

# HUBBARD COUNTY COLA MINUTES

August 25, 2011

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

[www.minnesotawaters.org/group/hccola/welcome](http://www.minnesotawaters.org/group/hccola/welcome)

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

**Call to Order:** at 6:30 P.M.

**Introductions/other agenda items**

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

**Welcome to guests and members**

**Program:** “Zebra Mussel Impacts” by Ken Grob. This presentation is also available on Minnesota Waters website and Potato Lake website.

## **Representatives:**

**Bad Axe:** Mary Ann Erpelding

**Belle Taine:**

**Big Mantrap:** Linda Johnson, Helen Marsh,  
Lyle Laske

**Big Sand:** Irene Weiss,

**Blue:**

**Boulder:** Steve Hall

**Lower Crow Wing:**

**Middle Crow Wing:**

**8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing:** Julie Kingsley,  
Shirley Koltas

**10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing:**

**Duck:** Dean Long, Tom Mooney

**Eagle:** Gere Huebner,

**Emma/Bottle/Stocking:**

**Fish Hook:** Marvel Haynes,

**Gilmore:** Tom Thielges

**Island South:**

**Ham:** Paul Jensen

**Hinds:**

**Kabekona:** Pat DeChaine, Cheryl Hoium

**Little Sand:** Mary Jo Groehler, Dan &  
Ruby Kittilson

**Long:** Larry Roberts, Bill Cowman, Sharon  
Natzel

**Mow:**

**Palmer:** Bert & Janet Ahren,

**Peysenske:** Jeff Sievers,

**Plantagenet:**

**Portage:** Jerry Knoblich,

**Potato:** Ken Grob, Chuck Diessner, Bob  
Berdahl

**Spider:** Hillary Stoltz, John Weber

**Stony:** Greg Johnson

**Tripp:** Lynn & Theora Goodrich,

**Twin Lakes:** Dan McIntosh, Chuck Tritz,

**Guests:** Doug Kingsley – MN DNR Fisheries

**Approval of Minutes from July 28, 2011. MSP. (Motion, seconded, passed)**

**Treasurer’s Report:** John Weber

- ◆ Two lakes have not paid for this years water testing – Lake Belle Taine and the Lower Crow Wings. Please send your payment to John Weber at the COLA address.
- ◆ Motion by Mary Jo Groehler to take \$41.77 out of the General fund to pay off the deficit in the Restore the Shore account. MSP.
- ◆ Each lake association should have received the bill for 2012 membership. Please contact your association’s treasurer to see if this was received. Membership payments are due now.
- ◆ MSP to accept the Treasurer’s report.

## Committee Reports:

- A. **Lakeshore Education & Communications (J. Kingsley/S. Hall):**
- a. **COLA Call:** If anyone has ideas for an article or would like to write an article please contact Steve Hall.
  - b. **2011 COLA Newsletter:** The summer newsletter has been sent out via email or regular mail. Thank you to John Hastings for his work with the newsletter. Hard copies are available and also on-line, check the COLA website.
  - c. **COLA Data base:** John Hastings and Lynn Goodrich are continuing to work on this with Rich Rothermel.
  - d. **Shoreland Expo/Tour:** Saturday August 27, 2011 8:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. at Faith Baptist Church in Park Rapids Hwy. 71 South. Pre-registration is required. For more information contact Sally Shearer at UM Extension at (218) 732-3391.
- B. **Government Liaison – Civic (Peter Tuomisto):**
- a. **Restore the Shore:** Mary Jo Groehler.
    - i. The Restore the Shore order packets are available both in hard copy and on line. If you would like an order form contact Mary Groehler at 732-4200. The individual tree orders and money are due back to your association's lake coordinator **Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>**.
    - ii. Total lake orders due to COLA with payment by **Sept. 29, 2011**, the next COLA meeting.
    - iii. Contact information for Lake Coordinator's was updated. If you have a change in coordinator please contact Dan Kittilson.
  - b. **Water Quality Testing:** Jerry Knoblich.
    - i. Belle Taine and the Lower Crow Wing chain have not paid for this years water testing. Please send payment to John Weber.
    - ii. **Contact information:** for each lake association's water samplers was updated. If you have a change in sampler please contact Dan Kittilson.
    - iii. **Hubbard County Shoreland Guide:** there are copies still available. Contact Dan Kittilson. They are also available at the Hubbard County SWCD.
    - iv. **MN Association of Conservation Districts:** has nominated COLA for its Environmental Education award.
- C. **Government Liaison/ – State/LGU (Chuck Diessner):**
- a. **Impact Political Action:**

- i. The committee continues to attend the Hubbard County Board of Adjustment/Planning Commission/County Board meetings
- ii. **Lawsuit update:** COLA's brief addressing the appeal from the County and Rehkamp's was submitted Aug.24. The County and Rehkamp's have 15 days to respond. The case will go before the Court of Appeals in November. The Brief will be posted on COLA's website.

