

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA MINUTES

July 28, 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: Meeting called to order at 6:30 P.M. by President Dan Kittilson
Introductions/other agenda items

Announcements: Donations for goodies and clean-up help needed.

Thank you to Mary Jo Groehler, Helen Marsh and Ruby Kittilson for the goodies.

Welcome to guests and members: Everyone introduced themselves and told of something special or unique about themselves.

Lynn Goodrich is the new representative from Tripp Lake and will be joining the Executive Committee.

Program: “COLA Representative Orientation and Training” Mary Ann Erpelding

Representatives:

Bad Axe: Mary Ann Erpelding

Belle Taine:

Big Mantrap: Helen Marsh, Lyle Laske,
Burney & Barb Fischer

Big Sand: Irene Weis, Barb Kimer

Blue: Peter Tuomisto

Boulder: Steve Hall

Lower Crow Wing:

Middle Crow Wing:

8th & 9th Crow Wing: Shirley Koltes, Julie
Kingsley

10th & 11th Crow Wing:

Duck: Deb Rogers

Eagle: Janine Weideman

Emma/Bottle/Stocking:

Fish Hook: Marvel Haynes

Gilmore: Keith Minkel, Tom Thielges

Island South:

Ham:

Hinds:

Kabekona:

Little Sand: Dan & Ruby Kittilson, Mary
Jo Groehler

Long: Larry Roberts, Sharon Netzel, Bill
Cowman

Mow:

Palmer:

Peysenske: Jeff Sievers

Plantagenet:

Portage: Jerry Knoblich

Potato: Ken Grob,

Spider: Hillary Stoltz, John Weber

Stony:

Tripp: Lynn Goodrich

Twin Lakes: Don McIntosh

Guests: Doug Kingsley – MN DNR Fisheries

Approval of Minutes from June 30, 2011: MSP to approve June 30, 2011

Minutes with the correction of adding Hillary Stoltz to those in attendance at that meeting.

Treasurer's Report: John Weber

Handout on the Treasurer's report.

- John reported that **Belle Taine, Blue, Fish Hook, Lower Crow Wing and Palmer** lakes have not paid their bill for water testing for the year. Each representative please check with your treasurer to take care of this matter.
- A CD has matured and will be cashed and added to the general fund.
- John will be sending out dues notices to each lake association on Aug. 10, 2011. Dues remain at \$4.00 per person in each lake association with a cap of \$600.00 to those lakes with memberships over 150 members.
- **MSP Treasurer's report**

Announcements:

- **"From Me to You"** request sheet was handed out by Dan Kittilson for each lake representative to fill out and turn back in at the end of the meeting. There is a form at the end of the minutes for those who were unable to attend. Please return to Dan Kittilson with your comments.

Committee Reports:

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

- a. **COLA CALL** – There is a need for articles for the COLA Call. If you have a topic that you would like to write about please contact Steve Hall.
- b. **Newsletter** – John Hastings said the Newsletter will be coming out shortly.
- c. **COLA Data Base** – John Hastings and Lynn Goodrich are working on this.
- d. **Shoreline Buffer workshop and tour August 27, 2011.** This is being hosted with the Hubbard County Extension. For more information contact Sally Shear at 732-3391.

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

- a. Jerry Knoblich has turned in his resignation as Chair of this committee and asked for volunteers. Peter Tuomisto volunteered and will be the new Chair. Thank you Peter!
- b. **Restore the Shore** – Mary Jo Groehler
 - i. **Contact information sheets** for each lake association's Restore the Shore coordinator were passed around and updated. If you have new information please contact Mary Jo at 732-4200 or mjgroehler@yahoo.com

- ii. **2012 Restore the Shore order packets** are available in both print and electronic formats. If you need one contact your lake association Restore the Shore coordinator or Mary Jo.
- c. **Water Quality Monitoring –**
 - i. **Contact information sheets** for water quality monitoring were passed around and updated. If you have new or changed information please now contact Peter Tuomisto at Ptuumisto@rescol.com or 732-0963.
 - ii. **Hubbard County Shoreland Guide** – copies are available from Dan Kittilson and from Shane Foley at the Hubbard County SWCD.
 - iii. **Hubbard County Water Plan** – Shane Foley
There was a meeting on July 28th to begin the process of re-writing Hubbard County’s water plan. This happens every 5 years. In the past the emphasis has been on impaired waters. The new water plan will focus on protecting the health of our lakes including lakes with excellent water quality and lakes that have declining water quality. Further focus areas will include ground water protection and education relating to ground and surface water. A suggestion was made that when looking at the budget for the water plan that a consideration for increasing the amount of money that the plan gives for COLA water testing from \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00, as it has been in the past.

