

# Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission

## Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2024

Meeting called to order by Bill Lochte at 10:14AM at the Eagle River City Hall.

All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Verification of posting by Secretary Marc Groth; approval to follow the agenda in any order, and verification of a quorum was confirmed by Bill Lochte along with the rest of the Commission representatives.

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 Dan Dumas, City of Eagle River.

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; Chuck Berg, ERCLA President; and Steve Skora, Catfish Lake Co-captain.

Approval of the August 29, 2024, meeting minutes.

Motion by Carole Linn to approve the August 29 meeting minutes with the change to remove the bullet point stating – “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.” The statement was removed after clarification by Dave Mueller that the requirement was not required for the surface water control grant to be applied for by November 15. Motion seconded by Dan Dumas. All voting ayes. Motion approved.

### **ULERCLC Commission Business:**

**Treasurer report** by Dave Mueller. No activity since the last meeting.

Dave Mueller made a request to pay one bill from Onterra for \$20,475.00 which includes all activities performed during the summer of 2024. Motion by Carole Linn to pay the bill. Motion seconded by Francine Gough. All voting ayes. Motion approved.

Dave stated that Aquatic Services DASH, LLC has yet to bill the Commission for their 2024 services.

Dave stated he will request the 65% from the DNR to help pay Aquatic Services DASH LLC. The state amount is approximately \$13,500.00. That along with the money from the four municipalities will pay for the DASH LLC bill.

The municipalities will get billed in October for the DASH LLC bill to be paid. The 2025 budget costs will be sent soon thereafter to the four municipalities for the 2025 budget as projected by November 1.

Motion authorizing Dave Mueller to pay Aquatic Services DASH LLC for 2024 services not to exceed \$37,800.00 by Carole Linn; Motion seconded by Francine Gough. All voting ayes. Motion passed.

Dave Mueller has agreed to develop a set of talking points for the municipalities 2025 budget meetings. Bill Lochte and Dave Mueller have agreed to attend those meetings if necessary.

## **2024 Project Summary**

Dave Mueller is requesting the Commission's support of Resolution No. 2024-2, RE: Grant Support for Aquatic Species Management Project (see attachment). The main component is Attachment A Resolution 2024-02 (see attachment), which indicates the commitment to support the project. There are three major cost components for the project. The first is the management consultant, which in this case is Onterra. It is important to note that in 2026 there is a required Chain-wide point intercept survey to be done in 2026, which is required to be done every 4-5 years. The last point intercept survey was completed in 2022. The total cost for the management consultant piece is projected to be \$98,180.00. The second major cost component is the cost of the hand harvesting which is projected to be \$113,400.00. The third major cost component is in-kind costs which is projected to be \$19,189.00. The total project cost is projected to be \$230,769.00. The state share (65%) is \$149,999.85. The local match cost is \$80,769.15 to be split between the four municipalities and ERCLA. Approval of the resolution 2024-02 provides a commitment by ULERCLC to support the upcoming control grant based on the costs summarized in Attachment A 2024-02. ERCLA will provide a letter of support which provides their commitment to support the grant based on ERCLA's projected costs outlined in the attachment. Dan Dumas motioned for the Commission to accept Resolution 2024-02 so Dave Mueller can continue filing for the 2024 Surface Water Control grant. Motion seconded by Carole Linn. All voting ayes. Motion approved.

There were no letters or communications received since the last meeting.

The next meeting date will be on November 20 at 7:00 PM at the Washington Township Hall. The meeting will be a summary of the 2024-2025 Eagle River Chain of Lakes AIS Management Program by our consultant, Onterra.

Motion to adjourn by Carole Linn at 11:25AM. Motion seconded by Dan Dumas. All voting ayes. Motion to adjourn approved.

Resolution No. 2024-02

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 Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes is an important resource used by the public for recreation and enjoyment of natural beauty; and

WHEREAS, a study and examination of the Chain of Lakes will lead to better understanding and will promote the public health, comfort, convenience, necessity and public welfare; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the need for responsible and holistic long-range planning to better manage the lake, its watershed, and its use; and

WHEREAS, we are qualified to carry out the responsibilities of the aquatic invasive species management project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission requests the funds and assistance available from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources under the "Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant Program": and hereby authorizes the Chairperson to act on behalf of the Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission to: submit an application to the State of Wisconsin for financial aid for aquatic invasive species grant purposes: sign documents: and take necessary action to undertake, direct, and complete an approved grant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UNIFIED LOWER EAGLE RIVER CHAIN OF LAKES COMMISSION will meet the obligations of the planning project including timely publication of the results and meet the financial obligations under this grant shown on Attachment A, the table reflecting the "Funding Share" between the 4 municipalities and lake association commitment to planning project costs. We understand the importance of a continuing management program the Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes and intend to proceed on that course.

change 10/17/24  
M. Groth

Agreed to this 17 day of October, 2024 by the Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 against.

By: Bill Lochte  
Bill Lochte, Vice Chair, ULERCL Commission  
By: Marc C Groth  
Marc Groth, Secretary, ULERCL Commission

50 10/17/24  
M. Groth  
Marc