

Request for Decision

File No: Uwbk 611 002

Date June 25, 2025
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Subject CLEAR Society – Doppler Flow Measurements on the Elk River

REQUEST

Provide a \$15,000 grant to CLEAR Society for Doppler flow measurements on the Elk River, funded through the Electoral Area B Economic Development Service.

OPTIONS

1. THAT a grant of \$15,000 be provided to Collective for Lower Elk Aquifer Restoration Society for Doppler flow measurements on the Elk River from the Electoral Area B Economic Development Service.
2. THAT the request of \$15,000 from to Collective for Lower Elk Aquifer Restoration Society for Doppler flow measurements on the Elk River be denied.

RECOMMENDATION

Option 1

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

In connection with the ongoing water issues in the South Country, the Collective for Lower Elk Aquifer Restoration (CLEAR) Society is seeking funds for Doppler flow measurements on the Elk River.

Since 2022, CLEAR Society has been leading the South Country Aquifer project, with RDEK staff liaising as needed. To date, CLEAR Society has been provided grant funds from the Area B Economic Development service to complete an environmental screening assessment in the South Country, to develop a water monitoring program, and for general operating expenses for a three-year term from 2025-2027. It was understood at the time when CLEAR Society requested funding for a water monitoring program that they would be returning to the Board to request additional funds to implement recommendation identified in water monitoring program.

One such recommendation was to complete Doppler flow measurements of the Elk River. The proposed project involves completing three discharge measurements at two sites, between the months of July and October. The purpose of the flow measurements is to better understand the local hydrology.

Recognizing this project would assist the RDEK with the South Country Aquifer project, Director Doehle would like to contribute \$15,000 in the form of an Electoral Area B Economic Development grant to CLEAR Society for Doppler flow measurement on the Elk River.

SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS

Financial - Budget

The 2025 Area B Economic Development Financial Plan includes \$107,500 earmarked for a South Country Aquifer project. If approved, this grant would leave the Area B Economic Development service with \$92,500 that could be used for future implementation of water monitoring program initiatives.

Previous Action

In December 2022, the Board approved a \$14,100 from the Electoral Area B Economic Development Service for an environmental screening assessment.

In October 2023, the Board approved a \$26,400 grant from the Electoral Area B Economic Development Service to CLEAR Society for development of a water monitoring program in the South Country.

In January 2025, the Board approved a \$3,000 grant per year for 2025-2027 from the Electoral Area B Economic Development Service to CLEAR Society for operational funding.

Attachment

- Clear Society Funding Workplan