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

- a. **Hubbard County Board of Adjustment /Planning Commission/County Board:** There will be a Public Hearing at the County board meeting on Aug. 3 at 11:15 a.m. for public input on Fee Schedule changes for permits, variances and after-the-fact variances. COLA will encourage the County to approve a fee schedule that is competitive with other Counties and will provide the necessary resources for the County to address inspections and enforcement of approved variances. This year there have been 12 reported violations relating to vegetative alternations, grading and filling in the shore impact zone within the county. The new fee schedule would make it

more costly to do an after the fact variance and hopefully discourage this type of action in the future.

- b. COLA has asked that the Board post their meeting agenda at least one week before the meeting takes place. This has not been done in the past.
- c. **COLA Lawsuit** – An appeal has been brought forward by the Rehkamp's on the results of the lawsuit. COLA has until Aug. 24 to file a brief. The Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy will also be filing an amicus brief supporting COLA and the ruling from the judge.
- d. **Rehkamp's are filing another variance** – Aug. 15, 2012 the Rehkamp's are appearing before the Board of Adjustment and filing a new variance for their development. They are asking for 7 docks, 4 in the first tier and 3 in the 2nd tier. Please come and support COLA at the meeting Aug. 15 at 9 AM in the Courthouse.

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

- a. **Sept. 7, 5:00 PM** there will be a social event at Zorbaz's. Come and have a fun time.
- b. **Representative reference books** – each lake association representative should have an updated reference book. If you do not please contact Mary Ann Erpelding at maerp2@gmail.com or 732-4339.
- c. **An electronic copy of Presidents and Lake Representatives** was sent out prior to the meeting. If you did not receive this please contact Mary Ann. This will be the format from now on to save on paper and be more timely. If your association has any changes in representatives please contact Dan Kittilson with the new information.

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

- a. **Legislative Action:** An AIS funding bill is pending in the state that would increase new surcharge on boat licenses (\$10.00 - \$25.00); increase surcharge on non-resident fishing licenses (\$3).
- b. **Watercraft Inspections:** Long Lake, Potato, Eagle and Big Sand received DNR grants for water craft inspections. There is a need to increase volunteer training and inspections.
- c. **Lake Service Providers:** There is a new state law that every Lake service provider now has to have completed training. There is a Park Rapids area training session planned for Aug. 17. It is important that you as a lakeshore owner ask for your service provider to show you

their training certificate and be sure to check the inspection routine when a provider does work for you.

- d. **Lake Monitoring training workshop:** This is part of a lake association core program. It is a 4 hour course on AIS identification and monitoring program. A class was completed on June 15 with 30 attendees and a second class was completed on July 16 with another 30 attendees. Thank you to the UM Extension office for funding support. At the second workshop Curly leaf pondweed was found on Spider Lake.
- e. **Volunteer Inspection training** – This should be a major initiative for each lake association. A COLA volunteer inspection handbook has been completed by Dan McCorry and a copy is available to any lake association that completes the training. To schedule a training please contact Bruce Anspach of DNR at 218-699-7295 or e-mail at bruce.anspach@state.mn.us. **Another training will be held:** 10:00 Sat. July 30 near Detroit Lakes at Dunton Locks (Muskrat Lake). It is right next to the Detroit Lakes DNR office.
- f. **DNR Public Awareness Grant:** This grant has provided Hubbard County with billboards, radio spots, AIS launch site signs.
 - i. **Resort Folder:** This grant helped provide folders for every Resort in Hubbard County with information on AIS. Lake representatives please return the distribution information sheet to Ken Grob as soon as you have delivered the folders.
 - ii. **New AIS information card:** this is available contact Dan Kittilson or Ken Grob.
 - iii. **Zebra Mussel presentation:** Ken Grob has a power point presentation on Zebra Mussels that is available for each lake association to use. Ken will present it at the next COLA meeting in August.
- g. A suggestion was made by Barb Kimer that the COLA Collaborative petition the state to quarantine infested Zebra mussel lakes or at least provide hot water wash stations at infested lakes.

