

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA MINUTES

September 30, 2010

Hubbard County COLA; Stewards of the Lakes P.O. Box 746. Park Rapids, MN 56470

www.minnesotawaters.org/group/hccola/welcome

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Dan Kittilson at 7:00 P.M.

√¹ **Introductions**

√¹ **Welcome to Guests and new Members**

√¹ **President Dan Kittilson** told that long time COLA member Gary Stolzenberg passed away this afternoon.

√¹ **Representatives:**

Bad Axe: Mary Ann Erpelding

Belle Taine: Al Peterson, Dick Boehner

Big Mantrap: Lyle Laske, Helen Marsh

Big Sand: Irene Weiss

Blue:

Boulder: Steve hall

Lower Crow Wing:

Middle Crow Wing:

8th & 9th Crow Wing: Julie Kingsley

10th & 11th Crow Wing:

Duck: Tom Mooney

Eagle:

Emma/Bottle/Stocking: Ellis Lysne

Fish Hook:

Gilmore:

Island South: Marilyn & Bob Thompson

Ham:

Hinds:

Kabekona: Rolf Smeby

Little Sand: Mary Groehler, Jim Thomsen, Dan Kittilson

Long: Larry Roberts, Bill Cowman

Mow:

Palmer: Betty McCorry

Peysenske: Jeff Sievers

Plantagenet:

Portage: Charlie Pieper, Jerry Knoblich

Potato: Ken Grob, Bob Berdahl, Chuck Diessner, John Hastings

Spider: Hillary Stoltz, John Weber

Stony: Dennis O'Connell, Greg Johnson

Twin Lakes: Don McIntosh

Guests: none

Previous Meeting Minutes: MSP the August 26, 2010 Minutes.

Treasurer's Report: John Weber

MSP the Treasurer's report.

- The only lake association that has not paid for this years water testing is 10th & 11th Crow Wing.
- John also reported that Lower Crow Wing, Middle Crow Wing, Hinds, Peysenski, Plantagenet, South Island and Portage lake associations have not paid their membership dues.

Committee Reports:

1. **Lakeshore Education & Communications (J. Kingsley/S. Hall):**

- As most associations are holding elections please get your new officers

names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses to Mary Ann Erpelding at maerp@yahoo.com.

- **COLA newsletter:** submission dates for articles are Oct. 15 to John Hastings and hopefully John will get the letter to Haas printing the same day.
- **Status on mailing lists:** John Hastings also needs your updated mailing lists with updated addresses and emails. We save a lot of money if we can do our newsletter electronically.
- COLA's new website is: www.minnesotawaters.org/group/hccola/welcome
- The education committee of Julie Kingsley, Jerry Knoblich and Marvel Haynes met and worked on the education component of the Strategic Plan

2. Government Liaison – Civic (J. Knoblich):

- **Restore the Shore:** Jerry Knoblich will finish out this years Restore the Shore program. Please send all order forms and checks including MN sales tax of 6.875 % made out to COLA from your individual lake Associations to John Weber at our P.O. Box 746, Park Rapids, MN 56470 by Oct. 12, 2010.
- **Water Quality Monitoring:** Jerry Knoblich reported that 10th & 11th Crow Wing lake association have not paid for their water testing this year.

3. Government Liaison – State/LGU (K. Grob):

- **Impact Political Action Committee (IPA):** COLA has drafted a letter that was sent to the Chairman of the Board of Adjustment saying that Hubbard COLA would like to work with the Board of Adjustment and gave some suggestions as to how to streamline the procedure for variances.
- Ellis Lysne from Emma, Bottle, Stocking lake association spoke regarding a letter sent to Dan Kittilson regarding the Schneeman variance and COLA's stand on this variance request. Chuck Diessner spoke to Ellis's comments and explained that Schneeman's were already violating the Shoreland rules and that it was the IMP committees fault that they did not speak to the lake association regarding this situation before hand. In the future the committee will try and do this.
- The Schneeman cabin PUD variance is on the Board of Adjustments (BOA) agenda for Oct. 18, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. Please attend if you are able.
- Little Sand Bay Villas PUD conversion has an environmental assessment worksheet with a 30 public review and comment deadline by Oct. 20, 2010. Chuck said that this PUD is very similar to Rehkamp's variance where the Shoreline Ordinance allows 3 boat slips and they are asking for 9.

4. COLA Meeting Attendance & Representation (M. Erpelding):

- **Attendance:** Mary Ann reported that 22 lake associations were at the Aug. meeting.
- Mary Ann also asked that all lake associations get their lake information

sheets with the newly elected officers, email coordinator and COLA reps be sent to COLA, P.O. Box 746, Park Rapids, MN 56470. Please PRINT legibly so we get the email addresses correct.

