

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA

Board Meeting Minutes

June 30, 2016

Website: www.hubbardcolamn.org

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

1. **Call to Order** at 6:30 by President, Lynn Goodrich.

Representatives:

Bad Axe: Kaye Molin

Belle Taine: Tom Wenner, Lee Hammer

Big Mantrap: Burney Fischer

Big Sand: Irene Weis

Blue: Peter Tuomisto

Boulder: Steve Hall

Lower (1-4) Crow Wing: Jennifer Pidde

Middle (5-7) Crow Wing: Becky Romans

8th & 9th Crow Wing: Julie Kingsley

10th & 11th Crow Wing: Dan Stacey

Duck: Deb Rogers

Eagle-Island: Janine Weiderman

Fish Hook: Jan & Don Rumpza, Neil Jordheim,
Don Sells

Gilmore:

Ham: Jackie Seurer

Hinds:

Kabekona: Rolf Smeby

Little Sand: James Thomsen, Dan Kittilson

Long: Monica Wilkins, Betty Larson, Larry Roberts,
Mark Larsen, Carolynne White,

Palmer:

Peysenske: Nancy Gibbs, John Wilhelm

Plantagenet: Alan & Susan Colliander

Portage: Jerry Knoblich

Potato: Ken Grob, Chuck Diessner

Spider:

Stony: Sara Rowe, Greg Johnson

Tripp: Theora Goodrich, Lynn Goodrich

Twin Lakes:

Guests: Bill DonCarlos, Hubbard AIS Coordinator; Julie Kingsley, SWCD; Laurel Mezner, MPCA; Doug Kingsley, DNR Fisheries; Sue Tomte, Enbridge Sandpiper and Line 3; Dan Stacey, Hubbard County Commissioner; Gene Malmskog, Dan Stacey's father-in-law

1. **Call to order – Agenda approval and Introductions**

- A. Motion made by Burney Fischer to approve agenda, Jerry Knoblich seconded. Motion passed.
- B. Pass-the-mic introductions of the lake associations representatives and meeting guests.
- C. Introduction of Bill DonCarlos, Hubbard AIS Coordinator. Bill DonCarlos: “Hubbard County is the most successful AIS county in the state”. He’s been on-board for 1 month. He noted, there are 42 AIS lake inspectors and has received lots of positive feedback from boaters. Bill is working with fishing clubs and resort owners to spread awareness. His office is on the 2nd floor of the Government Center, Environmental Services. Bill will accept invitations to Lake Association meetings.

2. **Speaker: Laurel Mezner, MPCA Brainerd Office, Unit Supervisor, “Watershed Concepts – Looking Beyond Your Lake”, introduced by Sharon Natzel.**

- A. Major Hubbard County basins: Mississippi River Headwaters, Crow Wing River and Leech Lake. There are 80 major watersheds in the state.
- B. Watershed Restoration Project focused on impairments to water flow. The current Watershed approach focuses on the protection of water bodies, impairments being a factor.
- C. With the Watershed Restoration Project the focus was on chemistry, we’re looking now at the biology, the beneficial uses and quality of aquatic life.

