (d).⁴ According to Minnesota Statute 129D.17, Subdivision 2(d):

A state agency or other recipient of a direct appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund must compile and submit all information for funded projects or programs, including the proposed measurable outcomes and all other items required under section 3.303, subdivision 10, to the Legislative Coordinating Commission as soon as practicable or by January 15 of the applicable fiscal year, whichever comes first. The Legislative Coordinating Commission must post submitted information on the Web site required under section 3.303, subdivision 10, as soon as it becomes available.

The report of projects funded with ACHF appropriations must contain the following information:

1. The name of the project and project description;
2. The name, telephone number, members of the board or equivalent governing body,
 1. and e-mail address of the funding recipient and, when applicable, the Web site
 2. address where the public can directly access detailed information on the recipient's
 3. receipt and use of money for the project.
4. The amount and source of funding, including the fiscal year of the appropriation;
5. The amount and source of any additional funding or leverage;
6. The duration of the projects;
7. The number of full-time equivalents funded under the project;
8. The direct expenses and administration costs of the project;
9. Actual measured outcomes and evaluation of projects as required by statute; and Specific information for each program produced and broadcast, including the cost of production, the number of stations broadcasting the program, estimated number of listeners, and other related measures. If the programs produced include educational material, the noncommercial radio station must report on these efforts.

The report must be submitted by January 15 to the Minnesota Department of Administration, the Legislative Coordinating Commission, and the chairs and ranking minority members of the Senate and House of Representatives committees and divisions having jurisdiction over Arts and Cultural Heritage policy and finance.

Reporting Period

This document covers the Fiscal Year 2021 reporting period of July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022.

⁴ Full text of these statutes is available on the Internet: 3.303, Subd. 10 <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=3.303>, and 129D.17 Subd. 2 (d) <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=129D.17>.

Project Oversight and Contact Information

Oversight for these projects is the responsibility of the Lake Superior Zoological Society's Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer, and key senior staff. Questions about these projects may be directed to:

Haley Hedstrom
Chief Executive Officer
Lake Superior Zoo
7210 Fremont Street
Duluth, MN 55807
P: (218) 730-4500 ext. 203

F: (218) 723-3750
Email: hhedstrom@lszoo.org
Website: www.LSZooDuluth.org

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Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund Program Officer

Following is the name and contact information of the State of Minnesota's program officer for the Society's Legacy Amendment's ACHF funds.

Lul Osman
Grants Specialist Intermediate
Office of Grants Management
MN Department of Administration
P: 651-201-2503
F: 651-282-5333
Email: lul.osman@state.mn.us

Project Report

The Lake Superior Zoo was legislatively named to receive an appropriation from the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020/21 Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF). Per 201921 Minnesota Laws, Regular Session, Chapter 1, Article 4, Section 2, Subd. 6(j) Lake Superior Zoo “\$75,000 each year to develop educational exhibits and programs.”⁵

Zoo Education Exhibits project \$75,000 FY22

Lake Superior Zoo FY 22/23 Legacy Grant – Historical Exhibit

Project Description

The History of the Lake Superior Zoo: Educational Exhibit project will be an educational exhibit that will help our visitors learn more about the history of the Lake Superior Zoo, our accreditation by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums and its importance in animal care and welfare and include related history and stories from local indigenous tribes. The planned exhibit will span across zoo grounds and buildings, providing optimal reach to audiences and increasing the interpretive signage at the Lake Superior Zoo. The exhibit will consist of various mediums from educational signage, digital elements, and interactive and hands-on components. Interpretive and interactive features will include a moveable timeline of our history, and digital elements as well as hands-on components will connect guests with building their own zoo. Creating connections with animals and nature has always been a part of our culture at the Lake Superior Zoo, and this exhibit will help bring that to life.

Amount and Fiscal Year of Legacy ACHF Funding

Source	Amount
FY 2022	\$75,000
Total	\$75,000
<i>Appropriation Less Admin Fees</i>	<i>\$72,750*</i>

Project Duration: July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022. (The project was extended due to COVID to June 30, 2022.)

Full-time Equivalent Positions Funded: 0.00

Direct Expenses: \$1,017.02

⁵ Full text of this legislation is available at https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2021/1/Session+Law/Chapter/1/?keyword_type=all&keyword=lake+superior+zoo

Measured Outcomes & Evaluations

- Outcome #1: Visitors to the Lake Superior Zoo will report increased understanding and knowledge of the Zoo's history.

Progress: As the Lake Superior Zoo (LSZ) looked forward to our centennial anniversary during fiscal year 2022 (100 years in 2023), LSZ leadership identified an opportunity to develop and construct a historical exhibit to provide education to all visitors. High level conceptual planning began to identify potential exhibit outlets for a zoo-wide experience.

- Outcome #2: Visitors to the Lake Superior Zoo will report increased awareness and knowledge of the importance of AZA accreditation.

Progress: In 2022, the LSZ applied for and was granted another 5-years of accreditation by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA). A portion of the FY22 expenses went to contract services to work with a firm to develop initial virtual reality experiences that will be a part of this exhibit. The featured video for the VR experience will contain elements of animal care, welfare, wellbeing, and even historical information.

- Outcome #3: Visitors to the Lake Superior Zoo will report increased interest, understanding, and knowledge of local indigenous culture.

Progress: This portion of the project will begin development in the Q3 of fiscal year 2023. The LSZ will work with indigenous leaders and communities to create and update zoo signage. The consultant on this project will work with various local tribal governments and education institutions to develop and produce educational and interpretive signage that connects LSZ animals to the local indigenous culture. This project will facilitate relationship-building between the zoo and local tribes and research about the cultural significance of animals indigenous to Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin. The interpretive signage, research work, and relationships built through this project will be used to develop educational and interpretive cultural talks and programs as additional funds become available and support future collaborative work.