

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA MINUTES

May 5, 2011

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

www.minnesotawaters.org/group/hccola/welcome

Call to Order:

√¹ **Round Table Introductions, other agenda items**

√¹ **Welcome guest and New Members**

√¹ **Announcements: Donations for goodies**

√¹ **Representatives:**

Bad Axe: Mary Ann Erpelding

Belle Taine: Dick Boehmer

Big Mantrap: Helen Marsh, Lyle Laske

Big Sand:

Blue: Peter Tuomisto

Boulder: Steve Hall

Lower Crow Wing:

Middle Crow Wing:

8th & 9th Crow Wing: Julie Kingsley

10th & 11th Crow Wing:

Duck: Dean Long

Eagle: Janine Weideman

Emma/Bottle/Stocking:

Fish Hook: Jan Rumpza

Gilmore: Tom Thielges

Island South:

Ham: Paul Jensen

Hinds:

Kabekona: Pat Dechaine, Rolf Smeby

Little Sand: Maggie Yerkes, Dan Kittilson,
Mary Jo Groehler

Long: Larry Roberts, Bill Cowman

Mow:

Palmer: Dan & Betty McCorry

Peysenske: Jeff Sievers,

Pickereel: Craig Nieman

Plantagenet:

Portage: Charlie Pieper

Potato: Ken Grob, John Hastings

Spider: John Weber, Don Marg, Dennis
O'Connor, Gordon Severtson

Stony: Dennis O'Connell, Greg Johnson

Twin Lakes: Chuck Tritz, Don McIntosh

Guests: Doug Kingsley – MN DNR Fisheries, Shane Foley - SWCD

Previous Meeting Minutes: Amend Feb. 3, 2011 Minutes to include MSP approval of \$500.00 for Lake Protection Grants under SWCD and Shane Foley. MSP the amended Feb. 3, 2011 Minutes.

Treasurer's Report: John Weber

- MSP the dues for next fiscal year 2011 -2012 at \$4/ lake association member with a cap of \$600.00 for lake associations with 150 or more members.
- MSP taking \$585.00 from the Gary Stolzenberg memorial to go toward the Hubbard County Lakeshore Guide.
- A letter was sent to Lake Association Presidents telling of the COLA dues for 2011-12, asking for support from Associations for the Children's Freshwater festival for 2012, the costs for the 2011 water quality testing have been raised to a multi-tier fee from \$145 to \$155 per lake with the full

cost for sampling at \$200.00 per lake which stayed the same. The Restore the Shore tree orders are in and the Rearing ponds are now being funded by the DNR and associations do not need to support this project.

- A donation of \$250 was received from Timber Creek Dock & Lift services.
- MSP to continue the Hubbard County GIS program for the cost of \$250.00. Ed Mutsch is still the coordinator for this program.
- Mid June billings will be sent to each lake association that is doing water testing.
- John said that 98% of COLA's revenue is from dues.
- MSP a motion by Ken Grob that Dan should be reimbursed \$250.00 for representing us at the Minnesota Waters Conference.
- Dan Kittilson will send out mailing information for Melissa Paakh who is asking for donations to help support her writing of a children's book. Each association can contribute to her if they would like.
- MSP to accept the Treasurer's report.

Guest Speaker: None

Committee Reports:

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

- a. The email coordinator's list was updated
- b. **COLA Call** – Steve Hall
Steve has an article coming out and would appreciate any suggestions for topics for articles. Please contact Steve: 732-8907.
- c. **Newsletter update** – John Hastings
The newsletter will come out the first part of June. If your association has any changes in email addresses please contact John at 732-3260. Please send a copy of your lake association newsletter to John so he can get information into the COLA newsletter.
- d. **Each association needs to ask their association.**
John was asking each lake association to give COLA their email list for getting time sensitive information out.
- e. Ken Grob, Julie Kingsley and Steve Hall have met with University Minnesota Extension educator Sally Shearer to develop a water quality workshop in August. There will be a meeting Thursday, May 12 at 3:30 at Bella Café to plan the event.
- f. Please check out COLA's website at

www.minnesotawaters.org/group/hccola/welcome. There is a wealth of information there for your use and education.

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

- a. **Restore the Shore:** Mary Jo Groehler
Pick up of all ordered trees was at the May 5 COLA meeting. The 2011/12 Restore the Shore order forms are available in hard copy and also online. Please contact your lake association's Restore the Shore coordinator.
- b. **Water Quality Monitoring:** Jerry Knoblich
 - i. Registration forms are available for each lake association that is doing water quality monitoring. These need to be sent to Jerry as soon as possible.
 - ii. There will be a training/equipment pick up at 7:00 P.M. Wednesday May 11 at the Hubbard County Courthouse.
 - iii. Water testing dates for May are the 15, 16.
- c. **Freshwater Festival**
The Festival will be held May 4, 2011 and fees for this year have been met. If your lake association has already contributed they will go toward the 2012 Festival.
- d. **Hubbard County Shoreline Guide** – Shane Foley
 - i. A donation from the Gary Stolzenberg memorial of \$585.00 was made for the publishing of the Shoreline guide. The third week in May the guides will be ready. Lake Emma township will mail a brochure to each of the residents that live on the water in their township.
 - ii. A thank you to all the people who submitted photos for the brochure.
 - iii. Larry Roberts sent around a sheet for the dates of each association's spring meeting so the brochures can be available for those meetings.
- e. **Hubbard County Water Resource Advisory Committee** – Shane Foley
A survey has been sent out; if you received one please send it back. If you have not received one contact Shane. COLA sits on the water plan board.
- f. **Hydro Lab** – Shane Foley
The hydro lab is available for your association to take Dissolved oxygen (DO) and temperature profiles of your lakes. Shane has room for 3 more lakes to sign out the equipment. He will provide the necessary training.