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

- a. **Attendance History:** 18 lake associations were represented at the July 28 meeting
- b. **Lake Representative training:** was done at the July 28 meeting. All representative notebooks should have been updated at that time. If not contact Mary Ann.
- c. **Updated list of reps and Presidents** – this is now being handled via e-mail. If your association has any additions or corrections please contact Dan Kittilson.
- d. **Hubbard County COLA note cards:** Shirley Koltes is making up note cards. If you would like to purchase some please contact Shirley 652-3327.
- e. **COLA Social at Zorbaz's:** This will be held on Sept. 7 at 5:00 P.M. at Zorbaz's. Wear your Zorbaz shirt or cap.

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

- a. **DNR Watercraft Inspection training** – There will be another watercraft inspection training August 26, 3:00 P.M. at Ken Grob's garage, 15388 Haakon Drive on Potato Lake.
- b. **Zebra Mussel blocks** – Little Sand Lake Association has cinder blocks available to suspend off the end of your dock to check for any Zebra mussels. The blocks cost \$.50 each. Contact Dan Kittilson.
- c. **Legislative Action** – The proposed watercraft surcharge increase did not pass in the legislature so we are still looking for long-term dedicated AIS funding for the future. Funding for AIS was increased significantly from last fiscal year (\$3.8 million) to \$7.2 million for fiscal year (FY12). Nearly half of the increase is a one-time appropriation (primarily from the Environmental Trust Fund). Other fund mechanisms include 1) \$5 surcharge on boat licenses; 2) \$2 surcharge on non-resident fishing licenses; and 3) Other transfers.
- d. **AIS stakeholders** – will have a meeting with DNR commissioner Landwehr on Sept. 1. Ken Grob is to attend
- e. **Long lake and Potato Lake** – received DNR grants for 500 hours each for watercraft inspections. Eagle and Big Sand Lakes received

50 hours each from the DNR. There were no inspections during the state shut down. The DNR will not achieve 500 hour contracts therefore there is the increased need for volunteer training and inspections.

**f. Lake Service Provider Training –**

- i. **New state law** – requires service provider training for anyone doing dock installation or removal.
- ii. **Lake Service Provider trainings** – were held Aug. 15 in Park Rapids and Aug. 16 in Detroit Lakes.
- iii. **List of certified Lake Service Providers – Park Rapids area:** Charlie’s Boat and Marine; Cutting Edge Lawn Co.; Dan’s All Season Service; Johnson’s on the Water Service; MCN Specialists; Northwoods Dock & Service; Randy Gries; Park Rapids and Walker area: Timber Creek Dock & Lift service.

**g. Lake Monitoring Training Workshop**

- i. **Lake monitoring should be a lake association core program.** This is a 4 hour course on AIS identification and monitoring program.
- ii. **Two classes have been completed** – June 15 and July 16 with 60 attendees participating.

**h. Volunteer Inspection Training**

- i. **Major initiative for each lake association.**
- ii. **COLA Volunteer inspection handbook is completed** – Copies are available to participants that have completed the course.
- iii. **Volunteer training course held June 28**
- iv. **Another training Aug. 26, 3:00 pm** contact Ken Grob for information.
- v. **Bruce Anspach available** – Bruce from the DNR is available for trainings. Contact him at (218) 699-7295 or e-mail at [bruce.anspach@state.mn.us](mailto:bruce.anspach@state.mn.us).

**i. DNR Public Awareness grant:**

- i. This grant has provided Hubbard County with Billboards, public access signage, radio announcements
- ii. **Resort Folders:** Each resort has received folders filled with AIS information
- iii. **AIS information card:** a new card was developed and is available for distribution.
- iv. **Zebra Mussel power point presentation available for lake association meetings.** The presentation can also be found at Minnesota Waters website and Potato Lake website.

