

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA MINUTES

June 30, 2011

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

www.minnesotawaters.org/group/hccola/welcome

“COLA is the Leader in Protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers”

- ◆ **Call to Order:** Introductions/other agenda items
- ◆ **Announcements:** Donations for goodies & Clean up help needed
- ◆ **Welcome to Guests and New Members**
- ◆ **Program:** “Variance Requirements under the new state law and impacts on water quality” by Chuck Diessner and Doug Kingsley.
- ◆ **Presentation by Ruth Bergquist:** Becker County is having a Biological survey done and there will be a presentation on the results July 14, 2011 at 7:00 pm at the Detroit Lakes Technical College auditorium C-101. Social hour at 6:30 pm.

◆ **Representatives:**

Bad Axe: Mary Ann Erpelding

Belle Taine: Al Peterson, Dick Boehmer

Big Mantrap: Linda Johnson, Helen Marsh, Lyle Laske

Big Sand: Irene Weis

Blue: Brenda Johnson

Boulder: Steve Hall

Lower Crow Wing:

Middle Crow Wing: Dan Edstrom

8th & 9th Crow Wing: Julie Kingsley

10th & 11th Crow Wing: Katie Magozzi

Duck: Deb Rogers

Eagle: Jerry Grudem, Janine Weideman,

Emma/Bottle/Stocking:

Fish Hook: Jan Rumpza

Gilmore:

Island South: Brad Benson

Ham: Paul Jensen

Hinds: Lynn Weis

Kabekona: Rolf Smeby

Little Sand: Dan & Ruby Kittilson, Mary Groehler,

Long: Bill Anderson, Sharon Natzel

Mow:

Palmer: Dan McCorry

Peysenske: John Clauer

Plantagenet:

Portage: Jerry Knoblich, Marilyn Peterson

Potato: Kevin Brauer, John Hastings, Chuck Diessner, Ken Grob

Spider: John Weber,

Stony: Greg Johnson

Tripp: Theora & Lynn Goodrich

Twin Lakes: Don McIntosh

Guests: Deanna Johnson – W. Crooked Lake, Doug Kingsley MN DNR, Ruth Bergquist.

- ◆ **MSP Minutes May 5, 2011 meeting.**

◆ **Treasurer's Report:** John Weber

1. MSP motion to allocate \$230.00 for a budget for the Membership Committee.
2. MSP the Treasurer's report.

Committee Reports:

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

- a. **Cola Call** – Steve Hall. Other articles are needed, please contact Steve if you would like to submit an article. A suggestion was made to have Shane Foley SWCD do an article on Lake Water quality monitoring.
- b. **Newsletter** – John Hastings. The newsletter will be published in mid summer
- c. **COLA data base** – John Hastings. John is asking if each lake association would provide him with their lakes email addresses.
- d. **COLA Education Initiatives** – There will be a Shoreline Buffer workshop/bus tour Sat. August 27 put on by Sally Shearer and the UM extension.

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

- a. **Restore the Shore** – Mary Jo Groehler. Mary Jo needs each lake association's Restore the Shore lake coordinators contact information. The order packets for 2012 are available both in paper form and on-line. Contact Mary Jo at 732-4200 or mjgroehler@yahoo.com.
- b. **Water Quality Monitoring** – Jerry Knoblich. There has been some miss communication about water testing and lake associations not picking up equipment nor getting water samples in. Updated contact information for Bottle/Emma/Stocking; Upper Crow Wing lakes; Lower Crow Wing lakes; Duck; Hines and Fish Hook lake associations water quality monitoring samplers is needed. Please get this information to Jerry.
- c. **Freshwater Festival** – The 2011 Freshwater Festival was held in May for all Hubbard County 6th graders at Camp Wilderness Boy Scout camp. Thank you to all the volunteers and for the financial support of the lake associations to make this day a success.
- d. **Hubbard County Shoreland Guide** – **The SWCD** has the new Hubbard County Shoreland Guide available for all paid members of each Lake association within COLA. Contact

Shane Foley at 732-0121 or Dan Kittilson at 732-5566 to receive your copies.

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

- a. **Impact Political Action committee** – This committee has been working with the Hubbard County Board of Commissioners, the Board of Adjustment and the Planning Commission.
- b. **Lawsuit Update** – An appeal to our lawsuit is in the process. Hubbard County/Rehkamp's have until July 22 to file a brief. COLA/Ed Mutsch/ Middle Crow Wing have until Aug. 22 to respond. The Center for Environmental Advocacy has decided to support COLA in this law suit.