C. **Government Liaison – State/LGU**

a. Impact Political Action Committee

- i. County meeting sign-up sheets are now being handled by this committee. Dates of the upcoming meetings can be found on the Hubbard County website www.co.hubbard.mn.us.

ii. State Legislative issues:

Reauthorization of Shoreland Standard Rules (SF 0941). Please contact your legislatures to support the reauthorization of these Shoreland rules.

- iii. Lake service provider training was offered on March 28, 2011 for dock installers.

iv. Lawsuit/Appeal:

The county and Rehkamp's are challenging the decision the judge awarded to COLA. The process will take another 9 – 12 months.

v. Hubbard County BOA & Planning Commission

The IPA committee continues to monitor monthly BOA, Planning commission and County Board meetings.

ESO is now providing a much better analysis of variance requests and Eric is providing recommended Findings of Facts for the BOA to follow, which they did last month.

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

- a. 19 lake associations attended the Feb. meeting
- b. Any reps who need books please contact Deb Rogers at 732-3357.
- c. A one night training session for new lake association representatives will be offered some time this summer.
- d. Any new lakes that would like to start a new lake association there is a \$100.00 start-up grant available from Hubbard COLA.

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

- a. DNR AIS Prevention & Watercraft Inspection grants has been applied for.

- b. 2011 AIS Task Force Initiatives
 - i. Large AIS sign is available to show at meetings.
 - ii. Larry Roberts showed a drain plug with attachment for your boat that could be a good “plug” for COLA. The cost was \$4.75 from a boat dealer.
 - iv. During boat inspections last summer there were 20 incidents in Hubbard County of boats coming from AIS/Zebra mussel infected lakes of Mille Lacs, Minnetonka, and Alexandria.
 - v. Another training for dock installers will be offered this summer. If you know of any installers please contact Darrin Hoverson so they can be notified of the trainings.
 - vi. MN Waters/DNR will be offering a 4 hour class on AIS lake monitoring and early detection.

Executive Committee Report

- The Executive committee initiatives have focused on Strategic Planning, Action Media communication strategies, Legislative issues, Impact Political Action initiatives, COLA Collaborative and routine COLA tasks.

President’s Updates/Announcements:

- HLRP – Long Lake finished their lake management plan and received a grant to do vegetative mapping. They will also be doing a watercraft inspection program and have applied for 501(c)3 status with their lake foundation. Spider and Boulder lakes also received project grants.
- There will be another Aquatic vegetation workshop on plant ID and AIS ID. Watch for more information to come, it will be in late June.
- Minnesota Waters will be holding their conference April 28 – 29, 2011 in St. Cloud.
- Minnesota COLA Collaborative: \$1,000.00 from Hubbard COLA was given to the Collaborative to help hire a lobbyist at the state level to help with getting our message/legislation passed about AIS issues.

Special Topics:

- Future speaker topics: Chuck Diessner will give a presentation on Variance Issues & the Board of Adjustment at the June 30th COLA meeting.

Unfinished Business:

- Strategy Management plan: continue to work on the plan and to develop COLA’s story with Action Media.

- Vice President search is on-going. We need to engage more volunteers/leaders to help our leadership continue the work of COLA. Please contact Dan Kittilson if you are interested in the position.

New Business:

- Larry Roberts said that Unknown Legends will make up shirts, sweatshirts, and hats with the COLA logo on them to help with Managing Public image. More information and costs will be coming.
- E911 lake side sign information was presented by Larry Roberts with a sample available. The cost would be a \$65 set up fee for a 53/4” by 113/4” metal sign. You can get 64 stamps out of a sheet of metal and the cost/person would be \$20. This would have a drawing of your lake on it. For more information call Larry Roberts. The signs are made at Next Innovations in Walker.
- Katie Magossi with the Hubbard County Chamber of Commerce has asked if COLA would like to help sponsor a web cam located at the Red Bridge in Park Rapids. The cost would be \$1,100.00 for the camera and our logo would be placed on it. There is a webcam located in downtown Park Rapids and you can Google webcams in Hubbard County and it should come up. This topic was sent to the Executive Committee for further discussion.
- There is a 3 to 5 part AIS video series developed by the Pelican River Watershed District and they are asking for donations to help fund the project. These videos will be available for use by lake associations. MSP to give the \$250.00 donation from Timber Creek dock installers to this project.
- COLA needs to engage and find new leaders and volunteers.

Initiatives For the Next Months:

- Continue the Executive Committees initiatives
 - √¹ Strategy Management
 - √¹ Impact Political Action: with Board of Adjustment, Hubbard County Commissioners and legislative issues
- COLA Collaborative
- Structure and staff COLA committees/work on Education and Communications processes.

What's Happening on Your Lake:

- Lake Association newsletters should be sent to John Hastings and Dan Kittilson.

- Please provide updated contact information for reps, presidents & email coordinators to Mary Ann Erpelding.
- Palmer Lake has concerns about the county putting in concrete pads on their Public access. They are concerned with wash out and erosion. Doug Kingsley DNR Fisheries stated that the cement pads are made to prevent wash out and erosion and that most Public accesses have them.
- Fish Hook Lake and River association is looking into putting up a dock near the Red Bridge so pontoons can tie up without tearing up the banks of the river.

Next Meeting:

NOTE CHANGE: The next regular meeting will be Thursday June 30, 2011 at 6:30 P.M. at the Northwoods Bank Community room. The social gathering will start at 6:00 p.m.. Please note the earlier time and place change for the program on Variance issues.