

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA

BOARD MEETING MINUTES – September 24, 2015

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

View the Website at: www.hubbardcolamn.org

Write the HCCOLA at: hccolamn@gmail.com

1. The meeting was called to Order by President, Lynn Goodrich at 7:00 p.m.

Representatives:

Bad Axe: Kay Molin

Belle Taine: Tom Wenner, Lee Hammer,
Al Kleinke

Big Mantrap: Burney Fisher, Bill Moore

Big Sand: Irene Weis

Blue:

Boulder: Steve Hall

Lower Crow Wing:

Middle Crow Wing:

5th Crow Wing: Debbie Center

8th & 9th Crow Wing: Doug Kingsley

10th & 11th Crow Wing:

Duck: Kay Hocker

Eagle: Janine Weideman

Fish Hook: Don and Jan Rumpza

Gilmore: Charlie Kellner

Island South:

Ham: Paul Jensen

Hinds: Lynn Weis

Kabekona:

Little Sand: Dan Kittilson, John Kisser

Long: Sharon Natzel, Carolynne White

Palmer: Bert Ahern, Janet Ahern

Peysenske: Jeff Mosner,

Plantagenet: Alan Colliander, Bruce Wilson

Portage: Jerry Knoblich

Potato: Chuck Diessner, Ken Grob

Spider: Hillary Stoltz

Stony:

Tripp: Lynn & Theora Goodrich

Twin Lakes: Kari Tomperi, Rose Ragole

Guests: Doug Kingsley: DNR Fisheries, Jamin Carlson: Hubbard County SWCD, Carrie Hitchcock: Northwoods Press, Sue Tomte: Community Liaison Sandpiper/Line 3

2. The Nifty Nine Hosts for this evening's meeting were thanked for their set-up and treats: Lake Plantagenet, Lake Belle Taine, and Twin Lakes. Lynn announced that there would be no break during this evening's meeting so help yourself at any time.
3. Charlie Kellner, of Charlie's Marine, was presented with a certificate of appreciation for over two decades of service to the area. Charlie has been a key figure in the HCCOLA water testing program.
4. Ken Grob was presented with a framed photograph of his participation in the statewide Outstanding Seniors program. Ken's long record of service earned him the nomination for that award from Hubbard County for 2015.
5. Dan Kittilson, Sharon Natzel, and Burney Fisher explained our next activity: conduct a survey of each of the participating lakes. The group was divided into smaller groups of 3-5 to fill out surveys. Each group was also asked to fill out a chart about their lakes and to fill in Post-It Notes to comment on 2016 goals for each lake, for the COLA, and to suggest ideas for COLA programs. A summary of the surveys and suggestions will be presented at the October meeting.

6. An “end of the season” report about inspection activities was presented by Jamin Carlson. He commented that a few lakes are still conducting inspections and that a complete final report will be presented at the October meeting.
 - a. Approximately 100 volunteers have been trained in AIS identification.
 - b. The decontamination station will continue to operate through the end of the season.
 - c. Starry Stonewart has been identified as new AIS.
7. The next agenda item, Water Testing, was not covered since Peter Tomisto was unable to attend this evening’s meeting.
8. The Restore the Shore deadline for ordering trees and shrubs is October 1. There should be 1 check and 1 order form per lake association.
9. The minutes of the August meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.
10. The Treasurer’s Report was unanimously approved as submitted. 20 of 29 lake associations have paid their 2016 dues to date; the deadline for dues is Nov. 1.
11. HCCOLA encourages all residents to carefully inspect their docks and lifts during season closing activities. Any AIS findings should be reported to SWCD, the DNR, or the COLA.
12. There were no questions about the Committee Reports for this past month.
13. Ken Grob asked to address the group for a few minutes. He spoke about:
 - a. A Starry Stonewart infestation that has been discovered. There is much to be learned about how this species propagates.
 - b. Attending a DNR conference in St. Cloud concerned with AIS.
 - c. The DNR is about \$750,000 short for 2016 because the legislature did not pass a \$5.00 surcharge for boat licenses and out-of-state fishing licenses past session. As a result, they are scaling back their funding for lake associations who want to address AIS issues.
 - d. The 2016 Hubbard County AIS Plan is being worked on right now. To maintain the same amount of inspection hours, each lake association should be prepared to supply a similar amount of supplement funding for lake inspections in 2016 as they did in 2015.
14. Alan Colliander made a presentation about Lake Plantagenet.
15. Doug Kingsley spoke of some highlights from DNR Fisheries:
 - a. Walleye possession limit on Kabekona, implemented in 2006, was 18-26” and one over 26”. The intent was to increase brood stock.
 - b. State-wide Northern Pike regulation – proposed changes – go to DNR website where it’s fully explained. A change in Regulation will need 2016 legislative action and will not go into effect until 2017, if passed.
 - c. The walleye regulations may also be changed. One proposal is to split the state into 3 zones, like deer management. The zones, as proposed would be NE, North Central, South. For more information go to <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/index.html> and follow the links.
 - d. Straight River Management Plan

15. Next Meeting October 29, 6:30 p.m. social gathering and Boat Inspection Report. Meeting to begin at 7:00 p.m.
16. The Nifty Nine Hosts for next meeting are: Spider Lake, Gilmore Lake, and Kabekona Lake.
17. Normal meeting was adjourned. The HCCOLA moved into closed session. Non-members were asked to leave. The rules for voting on the proposed resolution were explained; one vote for each lake association and one vote for each HCCOLA officer.
18. The HCCOLA closed meeting was called to order to consider a policy statement from the group about the Enbridge proposal to rebuild/replace their current Line 3. A handout of HCCOLA's Talking Points and one for HCCOLA's Line 3 Position were distributed. Lively discussion ensued. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to send a letter to the MN PUC that contained the points described in the written handout on HCCOLA's Line 3 Position. The results of a roll call vote were 21 yes, 0 No, 4 abstentions.
19. The Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Alan Colliander