

**U.P. RC&D Council Minutes**  
**UP RC&D Council Teleconference Meeting – September 7, 2018**

**Board Members and Staff Present:** Bill Rice-Dickinson CD, Jason Schnorr-UPRC&D staff, and Darcy Rutkowski-UP RC&D Council Executive Director

**Board Members Participating by Teleconference:** John Malnar and Howard Haulotte - Delta County Citizens, Jim German-Chippewa County Administrator, Jen Ricker-Iron/Baraga CD Administrator

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

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by Chairperson Rice.

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by German, seconded by Malnar to approve the agenda with no changes. Motion passed.

**Public Comment:** None

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made by Malnar, seconded by Ricker to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion passed.

**Financial Reports:** The Executive Director (ED) presented the Balance Sheet for August 30, 2018 and the Profit and Loss statement for the period January 1, 2018 through August 30, 2018. The combined balance in all accounts as of August 30, 2018 was \$180,171.92. ED reported that about \$102,000 in funds had been received for the MISGP grant project which will be spent down during 2018 to cover those project expenses. ED also reviewed the P&L for the period January 1, 2015 through August 30, 2018 which provided more accurate income and expenditures for many of the grant-funded projects which are multi-year in nature. Annual income from county dues was discussed, and German noted that he was concerned that some counties have not paid county dues for several years, but they are still receiving benefits from the grant funds and projects that they UP RC&D is providing to the entire UP. A motion was made by German, supported by Malnar to place the financial reports on file. Motion passed.

**Business Items:**

**Approval of 2017 990:** Cowell and LaPointe completed the 990 for 2017 and the ED made that document available to all board members for review on August 21, 2018. A motion was made by Malnar, seconded by German to approve the 2017 990, and instruct Renee Leow, council secretary/treasurer to sign the 990 and move forward with electronic submission. Motion passed.

**Conflict of Interest Forms:** ED sent all board members the UP RC&D Council Board of Directors Conflict of Interest Policy and Disclosure Form. She asked all board members to complete the form noting any potential conflicts of interest and return it to the office.

**Update on Grant Application:** ED worked with partners in Three Shores CISMA, Lake to Lake CISMA (formerly CUPCWMA), and WRISC to put together a pre-proposal to the new Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program funding opportunity, with UPRCD being the grant applicant and recipient, and the 3 CISMAs receiving funds through sub-awards to conduct activities in their areas. The proposal was successful in making it through the pre-proposal process and we have been invited to submit the full proposal which is due on September 28, 2018. The total fund request is \$191,600, and our match commitment is \$21,800 which will be covered by funds from our US Forest Service grant. The final decision on awards will not be announced until January 2019.

**Update on Current Projects:** ED provided a summary of all current grant-funded project activities. The EPA GLRI Phragmites project ended on March 30, 2018 and all financial and programmatic reports were completed and submitted to the EPA. All funds have also been drawn down and we have received confirmation that grant has been closed out. The NAWCA grant will be completed by June 26, 2019 and all final reports filed within 90 days of that date. The KISMA project should be closed out during 2018 or early in 2019, and the USFS Phragmites Project funding has been extended to

December 31, 2020. This was necessary because the Hiawatha NF did not have their NEPA process complete in time to do phragmites treatments during the 201 field season. We are now spending down our MISGP Phragmites Project funds and they will be spent down prior to December 31, 2018.

ED noted that if the MISGP grant we have applied for is successful, those funds will not be available until March or April of 2019. If this grant is funded, it will cover 10 weeks/year of ED salary. Other remaining funds will be from our NAWCA project and not much of that funding is for ED salary – most of it is passed through to partners to complete project acquisitions and restoration work. There may be KISMA funds to cover a small number of ED hours in 2019, but the maximum hours would be 40-50. The funds remaining to be spent down from our USFS grant in 2019 and 2020 only cover 2-3 weeks of ED time/year.

**Public Comment:** Jim German noted that many residents are particularly interested in invasive species such as Asian carp and those that are a threat from ballast water. John Malnar is now on the Delta County Road Commission and he is trying to educate them about wild parsnip (and is using our parsnip brochures for this). ED offered to put him in contact with the L2L CISMA coordinator who can provide other resources to the road commission. Howard Haulotte also noted that wild parsnip has been spreading quickly in Delta County and is a species of concern there. Jen Ricker reported that WePIC has been doing lots of purple loosestrife, knotweed, garlic mustard and Japanese barberry treatments this past season.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Adjournment:** Motion was made by Malnar, seconded by Ricker to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 am. Motion passed.

**I certify that these meeting minutes have been approved by a majority of the UP RC&D Council Board members:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Renee Leow, UP RC&D Council Secretary/Treasurer**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**