

# HUBBARD COUNTY COLA

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES – February 5, 2015

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

[www.hubbardcolamn.org](http://www.hubbardcolamn.org)

1. **Call to Order:** President Lynn Goodrich called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Tonight’s Nifty Nine Host - Tripp Lake

**Bad Axe:**

**Belle Taine:** Dick Boehmer, Chuck Blair, Arnold Leshovsky

**Big Mantrap:** Sue Ryan

**Big Sand:** Irene Weis

**Blue:** Ron Jacobson

**Boulder:** Steve Hall

**Lower Crow Wing:**

**Middle Crow Wing:**

**8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing:** Julie

Kingsley

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

**Representatives:**

**Duck:** Tom Mooney

**Eagle:** Janine Weideman

**Emma/Bottle/Stocking:** Mimi &

Richard Long

**Fish Hook:** Jan Rumpza, Barbara &

Mark Thomason

**Gilmore:**

**Ham:** Paul Jensen

**Island South:**

**Hinds:**

**Kabekona:** Rolf Smeby

**Little Sand:** Dan Kittilson,

**Long:** Bill Cowman

**Palmer:**

**Peysenske:** Jeff Mosner

**Plantagenet:** Alan Colliander

**Portage:**

**Potato:** Kevin Brauer, Ken Grob

**Spider:** Gordon Severtson

**Stony:**

**Tripp:** Theora & Lynn Goodrich

**Twin Lakes:**

**City of Park Rapids:** Sue Tomte

**Guests:** Julie Kingsley, Hubbard SWCD

Doug Kingsley, Park Rapids DNR Fisheries

Carrie Hitchcock, Northwoods Press

2. **Kevin Brauer, President of Potato Lake Association presented information on Potato Lake request for funding for Friends of Headwaters**

Kevin just returned from hearings in St. Paul. He gave an example that Enbridge and consultants had spent over two times the total spent by FOH to date for those hearings alone. This shows that FOH is David vs fighting Goliath. Kevin brought up four items for discussion:

- a. Environmental concerns - Enbridge’s report was a quantitative analysis, which is, they counted the number of lakes, the number of forests without taking into consideration their quality of their water. The DNR and the PUC went into to qualitative reports. Enbridge said this was an “individual opinion” about individual lakes and forests.
- b. Liability and Insurance - This was challenged by the Department of Commerce regarding the number of Enbridge organizations represented, can’t figure who is in charge. Julia Anderson, one of the lawyers, tried to understand who could be assigned responsibility. She was unable to because of the convoluted structure of the organization.
- c. Relative routes - There are three main routes under consideration: Enbridge’s preferred route, SAO3, and SAO4, FOH’s route-straight from North Dakota to Chicago (not through the Superior and the Great Lakes.) This would be the shortest overall route.
- d. Relative economics-Costs are estimated at \$1 a barrel for the Enbridge route, \$1.30 for FOH’s route, and \$4-\$5 per barrel if shipped by train.

Kevin advised HCCOLA that the judge appears biased toward Enbridge. The recommendation from the judge to the PUC will come at the end of March 2015 and their decision on Certificate of Need will be reached in June.

Potato Lake has committed \$25,000 (objective reached) and HCOLA, acting as fiscal sponsor, has raised about \$25,000 to date. The majority of these donations to date are from Long, Eagle, Island, and Fish Hook Lakes. Kevin urged HCCOLA members to contact their lake association members personally. Phone calls and face to face visits seem to work best to get lake owners donate to FOH to support their efforts.

3. **Ken Grob, Dan Kittilson, and Lynn Goodrich reported on AIS Summit, HC AIS update**

- a. Dan Kittilson’s takeaway was that “ we can make a difference; we are way ahead of other counties; that it takes a village (which we have)” to battle AIS. Dan referenced an article in Outdoor News by Peter Sorenson who talked at the summit that MN lakes are young and can be invaded easily as we lack native enemies. A stronger ecosystem will help with AIS. The good news is that veligers are fragile and don’t survive well in flowing rivers (Mike McCarthy.)The bad news is that there are even worse (than zebra mussels) AIS items on the horizon.
- b. Ken Grob stated that the reason for the conference was to pull together counties to help each other with

AIS protection plans. Hubbard County was the first in the state to submit a plan. We work well as a team. We need to work harder to ensure resorts are checking for AIS at their accesses.

- c. Lynn Goodrich reported that we need to improve our early detection techniques. He asked lake associations to put in and monitor concrete blocks on a monthly basis for signs of zebra mussels. He suggested getting young people, like scouts and 4H, involved with our monitoring efforts.

**4. Approval of Minutes from September 30, 2014 meeting. MSP**

Motion by Dan Kittlson, seconded by Ken Grob. Motion passed. Meeting minutes were distributed and are available upon request.

**5. Treasurer's Report-Steve Hall. MSP**

Motion to accept by Jeff Mosier, seconded Julie Kingsley. Motion passed. Treasurer's report was distributed and is available upon request.

**6. New Business:**

a. **Julie Kingsley gave a report from the Soil and Water District**

The Freshwater Festival will be held on May 13 at the Boy Scout Camp on Bad Axe Lake. Julie will need help on Tuesday, May 12 bundling trees to give to students.

The Grazing Workshop will be held at Guthrie Town Hall on February 11.

Free Nitrate Testing is held at the Soil and Water Office (212 1/2 2nd St. PR) on the First Friday of the month from 9a-2p. Bring a baggie with water that has run about five minutes. Julie recommends testing water for nitrates at least twice a year.

Car counters will be placed and buried at lake accesses this summer

b. **Theora Goodrich is representing HC COLA at the Chili Challenge again this year.**

The Chili Challenge will be held on Wednesday, March 4 at the American Legion Hall from 11a-1p.

Theora passed out flyers to give to friends soliciting donations for the HC Food Shelf. Two years ago, HCCOLA won the "People's Choice" Award raising \$1760. Last year, we raised \$2964. Do we hear three-peat??? Please send monetary donations made out to Hubbard County Food Shelf to: Theora Goodrich, 28933 State 87, Nevis 56467 by March 4.

Theora's chili is titled "Wowza, Zowza" with a Mardi Gras theme.

**7. Capstone 2 Project Update by Burney Fisher and Dan Kittlson**

The latest Capstone project with Indiana University involved sustainable lake monitoring partnerships with lake associations. We all need to look at our lake monitoring projects, apply the information the students have given us, and work to improve the health of our lakes and waters. We need to develop new monitoring plans based on how each lake is doing. We should look for new funding sources to assist in our future efforts.

**8. Committee Reports and Announcements:**

See HCCOLA Committee Reports 2/15

**9. Lake Happenings**

Fish Hook just hosted snowmobile races. This weekend it will host the annual Park Rapids Ice Fishing Derby.

Dan encouraged LA to invite a representative of FOH to speak at their meeting, to inform your membership about this important issue facing our area.

The Park Rapids chapter of MDHA "Hides for Habitat" program collected about 20% fewer deer hides this season, indicating a smaller deer population this year.

**10. Next Board Meeting:**

Thursday March 26, 2015, 6:30p.m. Social gathering, 7:00 p.m. meeting, Northwood's Bank Community Room.

The Nifty Nine Host Lakes Big Mantrap, Blue, and 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing.

**11. Adjourn Meeting:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Dick Beemer, seconded by Burney Fisher @ 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted: Theora Goodrich, Acting Secretary