Executive Committee Report:

- A. **Executive Committee Initiatives** continues to focus on the COLA By-laws, membership data base, strategic planning, Action Media communication strategies, legislative issues, Impact Political Action initiatives & routine COLA tasks.
- B. **By-Laws Amendments** –Dan Kittilson will be sending out more information in the next month on these changes. The actual language for all the Bylaw changes

have been emailed to each lake association president and representative. Please read them.

These are a summary of changes from the Nov. 2010 By-Laws:

1. Paragraphs will be numbered rather than referred to as Section ____ because it is easier to make a reference to the single numbered paragraph rather than having to refer to an article and section.
2. Each paragraph has a title for ease of reference
3. The articles have been re-organized under a proper heading so they are easier to locate
4. Some article headings are new and some are revised to better organize the By-Laws
5. Clarification of some provisions
6. Some changes are made to provide greater flexibility
7. Remove some specific language from the Bylaws that you may want to change in the future so you don't have to amend the Bylaws every time you want to make such a change. For example, the dues for a sustaining member is no longer set forth in the Bylaws. This specific language will then become part of a resolution adopted by the Board that can then be amended from time to time by the Board as they deem necessary.

Comments on some specific changes to the indicated paragraph numbers are as follows:

- 2.1:** New mission is substituted for the previous statement of the purpose of COLA.
- 3.1:** There is a reference to annual dues “and fees” which allows the Board, as it deems necessary, to change not only dues but other fees. This flexibility is provided throughout the Bylaws.
- 3.2:** Clarifies that a multiple lake association will have one vote.
- 3.4 – 3.9:** 3.4 and 3.5 are unique to COLA and 3.6 – 3.9 are recommended provisions for an organization's bylaws that are not included in the current Bylaws.
- 4.2 – 4.5:** 4.2 – 4.5 are recommended provisions for an organization's bylaws that are not included in the current Bylaws.
- 5.1:** Provides that the notice for the change of a regular meeting or the calling of a special meeting must be given not only to the Representatives, but also the president and if there is a special meeting, notice must be 72 hours prior to the meeting, rather than the existing 24 hours.
- 5.6: New portion of 5.7 and 5.8 – 5.13:** Recommended provisions for an organization's bylaws that are not included in the current

Bylaws. 5.10 – 5.12 provide greater flexibility in conducting meetings and taking action.

- 6.1:** Clarifies that one or more of the offices of the vice president, secretary and treasurer can be held by one person.
- 6.2 -6.3:** Clarifies the election, appointment and term of the officers.
- 6.4 – 6.7:** The new language provides for a broader and more typical description of the duties and responsibilities of the officers.
- 6.8 – 6.12:** Recommended provisions for an organization’s bylaws that are not included in the current Bylaws.
- 7.1 -7.2:** Clarifies the members of the executive committee and other matters relating to the executive committee and other committees.
- 9.1 – 9.3:** Adds typical provisions relating to indemnification, conflict of interest and a standard of conduct. These provisions are recommended for an organization’s bylaws that are not included in the current Bylaws.
- 10.1:** Clarifies how the Bylaws can be amended.
- 11.1:** Provides that the vote for a dissolution will be by the Board, which includes the representatives, president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and past president rather than just by the Representatives as provided in the current Bylaws.

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Steve Hall brought up the bylaw regarding persons that are members but that do not live on lake not having voting rights. There was discussion on the topic. Ken told the membership that there were 2 categories of people that were considered. Those people who do not represent an organized Hubbard County lake association and the 2nd group is persons that are in an association but are not the COLA representative. Ken explained that COLA is made up of associations, each association gets one vote. COLA is like the Senate not the House where no matter the size of the lake that association gets one vote.

