

Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2023

Commission members in attendance:

Francine Gough, Cloverland Township; Ron Kressin, City of Eagle River; Carole Linn, Washington Township; and Bill Lochte, Lincoln Township.

Also in attendance:

Dave Mueller, Treasurer; Marc Groth, ERCLA Board Member; Bill Marshall, Lincoln Township Supervisor; Kim Simac, Lincoln Township Supervisor and Commission alternate member.; Cathy Higley, Vilas County Land and Water

Meeting called to order by Ron Kressin at 11:00 AM at the Eagle River City Hall and introduction of attendees.

Motion by Carole Linn to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2023, meeting; seconded by Francine Gough. All voting ayes. Motion passes.

Pledge of Allegiance. Verification of posting.

Continued discussion of appointing a commission secretary. Meeting being recorded for a possible future candidate to record the minutes.

Commission Business: Approval of the discussion of the order of business according to the chair. Motion by Bill Lochte; seconded by Carole Linn. All voting ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurer report by Dave Mueller. No receipts and no bills paid since last meeting in February. We did receive interest in checking account. Would like to thank the town of Cloverland. We received a check for \$1684.01 which included balance from last year of \$835.44 and a prepay for 2023 of \$848.57.

Total 2020 WDNR grant amount of \$112,707.40. Partial payment 8/08/22 in the amount of 56,044.30 with a balance of \$56,663.10 remaining. Not much activity this time of year. Checking account balance as of March 31, 2023, is \$6439.37. Dave stated that there are adequate funds to cover 2023 and probably 2024 project costs.

All townships received budget amounts for 2023 and will be billed in November 2023. We still have a pending charge of \$9375 to Onterra. We did a point intercept survey in 2022 which added an extra expense. The point intercept survey happens every 5 years which covers the whole plant community.

Commission is in good shape to handle 2023 obligations.

Motion by Bill Lochte to accept Treasurer's report. Seconded by Carole Linn. All voting ayes. Motion passed.

Review availability of other grants. Commission members encouraged a further look at other grant programs for fund sources for EWM treatment.

Project Coordinator report (Dave Mueller) – 2023 treatment plan.

The DNR grant extension will be requested. Expectations are that we will receive the extension. The 2024 plan is in process. If we have a shortfall, 25% additional money can be requested. Projecting \$54,491 for 2023 AIS project. We have a commitment for hand pulling by DASH LLC in 2023. Rates are \$2000 per day, which are the same as 2022. \$44,491 approved in last meeting for 10 days of harvesting. Dave is recommending 15 days of harvesting this year and is also recommending that the Commission approve those 15 days of harvesting in 2023 to make sure that we execute a thorough pull. Watersmeet will happen in June per the September 2022 map. The other sites will happen after the Onterra July biomass survey. We have been in maintenance mode since 2016. Motion by Carole Linn to move from 10 to 15 days of harvesting. Seconded by Bill Lochte. Another motion by Bill Lochte to approve the \$54,941 requested to completed 15 days of harvesting. Motion seconded by Carole Linn. All voting ayes. Motion passed.

Dave communicated to the Commission that he and his team are working on a project to document the history of completed shoreline projects per the Lake Management Plan. He also mentioned ERCLA has communicated with the Three Lakes Waterfront Association to attempt to schedule a meeting with them to benchmark our AIS programs.

Letters and Communication. None currently.

Next meeting date. October 19, 2023, at the Eagle River City Hall at 11:00 AM.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 PM.