

Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission Meeting Minutes

August 29, 2024

The August 29, 2024, meeting was a ZOOM call. The meeting was called to order by acting Chair Bill Lochte at 9:12AM.

Verification of a quorum and verification of posting was confirmed.

Approval to follow the agenda in any order. Motion by Carole Linn and seconded by Dan Dumas. All voting ayes. Motion approved.

Bill Lochte asked for a roll call and introductions. Commission members in attendance - Francine Gough, Cloverland Township; Carole Linn, Washington Township; Bill Lochte, Lincoln Township, and newly appointed City of Eagle River Commission member Dan Dumas.

Also in attendance:

Dave Mueller, Commission Treasurer, the Commission/ERCLA AIS Coordinator and Otter Lake Captain; Marc Groth, Commission Secretary, ERCLA Shoreline Restoration Chair, and the Duck Lake Captain; Bill Marshall, Lincoln Township Supervisor; Teri Stecker, ERCLA Secretary and Voyageur Lake Captain; Chuck Berg, ERCLA President; Steve Skora, Catfish Lake Co-captain; and Jody Voight, ERCLA VP and Otter Lake Co-captain.

New City of Eagle River representative Dan Dumas introduced and presented a brief background of himself.

Approval of the August 1, 2024, meeting minutes. Motion made by Carole Linn. Motion seconded by Francine Gough. All voting ayes. Motion passes.

Scope of the WDNR Hand Harvesting Surface Water Grant Application

Dave Mueller presented a brief scope and outline of WDNR hand harvesting surface water grant application to be applied for this coming fall of 2024.

Dave is requesting authorization from the Commission to submit the WDNR grant on behalf of the Commission. See the attached resolution.

The application is for a 3-year grant from 2025 through 2027. There will be no mention of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) chemical treatment in the grant. Our present lake management plan does not allow for chemical treatment. Chemical treatment could be indicated if there are areas with more than 5 acres and there are none. The Aquatic Plant Management grant will be submitted in the Fall of 2025 by Marc Groth on behalf of ERCLA which will include a riparian survey with questions regarding future EWM chemical treatment. The plan must be in place for the WDNR to consider Eagle River Chain chemical treatment which most likely would be the summer of 2027 if approved.

The grant will include three separate \$50,000 grants totaling \$150,000.

Specifics are not all completed at this time but will be presented at the upcoming Commission meeting on October 17, 2024.

The Commission strategy is:

- The Commission approves the resolution today.
- Newspaper publication of the intent to apply for the grant by the end of September. We allow 30 days for the public to object or request a public information meeting. If so, a public meeting would be called.
- Deadline for submitting a letter of intent to our DNR biologist, Alan Wirt, for the grant is September 15, 2024. Dave Mueller and Marc Groth met with Alan Wirt and he is on board.
- A second resolution will be presented to the Commission with detail regarding the scope and cost of the project at our next meeting on October 17 at 10:00am at the City of Eagle River Hall.
- Dave Mueller will submit the final grant application by the due date of November 15, 2024, on behalf of the Commission.

A brief discussion including questions by all attending concluded with no major issues or concerns regarding the grant.

Bill Lochte asked for a motion to approve the resolution that allows Dave Mueller to represent the commission to apply for the WDNR surface water grant application along with the scope of the project presented by Dave. Motion by Carole Linn. Motion seconded by Francine Gough. All voting ayes. Motion Passed.

Resolution No. 2024-01

RE: Grant support for Aquatic Invasive Species Management Project

RESOLUTION OF THE UNIFIED LOWER EAGLE RIVER CHAIN OF LAKES COMMISSION County of Vilas

WHEREAS, the Towns of Cloverland, Lincoln, Washington and the City of Eagle River have created the Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission, pursuant to Section 66.0301 of the Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of coordinating aquatic invasive species awareness, prevention and management efforts on the Chain; and

WHEREAS, the Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission is interested in obtaining a cost-share grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of aquatic invasive species monitoring and management (as described in the application);

WHEREAS, the applicant attests to the validity and veracity of the statements and representations contained in the grant application;

WHEREAS, a grant agreement is requested to carry out the project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission will meet the financial obligations necessary to fully and satisfactorily complete the project and hereby authorizes and empowers the following officials or employees to submit the following documents to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for financial assistance that may be available:

Task	Title of Authorized Representative	Email address and Phone Number if alternative is used
Sign and submit a grant application	Treasurer	Dave Mueller muellerd@dwave.net 715-297-6636
Enter into a grant agreement with the DNR	Treasurer	Dave Mueller muellerd@dwave.net 715-297-6636
Submit quarterly and/or final reports to the DNR to satisfy the grant agreement, as appropriate	Treasurer	Dave Mueller muellerd@dwave.net 715-297-6636
Submit reimbursement request(s) to the DNR no later than the date specified in the grant agreement	Treasurer	Dave Mueller muellerd@dwave.net 715-297-6636

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that applicant will comply with all local, state and federal rules, regulations and ordinances relating to this project and the cost-share agreement.

Agreed to this 21st day of August, 2024 by the Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 against.

By: Bill Lichte

Bill Lichte, Vice Chair, ULERCL Commission

By: Marc Groth

Marc Groth, Secretary, ULERCL Commission