President’s Updates/Announcements:

- **Sparkle Lake** – order forms are available for this children’s book written by Melissa Paakh, see Dan Kittilson.
- **COLA’s Annual meeting in August** –election of officers/suspension of Bylaws.
- **Park Rapids Legacy week-end is Sept. 23 -25, 2011.**
Lake Protection Grants (Lake Participation)
Half Moon Road on Blue Lake

- **MN COLA Collaborative**
 - Organized as a result of threats to our lakes through AIS, shore land development & failure of our government to take action to protect our lakes and rivers.
 - Aug. 24, 2011, Nisswa meeting
 - Minnesota Public Radio interview
- **“The economic clout of water-influenced property”** – Hubbard County
 - Assessor addresses the County Commissioner, Aug. 3, 2011 at 10:45 am. Bob Hanson Hubbard County Assessor will be presenting. 37% of properties in Hubbard County with water-influence account for 60% of the taxable market value and slightly over 60 % of the tax revenue within the county.
 - COLA urges attendance at Aug. 3 Commissioner’s meeting
- **Minnesota Waters new Executive Director:** Lois Sinn Lindquist

Special Topics:

- **Zebra Mussel presentation at Aug. 25, 2011 COLA meeting** presented by Ken Grob.

Unfinished Business:

- **Strategy Management Plan**
 - COLA presentations/displays at Lake Association meetings
 - 2011 COLA Initiatives – COLA Successes
 - Action Media Communication Strategies (COLA’s Story)
 - **COLA Clothing:** Unknown Legend Designs in Dorset has shirts, sweatshirts, and hats that can be embroidered with COLA’s logo.

New Business:

- **Custom Dock Signs** – Custom dock signs are available for \$40.00 with \$5.00 going to your lake association and another \$5.00 going to COLA. Contact Dan Kittilson.
- **Address Multiple Revenue Streams (Finance Committee & Chair)**
 - A Chairperson is needed for this committee
 - Tony Platz (Potato Lake) and Dennis Winskowski (Little Sand Lake) are willing to be on the committee.

Initiatives For the Next Four Months:

- Continue “Executive Committee initiatives”
 - Strategy management/COLA’s story
 - Impact Political Action (Influence local and state level actions)

- COLA Collaborative
- Structure and staff COLA committees/Work on Education & Communications process

What's Happening on Your Lake:

- **Please send your lakes Newsletters to Dan Kittilson and John Hastings**
- **Please provide updated contact information for representatives, presidents, e-mail coordinators, water samplers, Restore the Shore coordinators and AIS lake coordinators.**
- **Big Mantrap Lake:** has completed its 2nd vegetative sampling and also their 2nd Dissolved oxygen and temperature profile of the lake.
- **Spider Lake:** is doing vegetative mapping and had found one plant of Curly leaf pondweed but have not located any others. They will continue to look.
- **Boulder Lake:** is also doing aquatic plant mapping.
- **Long Lake:** is doing aquatic plant mapping and is also building an information Kiosk

Next Meeting:

Thursday August 25, 2011 at Northwoods Bank Community Room

6:00 pm: social gathering

6:30 pm: Zebra Mussel presentation by Ken Grob

7:00 pm: Annual meeting

MSP to adjourn meeting at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted Julie Kingsley, COLA secretary

Contact Information:

Dan Kittilson: drkittilson@q.com , 732-5566, President

Julie Kingsley: kingsley@unitelc.com, 652-4878, Secretary

John Weber: 652-2535, Treasurer

Steve Hall: steve@shorelinecreations.net, 732-8907, Education & Information

Ken Grob: Grobak@q.com, 732-0364, AIS

John Hastings: johnhastings@live.com, 732-3260, Newsletter

Judy Novak: birdsongbay@unitelc.com, 652-2229, website

Please note the “From Me to You Request Sheet” is following this document.

FROM ME TO YOU REQUEST SHEET:

Messages from the COLA Board Members to the COLA Executive Committee.

Date: _____

It would be more beneficial for the Board and COLA if you would:

1. **Do the following things better or more often:**

2. Do the following things less or stop doing them:

3. Continue doing the following things:

4. Start doing these additional things:

*Please return to Dan Kittilson at 22924 County 7, Park Rapids, MN 56470
7/29/2011*