### **Executive Committee Report:**

- Executive Committee initiatives have focused on COLA bylaws, strategic planning, Action Media communication strategies, legislative issues, Impact Political Action initiatives & routine COLA tasks.
- Bylaws amendment in July & August.

### **President's Updates/Announcements:**

- **Sparkle Lake** – a children's book written by Melissa Paakh. Order forms available from Dan Kittilson.
- **Wooden custom made dock signs** – cost is \$40.00 with \$5.00 going to your lake association and \$5.00 going to COLA. Contact Dan Kittilson.
- **Annual COLA Summary** – Review Strategic Action steps at September COLA meeting.
- **Healthy Lakes Legislative Forum** – will be held Sept. 23, 2011 at the Northern Lights Convention Center in Walker, MN from 2-5 P.M.
- **Partnership with Hubbard County Commissioners.**

### **Special Topics:**

- Please send suggestions for topics/future speakers to Dan Kittilson.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- A. **COLA Bylaws** – Chuck Diessner
  - a. Bylaw Revisions and amendments were emailed to everyone
  - b. Update the Bylaws and include language that was missing. The amendments and updates were passed out.
  - c. **MSP** to accept amendments and revisions for COLA Bylaws
- B. **Strategy Management Plan**
  - a. **2011 COLA initiatives**
  - b. **COLA clothing** – is available from Unknown Legends in Dorset.
- C. **Park Rapids Legacy Weekend** – Sept. 23 -25, 2011
  - a. **COLA Display available** - in conjunction with SWCD and DNR showing Lake Protection grants, Half Moon Road on Blue Lake and COLA success story.
- D. **The economic clout of water influenced property** – information from Bob Hanson, Hubbard County Assessor
- E. **Address Multiple Revenue Streams** (Finance committee) – additional members are needed.

### **New Business:**

- A. **Bylaws resolution to extend President's term** – as the Bylaws were

updated the section on terms of President were amended to allow Dan Kittilson to serve as president for an additional two year term. MSP with No opposition.

- B. **A Vice President is still needed**, anyone interested please contact Dan Kittilson
- C. **Appointment of Secretary and Treasurer** – Julie Kingsley will continue as Secretary and John Weber will continue as Treasurer.
- D. **Appreciation gift for Shane Foley, SWCD** – Shane will be leaving Park Rapids and an envelope was passed around for a Thank You gift for him.

### **Initiatives For the Next Four Months:**

- Continue “Executive Committee initiatives”
  - **Strategy Management/COLA’s story**
  - **Impact Political Action** (Influence local and state level actions)
  - **Address Multiple Revenue Streams**
- **COLA collaborative**
- **Structure and Staff COLA Committees/Work on Education & Communication processes.**

### **What’s Happening on Your Lake:**

- Lake Association newsletters – send your associations newsletters 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.
- **Big Mantrap Lake** – has completed their 3<sup>rd</sup> AIS vegetation survey and will begin doing hydro lab sampling
- **Long Lake** – has completed an information kiosk at their public access.
- **Palmer Lake** – has new signage up and has put up posts to keep people on public access property. They are writing a grant to provide re-vegetation.
- **DNR Fisheries Public meetings: Sept. 15** – 7:00 pm at Laporte school on the Lester Lake property for an emergency total catch and release regulation and **Sept 28**, 7:00 pm at Northwoods Bank community room on a protected slot limit for walleyes on Big Sand Lake.

### **Next Meeting:**

***September 29, 2011 at Northwoods Bank Community Room.*** Social at 6:30 pm with the meeting at 7:00 pm.

**MSP to adjourn meeting at 8:55 pm**

Respectfully submitted Julie Kingsley, secretary

### **Contact Information:**

Dan Kittilson: [drkittilson@q.com](mailto:drkittilson@q.com) , 732-5566, President

Julie Kingsley: [kingsley@unitelc.com](mailto:kingsley@unitelc.com), 652-4878, Secretary  
John Weber: 652-2535, Treasurer  
Steve Hall: [steve@shorelinecreations.net](mailto:steve@shorelinecreations.net), 732-8907, Education & Information  
Ken Grob: [Grobak@q.com](mailto:Grobak@q.com), 732-0364, AIS  
John Hastings: [johnhastings@live.com](mailto:johnhastings@live.com), 732-3260, Newsletter  
Judy Novak: [birdsongbay@unitelc.com](mailto:birdsongbay@unitelc.com), 652-2229, website