

## CHAPTER 85A

## MINNESOTA ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

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**85A.001 PURPOSE.**

It is the intent of the legislature to foster a partnership between the private sector and the state for the purpose of operating a zoological garden. The legislature seeks to enable the Minnesota zoological garden to operate independently, efficiently, and economically and to be active in soliciting nonstate contributions. The legislature seeks to have the food and beverage facilities at the zoological garden operated in a manner designed to respond to the food and beverage service demands of visitors while maximizing the economic benefits accruing to the zoological garden from the operation of food and beverage facilities.

*History: 1987 c 206 s 1*

**85A.01 CREATION; ORGANIZATION.**

Subdivision 1. The Minnesota zoological garden is established under the supervision and control of the Minnesota zoological board. The board consists of 30 public and private sector members having a background or interest in zoological societies or zoo management or an ability to generate community interest in the Minnesota zoological garden. Fourteen members shall be appointed by the board after consideration of a list supplied by board members serving on a nominating committee, and 15 members shall be appointed by the governor. To the extent possible, the board and governor shall appoint members who are residents of the various geographic regions of the state. Terms, compensation, and removal of members are as provided in section 15.0575. In making appointments, the governor and board shall utilize the appointment process as provided under section 15.0597 and consider, among other factors, the ability of members to garner support for the Minnesota zoological garden. One member shall be appointed by the Dakota county board who must be a resident of Dakota county and who may be a member of the county board.

A member of the board may not be an employee of or have a direct or immediate family financial interest in a business that provides goods or services to the zoo. A member of the board may not be an employee of the zoo.

Subd. 1b. The board shall design and maintain a schedule of admission fees that will encourage maximum year-round visitor attendance. The board shall, if practical, maintain facilities at the zoological garden to accommodate overnight groups of visitors from the nonmetropolitan area.

*[For text of subds 2 to 4, see M.S.1986]*

Subd. 5. Members of the board are not required to file a statement of economic interest with the state ethical practices board under section 10A.09.

*History: 1987 c 206 s 2-4*

**85A.02 POWERS AND DUTIES.**

*[For text of subds 1 to 5, see M.S.1986]*

Subd. 5a. **Employees.** (a) The board shall appoint an administrator who shall serve as the executive secretary and principal administrative officer of the board and, subject to its approval, the administrator shall operate the Minnesota zoological garden and enforce all rules and policy decisions of the board. The administrator must be chosen

solely on the basis of training, experience, and other qualifications appropriate to the field of zoo management and development. The board shall set the compensation for the administrator within the limits established for the commissioner of agriculture in section 15A.081, subdivision 1. The administrator shall perform duties assigned by the board and shall serve in the unclassified service at the pleasure of the board. The board, with the participation of the private sector, shall appoint a development director in the unclassified service or contract with a development consultant to establish mechanisms to foster community participation in and community support for the Minnesota zoological garden. The board may employ other necessary professional, technical, and clerical personnel.

(b) The board may contract with individuals to perform professional services and may contract for the purchases of necessary species exhibits, supplies, services, and equipment.

*[For text of subds 5b to 18, see M.S.1986]*

**History:** 1987 c 404 s 105

## **85A.04 ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN ACCOUNTS OPERATING RECEIPTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Deposit.** All receipts from the operation of the Minnesota zoological garden shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to a zoo fund. Investment income and investment losses attributable to investment of the zoo fund must be credited to the zoo fund. Money in the zoo fund is appropriated to the board for the operation of the Minnesota zoological garden.

*[For text of subds 2 and 4, see M.S.1986]*

**History:** 1987 c 404 s 106