

U.P. RC&D Council Minutes
UP RC&D Council Teleconference Meeting – March 15, 2019

Board Members and Staff Present: Bill Rice-Dickinson CD, Teri Grout-Alger CD, and Darcy Rutkowski-UP RC&D Council Executive Director

Board Members Participating by Teleconference: Renee Leow-Marquette County Citizen, Jim German-Chippewa County Administrator, and Howard Haulotte-Delta County Citizen

Others Present or participating by teleconference: Theresa Nelson-Delta County Board of Commissioners, and Bernie Lang-Menominee County Board of Commissioners

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by Chairperson Rice.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Haulotte, supported by German to approve the agenda with no additions. Motion passed.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by German, seconded by Leow to approve the minutes of the previous meeting of January 24, 2019 and the minutes of the meeting of December 14, 2018. Motion passed.

Financial Reports: The Executive Director (ED) presented the Balance Sheet for February 28, 2019 and the Profit and Loss statements for the period January 1, 2014 through February 28, 2019 and for the January through February 2019 period. The combined balance in all accounts as of February 28, 2019 was \$64,984.38. The multi-year P&L provides a more accurate picture of income and expenditures for many of the grant-funded projects which are multi-year in nature. ED reported she has already submitted a payment request for the KISMA outstanding expenses in the amount of \$3639.67 and the final payment request (more than 100 pages long) is being submitted very soon for the MISG phragmites project in the amount of \$21,028.00. These payments will reimburse for previous expenses, and will increase the cash in UPRCD accounts when they are received. A motion was made by Haulotte, supported by German to place the financial reports on file. Motion passed.

Business Items:

County Dues Update: ED has not sent the county dues letter/invoice out yet to county commissions. Jim German suggested a possible raise in the dues amount requested and including an accomplishments report in future years which can be discussed further at the end of this year.

Employee Status: ED reported that former employee, Jason Schnorr who was previously planning to work seasonally for the Council, is moving out of the area. Therefore, he would not be a potential candidate for assuming more responsibilities related to Council administration in the future.

Grant Applications: Darcy reported that she has submitted the pre-proposal for a Sustain Our Great Lakes (SOGL) grant and is waiting to see if we are invited to submit the full proposal which (if invited) would be due on April 18. She spent about 70 hours putting together the pre-proposal and those hours were charged to the UPRCD unrestricted account. This project would cover the time period of August 12, 2019 through March 22, 2022 and would extend our phragmites cost share program in the UP one additional year (2021) and would also allow us to expand our project into the 3 counties in Wisconsin that are part of the Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition area (Marinette, Florence, and Forest). We applied for \$150,000 and had to provide a 1:1 match. The project would be implemented through sub-awards to the Dickinson, Alger and Marquette County Conservation Districts.

UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS AND 2019 PROJECT FUNDS:

ED provided a summary of all current grant-funded project activities.

USFS Ottawa NF Agreement for Invasive Species Work in KISMA

Agreement Amount \$23,000 Match Commitment \$5,750 non-federal match
Project Dates: March 2015 – 5 yr agreement, anticipate spending down all remaining funds in 2019
Partners – Ottawa NF and all KISMA partners
Remaining funds approximately \$1,421, match commitment has been met

NAWCA Michigan Upper Peninsula Coastal Wetland Project III

Received \$1 Million Match Commitment \$2.2 Million
Project Dates: June 26, 2014 to June 26, 2019
Multiple Partners
Remaining funds \$408,200

MISGP – Upper Peninsula Phragmites Coalition

Requested \$210,282 Match Commitment \$246,708 (all match from current EPA/GLRI grant)
Partners – CLMCD, Alger CD, Menominee CD, Dickinson CD, MNFI
Project Dates: March 11, 2016 to December 31, 2018
Remaining funds \$20,493, match commitment has been met, final payment request is being submitted

USFS Hiawatha NF Agreement for Phragmites Management

Agreement Amount \$59,700 Match Commitment \$15,000
Project Dates: April 4, 2017 to April 15, 2021
Partners – Hiawatha NF and UP Phragmites Coalition Partners
Remaining funds \$47,238

MISGP – Life After Phragmites: Wetland Restoration and Landowner Stewardship

Agreement Amount \$191,600 Match Commitment \$21,800
Project Dates: March 22, 2019 to March 31, 2021
Partners – Marquette, Alger, Dickinson, & Chippewa Luce Mackinac Conservation Districts and their associated CISMAs
Remaining funds \$191,600, intake call complete with DNR, but no signed contract yet

Public Comment: None.

Future Meeting Dates: Because several board members had conflicts with the next scheduled board meeting which was to be held on June 7th, that meeting date was changed to Friday, May 31, 2019 (UPRCO office). The other meeting dates are September 6 (teleconference), and December 6 (UPRCO office).

Correspondence: None.

Adjournment: Motion was made by Grout, supported by German to adjourn the meeting at 10:56 am. Motion passed.