

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA

BOARD MEETING MINUTES – September 25, 2014

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

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1. **Call to Order:** Lynn Goodrich, HCCOLA President called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Representatives:

Bad Axe: Mary Ann Erpelding

~~**Belle Taine:**~~

Big Mantrap: Burney Fischer, Helen Marsh

Big Sand: Candy Malm, Irene Weis

~~**Blue:**~~

Boulder: Steve Hall

~~**Lower Crow Wing:**~~

8th & 9th Crow Wing: Doug Kingsley

~~**10th & 11th Crow Wing:**~~ ———

Duck: Tom Mooney

Eagle: Jannine Weideman

Fish Hook: Jan Rumpza, Don Rampza

~~**Gilmore:**~~

~~**Island South:**~~

Ham: Paul Jensen

~~**Hinds:**~~

~~**Kabekona:**~~

Little Sand: Dan & Ruby Kittilson, Wayne Swanson

Long: Sharon Natzel, Larry Roberts

Middle Crow Wing: Becky Romans

Palmer: Betty McCorry, Dan McCorry, Bert Ahern

Peysenske: Jeff Mosner

~~**Plantagenet:**~~

Portage: Jerry Knoblich

~~**Potato:**~~

Spider: Hillary Stoltz, Tom Kreton

~~**Stony:**~~

Tripp: Lynn & Theora Goodrich,

Twin Lakes: Rose Ragole, Chuck Tritz

Fish Hook River: Carrie Hitchcock

Guests: Doug Kinglsey, DNR-Fisheries, Ron Conover, and Burney Fisher (via phone)

Thank you to Heavenly Seven for this meeting:

Kabekona, Peysenske, and Tripp Lake

2. **Capstone Conference Call:** Ron Conover and Burney Fischer

The goal of this Capstone class is to enhance HCOLA's Lake Monitoring Program. (see attached) A survey will be sent to lake coordinators about October 8. Then results of the survey will be compiled. Contact rconover@indiana.edu with questions about the class. He remarked that he hoped his class could live up to the high bar set by last year's class.

2. **Guest Speaker:** Doug Kingsley, MN DNR Area Fisheries Manager – Park Rapids

Doug spoke about the Straight River Project. He compared brook and brown trout fishing in the Straight River to the Yellowstone and Madison Rivers. The Straight River starts in Becker County from the straight Lake near Osage. Fuller's Fishing Contest "Golden Book" kept fishing records regarding sizes of trout from 1925-1989. Stocking records were kept by the DNR from 1947-1990. They have sampled brown trout annually, which seem more tolerant of warm water, since 1986.

Currently, the Straight River has lots of land uses, more agriculture, more sediments, and higher nitrates. Some issues are: more residential development, including variances, using better agricultural practices, culvert crossings, working with townships, and bridges

that are too high or low that change fish patterns. Some habitat improvement projects included rock structures,(80's) Lunker structures, (90's) helicopter tree drops (2000's).

Water temperature has risen 2 degrees over the last 10 years. 41-73 degrees promotes good trout growth. Over 79 ½ degrees is lethal to trout. Warm water holds less dissolved oxygen than colder water.

Since 2010, Straight River has been listed as an impaired river. There is a strategic plan for Aquatic Groundwater Management, including higher priority given to ground water, which includes management of well permits, and improved communication. The future of Straight River includes public and private users making wise choices.

3. Approval of Minutes from August 28th, 2014 meeting: MSP

A correction to the submitted minutes: lakes represented at the meeting should be 20.

4. Treasurer's Report: Lynn Goodrich

No Treasurer's report was given do to the officer changes. A report will be given at the October 30th, 2014 meeting. Lynn Goodrich reported that the current HCCOLA bank account balance is \$20,000.

5. Recognition: Larry Roberts

Larry Roberts presented a framed certificate to Dan Killilson in recognition of his years of dedicated service to HCCOLA as president.

6. Unfinished Business:

Information Gathering Activity – Prioritization Sharon Natzel, President-elect, presented the next set of information gathered from “Information Gathering Project” conducted earlier this year. The membership responses made it very clear that protection from AIS is their top priority from. She asked, “How do reps forward info to their lake association and members.”

Sandpiper Pipeline Update / Friends of the Headwaters (FOH)

Jeff Mosner gave a Sandpiper Update. On September 11 the PUC made a ruling requiring 6 other pipeline routes to be considered. They separated the “Certificate of Need” and “Route Permit” processes. This will result in a longer process and delay any construction. They scheduled 6 hearings through March 2015. Friends of the Headwaters or their legal representative will be participating in all proceedings. The importance of this “Need and Route” challenge by FOH is our best hope of rerouting the Sandpiper away from the waters and lands of Hubbard County. Lynn Goodrich encouraged everyone to support this effort with monetary donations to FOH and to attend hearing meetings.

Restore the Shore Orders - DUE NOW –

Theora Goodrich reminded the LA RTS coordinators that the unified orders from Lake Associations need to be submitted now to ensure availability of requested tree stock next spring. Orders are due by Oct. 1, 2015.

Updated President, Representative, Treasurer, Email Coordinator Lists

Dan Kittlison thanked Deb Rogers for her work to update the lists now posted in the secure area of the HCCOLA website.

7. New Business:

a. League of Women Voters Candidate Forums

The 2014 candidate forums are to be held at 7 p.m. on the following dates: Sept 30 Hubbard County Commissioner Districts 1 & 3 at Northwood Banks Community Room; Oct. 2 MN House 2A & 2B at the same location; Oct 16 Park Rapids Mayor at the Park Rapids Public Library lower level meeting room; Oct 23 Hubbard County Commissioner District 5 at the Lake George Town Hall.

Your participation is encouraged both in submitting questions for the candidates and attendance at the forums.

b. DNR Public Input on fish limits

Doug Kingsley reported on proposed new limits for selected species on some area lakes. Lakes involved Big Mantrap (Crappies), Lake George (Bass). Public comments will be accepted until October 3. He also had DNR maps of the Straight River to share.

8. COLA Committee Reports and Announcements:

Communications:

Larry Roberts, Communications, reported that the Great Northern Radio 91.5 or 91.7 is broadcasting lake stories submitted to them by HCCOLA, like Marlene Weber's and Peter Pierson's, now on our web site. On September 27, the Great Northern Radio Show will perform at the Armory. The event is free, but tickets are required.

Education:

Sharon Natzel said the Educational Committee will coach/assist you with resources we have access through they Hubbard county GIS. The addresses provided can help your lake association contact lakeshore owners and other residents in your area either through a mailing or direct contact. They can also train/assist you in the use of the mail merge functions of MS Excel and Word.

9. What's Happening on Your Lake:

Long Lake, with the assistance of SWCD and Julie Kingsley, is writing a grant to do a study to discover the how ground water influences Long Lake. The decision to award the grant will come in the spring of 2015 with the study to follow.

Larry Roberts advised everyone about media reports on the latest testing on methods to control zebra mussels being done Christmas Lake.

10. Next Meeting: Thursday October 30, 2014, 6:15PM – AIS boat inspection update; 6:30 p.m. social gathering, 7:00 p.m. meeting at the Northwood's Bank Community Room
Guest Speaker: Ken Grob, presenting a preview of the **2015 Hubbard County AIS Plan** which will go before the Hubbard County Commissioners for their approval in early November.
Heavenly Seven for the next meeting will be: **Eagle, Long, and Stony**

11. Adjourn Meeting: at 9:00 MSP

Respectfully submitted: Theora Goodrich, October 28th, 2014