

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA

BOARD MEETING MINUTES - JULY 26, 2012

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

www.minnesotawaters.org/group/hccola/welcome

1. Call to Order: President Dan Kittilson at 7:00 P.M. July 6, 2012.

Representatives:

Bad Axe: Mary Ann Erpelding

Belle Taine: Dick Boehmer

Big Mantrap: Helen Marsh, Bernie Fischer

Big Sand: Irene Weis

Blue: Peter Tuomisto

Boulder: Steve Hall

Lower Crow Wing:

8th & 9th Crow Wing: Julie Kingsley

10th & 11th Crow Wing: Katie Magozzi

Duck: Tom Mooney

Eagle:

Emma/Bottle/Stocking:

Fish Hook:

Gilmore: Tom Thielges

Island South:

Ham: Paul Jensen, Arland Waters

Hinds: Lynn Weis

Kabekona:

Little Sand: Wayne Swanson, Mary Jo
Groehler, Dan & Ruby Kittilson

Long: Sharon Natzel

Palmer: Bert Ahern

Peysenske: Jeff Mosner

Plantagenet:

Portage: Jerry Knoblich

Potato: Ken Grob

Spider: Hillary Stoltz, John Weber

Stony:

Tripp: Lynn & Theora Goodrich

Twin Lakes: Don McIntosh, Chuck Tritz

Guests: Dennis Mackedanz, 2013 Task Force Chair for the Governor’s Fishing Opener

2. Guest Speaker: Dennis Mackedanz and Katie Magozzi spoke of the upcoming 2013 Governor’s Fishing Opener being held in Park Rapids on May 11, 2013. This is a media event to showcase the Park Rapids area and the highway 71 corridor up to Itasca State Park. Dennis and Katie made a request for volunteers to help sell raffle tickets for a Crestliner boat and a Fish house, volunteers for a kids fishing tournament, and volunteers for fishing hosts. There will be an informational meeting on Wednesday August 15, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. at the C’mon Inn in Park Rapids. If you have questions or require further information please contact the Park Rapids Chamber of Commerce.

3. Approval of Minutes from June 28, 2012 meeting: MSP

4. Treasurer’s Report: John Weber

- a. Restore the Shore had an \$8.26 deficit in the account. This was paid out of the General Fund and is now a \$0.
- b. MSP the Treasurer’s Report.

5. Unfinished Business:

- a. **2012 Strategic Action Report:** complete strategies #4, 5 and 6: Larry Roberts
 - o **Strategy #4 – Improve internal communications**
 - Summary of COLA minutes will be distributed to members

- Complete COLA minutes will be posted on the website and available on request
- Follow-up meeting with Action Media and Michael Goldberg to refine COLA's communication Strategies
- Establish presence at lake association meetings.
- Meet with lake association presidents
- **Strategy #5 – Education**
 - Re-organize Education committee
- **Strategy #6 – Manage Public Relations/External Communications**
 - Public Relations Committee: Larry Roberts, Katie Magozzi, Deanna Frazier and John Hastings.
 - Publish series of articles in Enterprise regarding Hubbard COLA and important lake issues.
 - Enhance website development.
- b. Minnesota Seasonal Recreational Property Owners (MSRPO) – join now as an individual or a lake association. You will then receive legislative updates.

6. New Business:

- a. Simplify the agenda and minutes. The full minutes will be available on the COLA website and distributed to COLA Reps. COLA will prepare summaries of actions taken or the more important items discussed at each COLA meeting for those not interested in complete minutes of meetings. COLA will encourage lake associations to distribute summarized minutes to their members.

6. President's Report: Dan Kittilson

A. Executive Committee Report:

1. August meeting will be Tuesday Aug. 21, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at the Park Rapids Chamber office.
2. There will be a follow up meeting with Action Media for Michael Goldberg to refine COLA's communication strategies.
3. Upcoming work will focus on 2012 strategic action priorities, committee matters, communication strategies, fund raising, MN COLA, engaging new volunteers and advocacy for stronger lake protection at the local and state level.
4. The COLA board suggested that the Executive committee conduct an annual President's update session on the 4th Thursday of May and invite all the lake association Presidents.

B. President's updates and announcements:

1. **MN COLA Report:** Dan Kittilson passed out sheets to get input from Lake Association Representatives regarding their legislative concerns under the headings of Aquatic Invasive Species; Shoreland Protection; Septic Issues; Water Quality/Agriculture concerns; DNR Funding/Legacy Amendment Funding; Land Protection and Accountability. These ideas will be compiled and given to the MN COLA board to review.
2. **COLA Visits to Lake Associations:** A COLA representative will do a presentation for the following lakes: Eagle, Fish Hook, Ham, Kabekona, Belle Taine, Big Sand, and Lower Crow Wing. Mark Sommer, SWCD, will speak at Palmer Lake.

7. Committee Reports:

- A. **Lakeshore Education & Communication:** Richard Sederstrom
 - a. The committee is undergoing re-organization.
 - b. “What COLA does” articles will be published in the Park Rapids Enterprise.
 - c. Conservation Minnesota has partnered with Minnesota Waters. COLA will continue its membership and website usage through Conservation Minnesota.
 - d. Lake Associations can continue their website hosting with MN Waters or MSPRO. The costs are the same.