- D. Watershed Cycle: the WRAPS Project – 10 year Plan; WRAPS is an acronym for Watershed, Restoration And Protection Strategies. HC will have all WRAPS reports done within 1 year. The PCA and citizen engagement has done most of the monitoring: Chemistry, Lake and Stream Monitoring; Hydrology, Flow Monitoring; Biological, Fish & Bug Monitoring. The final report will determine the strategies for implementation.
 - E. Total Maximum Daily Load, TMDL, determines how much pollution can go into a water body without impairment.
 - F. A Project Manager is assigned to each of the HC Watersheds.
 - G. Watersheds Assessment:
 - i. Crow Wing River: 7 lakes impaired with excess nutrients, 10 streams impaired with bacteria, and 3 streams impaired with low dissolved oxygen.
 - ii. Leech Lake River: 2 surface waters, both in Hubbard County exceeded standards; Hart Lake exceeded the standard for nutrients and Kabekona River exceeded the standard for bacteria.
 - iii. Mississippi River Headwaters: primary focus is on protection. The Schoolcraft River in Hubbard County was classified exceptional due to the high water quality and the associated biological hazards.
 - H. Hubbard County and Cass County have applied to participate together in a One Watershed One Plan with priorities and targets that are measurable.
3. The **Consent Agenda**, the Minutes and Treasurer’s reports, was accepted.
4. **AIS Lake Monitoring Early Detection Program**, overview of the new Comprehensive Resource Guide on AIS Lake Monitoring and Early Detection, Dan Kittilson, presenter.
- A. Last year lots of AIS progress was made and lots of success.
 - B. Contained in the Resource Guide are protocols for veliger monitoring and a copy of an online survey to be done later this year.
 - C. There are AIS-Early Detection Resource Guide binders for every lake association.
 - D. Veliger sampling on 31 lakes will be done twice in July, the first and third weekends.
 - E. Cinder blocks need to be placed strategically through-out a lake.
 - F. Aquatic Habitat – Doug Kingsley, DNR Fisheries, can help with doing an Aquatic Lake Map.
 - G. Tips & Tactics: increase number of people are looking for veligers, more frequent monitoring and searches makes it easier to identify AIS and have a rapid response. Pass the Resource Guide around to lake association members.
 - H. Take-aways: Communication is key to success; COLA needs to know who is doing what. To be effective we need to engage more people.
 - I. Albert Einstein quote: Those who have the privilege to know, have the duty to act.
 - J. Tool Box: two-headed rake, tine rake, flat plate veliger samplers. Place samplers near inlets, outlets, hang from buoys, rocks, docks, and boat lifts. It’s a Minnesota law that if a used dock lift or water pump or boat is purchased, it must be held on land for 21 days before it can be put in the water.
5. **August meeting - Lynn**: there is an open spot for a new COLA Vice President. It can be a HCCOLA member, a leader of a committee, or an active lake association member. Support HCCOLA and make it better.
6. **HCCOLA Committee Reports and Announcements**
- A. HCCOLA supported the Inspector Training with lunch and the Watershed class with dinner.
 - B. HCCOLA’s “Sports Sale” went well netting \$1,412. More member involvement is needed.

- C. 2016 Water Testing Update – Peter Tuomisto: Veliger testing the weekends of July 2nd- 3rd and July 16th-17th. Veligers are preserved in alcohol; they don't need refrigeration. Lake sample do need refrigeration. Extra cement blocks are available from Peter.
 - D. Waterskiing event on Lake Belle Taine on Sunday July 17th and 24th. Music begins at 3:30 pm with the waterskiing to begin at 5:00 pm. The \$5.00 admission fee will go toward funding Lake Belle Taine AIS Inspections.
 - E. July speaker: Representatives of the Menahga Conservation Club will speak on the Native Mussel Counts on the Shell River.
 - F. "Summer Social": Sept. 14th, 5 pm, at Zorbaz. It's a wonderful time to visit.
 - G. AIS Summit, Oct. 5th-6th, St. Cloud.
 - H. SWCD, Julie Kingsley:
 - a. Free nitrate testing at the SWCD office, north on County Hwy. 1/Central Ave, is done the 1st Friday of every month from 9:00 am – 2 pm, bring in a ½ cup of water in a ziplock bag, no need to refrigerate.
 - b. SWCD finished the Hubbard County Geological Survey.
7. **HC GIS information...now available without charge:** GIS information includes property information, who is on the lake and their addresses. Ed Mutsch is the GIS Coordinator. Go to the Hubbard County GIS website.
8. **What's happening on your lake:** Tripp Lake, Lynn & Theora Goodrich...two nesting pairs of Loons, Long Lake, Sharon Natzel...Kids Fishing Contest, a question is asked of kids up to age 15, names are placed in a container, at the annual lake association meeting 3 names are drawn for a DQ treat.
9. **Other:** Jan Rumpa: 80 storm drains in PR need re-painting, helpers are need. Sharon Natzel volunteered.
10. **Motion to adjourn:** Burney Fischer so moved. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Nancy Gibbs, HCCOLA Secretary