- Mary Ann also did a quick survey to see what the feeling was of changing the November and February meetings to an evening meeting from the mornings. The majority voted yes, but this would be a by-law change and the Executive committee will look into this.

5. Invasive Species/Exotics Task Force (K. Grob):

- **Resort info. Packets:** Ken reported that 64 resorts received COLA's information packets.
- Dan McCorry will compile the volunteer boat inspection information, merge it with the lake intern data. If you have any volunteer data please get it to him as soon as possible.
- Please make sure that your association has a designated AIS Coordinator and that Ken has that persons name, address, email and phone numbers.
- Minnesota Waters has made a report from the January 2010 AIS meeting in Walker and that information is available.
- **AIS Conferences:**
 - Minnesota/Wisconsin Invasive Species Conference, Nov. 8-10, St. Paul, MN
www.minnesotaswcs.org
 - MN Waters Invasive Plant Control Forum 2010 has been canceled until 2011.
- Little Sand lake is doing an early detection project of plankton sampling for the AIS Spiny water flea. They brought in samples of other macro-invertebrates they sampled.
- A brochure on zebra mussels was passed around. For more information go to: www.100thmeridian.org

Executive Committee Report:

- The Executive committee initiatives have focused on Strategy Management, the Hubbard County lawsuit and routine COLA tasks. The strategy management plan is due to be completed by Dec. 10, 2010.

President's Updates/Announcements:

- Healthy Lakes & Rivers Partnership held a networking dinner on Sept. 17.
- Report on 3rd Annual Healthy lakes legislative forum held on Sept. 24th in Walker
- Natural Resources Reform and Realignment Task Force meeting on Sept. 24
- Senator Mary Olson proposed a bill SF 1657 to abolish MNDOT, DNR, MPCA and combine into a super agency to reduce duplication of efforts. An 18 person committee has been established on how to streamline the

agencies. Bill SF 3275 will look at 5 areas of discussion on options for improving enforcement, streamlining environmental permitting, specific problems, overall design structure and designing agencies for efficiency and effectiveness.

Unfinished Business:

- **Hubbard County Lawsuit**
 - Lawsuit summary – seeking a court order to require the County to answer our questions and comply with our requests.
- **Fund Raising update:** 13 lake associations have contributed to the legal fund. Lake associations can contribute directly to COLA. Individual contributions can go to Hubbard COLA General Project fund – NWF (tax deductible).
Initiate a second request for contributions when the Judge issues order requiring County to comply with our requests.
- Promote awareness/fund raising campaign with state-wide organizations & Friends of COLA. Contributions have been received from the Association of Cass County Lakes, Whitefish Area Property Owners Association (WAPOA), Bad Medicine Lake Association, with their past President contributing personally.
- **Strategy Management Plan Update:**
 - The Hubbard County 2010 Strategy Plan map was handed out.
 - Volunteers are being sought for each of the committees, please volunteer.
 - Dec. 10, 2010 – target deadline for completion for plan.
- **Vice President candidate:** search is on going.
- **Progress Park Rapids:** the corner lake inlays for downtown Park Rapids have already been spoken for.

New Business:

- Larry Roberts presented a motion to join to the Chamber of Commerce. Membership is \$125.00 and our logo would be put on their publications.

We

also are using their meeting room and have done a lot of copying. Motion seconded and carried for Hubbard COLA to become a member of the Hubbard County Chamber of Commerce.

- Bob Berdahl received information from Action Media for helping COLA present a better public image. Michael Goldberg, Action Media, offered to do a free 1 hour conference call to brainstorm ideas with the possibility of a 1 day workshop. MSP to contact Michael and do the conference call.

Initiatives For the Next Month:

- HLRP Class of 2010 continues to work on lake management plans and explore

- funding opportunities for special projects
- Continue Executive Committee initiatives
 - Continue fundraising for lawsuit
 - Regional/Statewide COLA Partnership – MN Waters will facilitate the 3rd week in Nov. more information to follow
 - **Monitor Hubbard County Board of Adjustment, Planning Commission and Hubbard County Board of Commissioners**
 - Work on Education/Communications processes
 - Close out 2010 DNR AIS grant projects

What's Happening on Your Lake:

- Lake Association newsletters – please send a copy to John Hastings and Dan Kittilson
- **Please provide updated contact information for reps, presidents & email coordinators**
- Lake Association updates/current news/other

Next Meeting:

Thursday November 4, 2010 at 9:00 A.M.; social gathering at 8:30 A.M. in the Hubbard County Courthouse basement

MSP to adjourn at 8:45 P.M.

Submitted: Julie Kingsley Secretary Oct. 11, 2010