- B. **Government Liaison – Civic:** Peter Tuomisto
 - a. **Restore the Shore:** Mary Jo Groehler
 - 1. The 2013 tree order forms are available and are due back to your lake coordinators by September 17, 2012 along with one check from your lake association for all trees ordered. Questions contact Mary Jo.
 - b. **Water Quality Monitoring:** Jerry Knoblich
 - 1. June had 100 % participation for water testing. 3 lakes did not pick up samples for the month of July. If you have questions please contact Jerry.
 - c. **Children’s Freshwater Festival:**
 - 1. **Donations are needed for the 2013 Freshwater Festival. Please send them to Hubbard COLA at PO Box 746, Park Rapids, MN 56470 with Children’s Freshwater Festival in the memo line.**
 - d. **Zebra Mussel Monitoring:** Peter Tuomisto
 - 1. Testing is on-going. Most of the first samples were included in the water quality samples and given to Jerry to take to RMB Labs in Detroit Lakes.
 - e. **Hydro Lab/Aquatic Plant Mapping-** Mark Sommer
 - 1. The Hydro Lab is available through the SWCD contact Mark Sommer at 732-0121 or mark.sommer@mn.nacdn.net

- C. **Government Liaison – State/LGU – Impact Political Action Committee:** Chuck Diessner
 - a. Board of Adjustment: The BOA approved 11 boat slips for the Rice Bay PUD.
 - i. COLA has impacted BOA actions. We have made a difference.
 - b. COLA would like to thank all our members for the strong COLA/Lake Association representation at the BOA meeting on July 16, 2012.
 - c. Future role of the IPA Committee: COLA will take a less active role with variance requests and will serve in an advisory capacity for lake associations with variance concerns on their lake. If your association has a concern on an upcoming variance request contact Chuck Diessner. While COLA will continue to monitor the BOA, we encourage your lake association to be more pro-active and monitor variance requests on your lake.
 - d. COLA will be working with the League of Women Voters to provide candidate forums for state and local offices in the upcoming November elections.

- D. **COLA Meeting and Attendance, Representation and Membership:** Mary Ann Erpelding
 - a. 22 Lake associations are represented tonight
 - b. The Representative notebooks are being updated.
 - c. **Social Gathering:** will be held Sept. 12 at Zorbaz at 5:00 p.m.

- E. **Finance Committee:** Lynn Goodrich

a. Update on Fund Raising campaign:

- i. COLA is asking each lake association to contribute to the COLA legal fund.
- ii. Has your association made their fair-share contribution based on \$20 per member to the fund?
- iii. Next steps:
 1. Associations join together to conduct a fund raising event such as pancake feed, garage sale, quilt raffle
 2. Associations organize a door to door fund raising campaign for legal fees.

F. Aquatic Invasive Species: Ken Grob

a. News:

- i. Pelican Lake in Crow Wing County is infested with Zebra mussels. 11th Crow Wing's lower basin now has Curly Leaf Pondweed.
- ii. DNR is now doing roadside checks
- iii. Veliger monitoring in Hubbard County started in July.
- iv. Volunteer inspection training was completed in June.

b. Local Government Units (LGU) – Watercraft Inspections

- i. Inspections are going well with good cooperation from the public
- ii. Some turnover of staff
- iii. Lake Association training for volunteer watercraft Inspectors was completed. We encourage each lake association to develop a watercraft inspector team. This would be to supplement the LGU inspectors.

c. Resort Folder Distribution

- i. 63 folders have been distributed to resorts
- ii. Good cooperation and support with resort owners and stressed the need for inspections at resort launch sites.

8. What's Happening on Your Lake:

- Please send lake association newsletters to John Hastings and Dan Kittilson
- Please provide updated contact information for reps, presidents and e-mail coordinators
- **Little Sand:** has finished AIS vegetation sampling and nothing was found. Northern Star resort is not letting people use their boat ramp. Little Sand is also doing Dissolved Oxygen/temperature study and has found that water temperatures this summer are the highest they have recorded. They are also doing a veligers study.
- **Long Lake:** is doing their second vegetation sampling in 4 high risk access areas.
- **Big Mantrap:** is doing Dissolved oxygen/temperature testing and asked if any other association has a model letter they could use for a fund raising campaign. 60% of their members contributed to the AIS fund.
- **Watercraft Inspections:** Julie Kingsley, watercraft inspector for Big Mantrap Lake, reported that approximately 950 inspections have been completed on that lake. Boats have come into Big Mantrap Lake from 12 different states, from 30 infested waters and from 161 different lakes and rivers in the United States and Canada. One case of Curly Leaf Pondweed and one case of Eurasian Water Milfoil were found coming into Big Mantrap Lake.

9. Next Meeting: Thursday, August 30, 2012, 6:30p.m. Social gathering, 7:00 p.m. meeting, Northwood's Bank Community Room.

10. Motion to adjourn: MSP to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Julie Kingsley, Secretary July 30, 2012.

Contact Information

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

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