



HUBBARD COLA
Board Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2014, 7:00 a.m., Northwood's Bank Community Room

www.hubbardcolamn.org

"COLA is the Leader in Protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers"

Lakes Present: Eagle, Spider, Twin, Big Sand, Little Sand, Peysenske, Kabekona, Fish Hook, Long, BelleTaine, Duck, Big Mantrap, 8th/9th Crow Wing, Potato, and Tripp.

Call to Order: President Dan Kittilson @ 7P.M. Dan passed out sticky notes for members to jot down questions or suggestions. He passed out new water testing forms and also made them available for download on the website. The presidents and representatives list have been updated, please check for accuracy. Additional agenda item (Sandpiper email to Dan) has been added for tonight.

Guest introduction: Carrie Hitchcock from *Northwoods Press*, Doug Kingsley from DNR Fisheries.

Approval of Minutes: October 31, 2013 meeting
The minutes done by Jan Rumpza, Fish Hook Lake, were approved. (Motion, Jeanine Weideman, 2nd, Dick Boehmer.) Passed by voice vote.

Introductions:
Everyone introduced themselves and gave their lake affiliation

Treasurer's Report:
We are looking for a new treasurer as John Weber is anxious to retire. We took in over \$3000 from the wild rice sale. Long Lake contributed \$100 for the Freshwater Festival. (We hope to get \$1200. to support this year's festival) John just transferred \$840.46 to the Northwest Foundation HCOLA Project Fund. There is over \$3000. in this fund.(Motion to accept as presented subject to audit from Lynn Goodrich, 2nd, Sharon Natzel.)

Announcements:
The Chili Cook off will be held at the Park Rapids American Legion Post on March 12, 2014 from 11A.M. to 1P.M.
The PUC will hold a public meeting on the Sandpiper Pipeline on March 12, 2014 at 11 A.M. The meeting will be held at the Armory in Park Rapids.
The Freshwater Festival will be May 7 on Bad Axe Lake. Contact the SWCD office (732-0121) or their website <http://hubbardswcd.org> for further information.

Unfinished Business:

Committee Reports:

The Education Committee will give 5 minute presentation at COLA each Meeting. These informative reports are part of their Action Plan from the IU Capstone Project.

Sharon Natzel, Education Committee, led with a brief rundown on their participation in the 4H Project Day on Presidents' Day at the Riverside Methodist Church. Call Sharon to volunteer. COLA will offer 3 classes, i.e. "Shoreline Habitat, with Steve Hall, designed to show students how to reduce their footprint at the lakeshore and re-introduce a healthy habitat. The take home message will be to enhance the shoreline habitat for animals. Students will be given a COLA bag with the Shoreline Guide and other information to take home.

COLA, along with the Stony Lake Association, is supporting the beach cleanup project by the 4H Stony Lake Beavers. A large sign is being placed at the beach to encourage lake good use / stewardship and to inform about AIS prevention.

Dick Boehmer from Belle Taine, asked about the proposed car counters at lake accesses. Eight lakes will buy them. The SWCD will buy three. Nate Sitz is waiting for DNR approval for their use at public accesses. They will be placed in the ground then at predetermined accesses and the results monitored and tabulated by the HSWCD. Nate and Julie Kingsley will present the summer 2014 findings to COLA when available. The information will be used to plan boat inspections in 2014 and following years

COLA Calendar: 2014 meeting calendar were distributed electronically, by Dan, and is available on the COLA website for download

New Business:

Finance and Fund Raising:

Lynn Goodrich brought up that expenses have greatly increased since AIS prevention has started so we are looking at different types of fundraisers. One is a spring "Back to the Lakes" Social and sports garage sale (of lake items) at the DNR Environmental Building (Fairgrounds,) a banquet (like at Blueberry Pines,) a Fall Festival in downtown Park Rapids (maybe a wine tasting event,) suggested by David Collins, PR Redevelopment Council. We will discuss the festival at the May meeting. We could hold a raffle at these events, also. We would like to expand an additional class of membership to interested persons or businesses not associated with a lake association. Estate planning to include COLA is an option. Call Dan or Lynn for more information.

Voices on the Water:

We are working to share our members' experiences and memories of the lakes with the public in our area. Dan Kittilson requested members and others submit stories of your times at the lake. Think of what makes your time there unique or special. These stories will be put in the COLA newsletter, on our website and possibility in area newspapers.

We are also talking to area TV and radio stations to feature these. One name suggested is for the series is "Voices on the Water."

Chili Challenge 2014:

The Chili Challenge is March 12. COLA is entering "Lake Lovers Chili." Come and enjoy the taste testing. Please give your donations to Theora Goodrich prior to March 11, 2014. Make checks out to the Hubbard County Food Shelf. Last year, COLA collected the most donations for the food shelf (\$1736) and won the People's Choice Award. Hopefully, COLA will have a repeat!!

Hubbard County BOA/PC news:

The Hagert request (Deer Lake garage) lost on a procedural basis. They could apply for a new variance on February 24.

Sandpiper Pipeline:

Megan Humphrey from the North Dakota Pipeline Company LLC's Sandpiper Pipeline wants to come to a COLA meeting. Discussion was held, the members present voted in favor of inviting Sandpiper to a March COLA pre-meeting. (All but one voted yes to invite them.) We will ask for a 45 minute presentation starting at 6:30 p.m. Dan and Lynn will follow-up on the invitation.

Watercraft inspections and AIS:

Ken Grob discussed Watercraft Inspections. We will perform inspections on 26 Hubbard County lakes in 2014. Many townships have contracted with the HSWCD to perform watercraft inspections. This is legal expenditure since they are contracting with another LGU (SWCD) to provide services that benefit their citizens. He asked that we attend our township annual meeting to request money for Watercraft Inspections. In 2014, there would have to have a resolution for money to come out of the General Levy; in 2015, money could be allocated as a line item in the General Levy.

Ken also reported on the County AIS Task Force. Eleven lakes did veliger testing (\$90). Every lake could do concrete block testing. They are creating a Rapid Response Plan if waters become invested with AIS. The decontamination Station will be at the Transfer Station. Julie Kingsley stated that SWCD applied through the DNR for a Level One and a Level Two Inspector grant. This would allow the HSWCD to offer "free of charge" boat denomination.

SWCD Grants:

Julie Kingsley discussed the Community Partners Grant program. We received \$100,000 to award for the under-served public. For example, Spider Lake was awarded \$25,000 for erosion control; the applicant must match 25% in dollars or in kind. Please contact Julie at the HSWCD office (218) 732-0121.

Water testing:

Information and new forms are available tonight and on the web site

What's happening on your lake?

Dan asked the question - "What's happening on your lake?"

Sharon Natzel said Long Lake, White Bear Lake, and one other lake are looking into increasing water appropriations because of contamination of ground water due to increased nitrates from agriculture. They are meeting monthly to come up with a plan.

Question was asked, how many lakes have emergency funds to treat AIS?" More than 5 lakes associations have established an AIS emergency fund. These include: Kabekona, Potato (\$80,000) 8th/9th Crow Wing (\$2000)

Adjournment:

Lynn Goodrich moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Jeff Mosner.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Theora Goodrich, Tripp Lake