

Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission
Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2023

Meeting called to order by Ron Kressin at 1:04PM at the Eagle River City Hall.

All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ron Kressin called for a roll call and introductions. 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, Commission Treasurer and ERCLA AIS Coordinator; Marc Groth, Commission Secretary and ERCLA Shoreline Restoration Chair; Chuck Berg, ERCLA President, and Larry Springer, Deerskin River landowner.

Verification of posting and approval to follow the agenda in any order. - Motion by Carole Linn and seconded by Bill Lochte. All voting ayes. Motion approved.

Motion made by Bill Lochte to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2023 meeting; motion seconded by Carole Linn. All voting ayes. Motion passes.

ULERCLC Commission Business:

Treasurer report by Dave Mueller.

D. Mueller stated he would like to use the treasurer's report to summarize where we are with our AIS program and where we are headed.

Additions to the treasurer report since the last meeting are: The request for remaining funds from the existing DNR grant was approved without any changes giving the commission the funds to pay the remaining 2023 expenses. Therefore, a deposit is pending per the WDNR ACEI 240-20 grant reimbursement of \$54,205.78.

Checks outstanding - - #689DASH LLC Invoice 101 (105 hrs.) for \$29,274.50
Administrative costs – for \$259.25.

Payables – Refund ERCLA \$187.52. (ERCLA President Chuck Berg requested that the refund amount to be used as credit towards ERCLA's 2024 invoice.) Remaining cost to Onterra is \$11,432.50.

2020 grant amount remaining is \$2457.32. Dave Mueller suggests submitting a request for 25% of the original grant amount of \$112,707.40 which is allowed per the existing grant rules.

A motion made by Carole Linn to approve applying for an additional 25% funds of the 2020 grant to pay 2024 expenses was seconded by B. Lochte. All voting ayes. Motion passes.

There was a brief discussion regarding going out for bids for Onterra and DASH. Conclusion is it is unnecessary to obtain bids for contractors per the state statutes.

Dave Mueller also recognized Carole Linn for her outstanding efforts maintaining the ULERCLC website.

Dave presented the attached report titled "ULERCLC January 1, 2023, through October 31, 2023".

Ron Kressin entertained a motion to approve the treasurers report; Seconded by Carole Linn. All voting ayes. Motion passes.

EWM Strategy

Dave presented the ULERCLC 2024 budget plan. See the attachment titled "Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission – 2024 Budget Project Cost 11-5-23"

Dave Mueller is recommending that ERCLA start working on the aquatic plant management plan grants early in 2024. The aquatic plant management plan expires the end of 2024. The overall comprehensive lake management plan expires in 2029. ERCLA should plan on starting to work on the comprehensive lake management plan sometime in 2027.

Additionally, Dave is recommending a steering committee of 4-5 people to determine next steps which should include determining how riparians feel about chemical treatments going forward. A 5–6-point message box needs to be developed to communicate information regarding chemical treatments. The ERCLA steering committee should work closely with the ULERCLC when developing an EWM strategy. A chain wide aquatic plant management plan will take approximately a year and a half to complete. Rules for future grants demand we have a management plan in place.

Dave Mueller will address the aquatic plant management plan strategy at an upcoming November ERCLA Executive Board meeting.

Letters and Communication: None currently.

Next meeting date: TBD

Meeting adjourned at 2:07 PM