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

- a. **Updated Lake Representatives/Alternates and Presidents lists** – Mary Ann suggested that any updates to these lists should be sent to Dan Kittilson at drkittil@q.com and he will email the lists to lake association representatives prior to the next meeting.
- b. **Budget for this committee** - \$230.00 yearly budget was established for this committee to update representative books.
- c. **Social event** – A social event is being planned for Wed. Sept. 7, 2011. Watch for more details.
- d. **Training for COLA Representatives** – This committee will be holding a training session for all COLA representatives July 28, 2011 at 6:30 pm before the regular COLA meeting. Any and all COLA representatives and alternates are invited to attend.

E. Invasive Species/Exotics Task Force (K. Grob): Ken presented a handout on the AIS activities.

a. Legislative Action

- i. An AIS bill was passed and signed by the Governor. This bill will increase AIS enforcement; increase public awareness; improve watercraft inspection process; require lake service providers training and licensing;

requires boat decals; puts the focus on high-use infested waters; increase funding for AIS.

- ii. AIS funding bill (pending) – would increase the surcharge on boat license (\$10 - \$25); increase the surcharge on non-resident fishing licenses (\$3).

b. Watercraft Inspections:

- i. **BMLA** – Contract with LLBO for 16/day and 7/day per week.
- ii. **Long Lake** – DNR grant for 500 hours (Township support and lake funding)
- iii. **Potato Lake** – DNR grant for 500 hours (Lake Emma & Argo Townships and Potato Lake funding)
- iv. **Eagle & Big Sand** – 50 hours each from DNR support.
- v. **Shortage of inspectors** – As the demand for watercraft inspectors has increased the need for trained volunteer inspectors and trainings are going to be the future of this program.

c. Lake Service Provider Training –

- i. New state law requires service provider training
- ii. Park Rapids area training session is planned for Aug. 17
- iii. Each lake association should encourage their lake property owners to use only trained providers and to check the inspection routine when the provider does any work.

d. Lake Monitoring Training Workshop –

- i. A class was completed on June 15 with 30 attendees.
- ii. A second workshop class will be held July 16 at Northwoods Bank community room at 9:00 A.M. Sign up or email Ken Grob. This class will be sponsored by the Hubbard County Extension Service.

e. Volunteer Inspection Training –

- i. This training should be a major initiative for every lake association
- ii. COLA volunteer inspection handbooks have been completed by Dan McCorry and copies are available to each lake association that has had the training.
- iii. June 28 Volunteer training session was completed by Fish Hook watershed (Eagle, Potato, Blue, Fishhook & Portage)

- iv. To schedule training contact Bruce Anspach of DNR. Another session has been scheduled for July 30 with the place to be announced.
 - v. If a state shutdown occurs, volunteer inspections “should NOT” be held because of no insurance liability coverage.
- f. DNR Public Awareness Grant has provided:**
- i. Billboards; radio announcements; installation of large launch site signs for AIS.
 - ii. Resort folders on AIS have been assembled and need to be distributed to resorts.
 - iii. A new AIS information card was designed and is now available for distribution with the new Hubbard County Shoreland guide thanks to the work of Jeff Bjorkman.
 - iv. A Zebra mussel power point presentation is available from Ken Grob or Jeff Bjorkman for lake association meetings.

Executive Committee Report:

- A. Initiatives have focused on Strategic planning, Action Media communication strategies, legislative issues, Impact Political Action initiatives, the COLA collaborative
- B. In July and August there will be By Law amendments presented.

President’s Updates/Announcements:

- A. MN COLA Collaborative **is in the process of** formally organizing their by-laws, mission, membership, organization, administration and budget by 18 participating counties.
- B. “Sparkle Lake” – A children’s book written by Melissa Paakh is now available for order about children saving the best fishing lake ever from degradation and pollution. The illustrations are done by Detroit Lake area children. The cost is \$17 which includes shipping. You can get more information from Melissa Paakh at 20079 Town & Country Estates Lane, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501.

Unfinished Business:

A. Strategy Management Plan

- i. COLA presentations/displays and brochures are available for Lake Association meetings.
- ii. COLA’s success story is available for Lake Associations.

- iii. COLA Logo printed clothing is available from Unknown Legends in Dorset including hats, polo's & sweatshirts. Contact them for what you want and for prices.
- iv. Vice President search is continuing. If you are interested in the position please contact Dan Kittilson.

New Business:

- A. A finance committee and chair are needed for the Multiple Revenue Streams committee. If you are interested in this committee please contact Dan Kittilson.

What's Happening on Your Lake:

- ◆ If your lake association has a newsletter please send copies to John Hastings and Dan Kittilson.
- ◆ Please provide updated contact information for reps, presidents, e-mail coordinators, water samplers, restore the shore coordinators and AIS lake coordinators.

Next Meeting:

Thursday July 28, 2011 at 6:00 pm social gathering; 6:30 pm for representative training and 7:00 pm for the regular meeting. The meeting site has changed to the Northwoods Bank Community room.

MSP to adjourn meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted July 14, 2011 by Julie Kingsley, COLA Secretary