

**HUBBARD COUNTY COLA
Board Meeting Minutes
July 28, 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:

Big Mantrap: Burney Fischer

Big Sand: Irene Weis, Barb Kimer

Blue:

Boulder: Steve Hall

Lower (1-4) Crow Wing: Jennifer Pidde

Middle (5-7) CrowWing: Becky Romans

8th & 9th Crow Wing: Julie Kingsley

10th & 11th Crow Wing: Dan Stacey

Duck: Deb Rogers

Eagle-Island: Jane Weideman

Fish Hook: Jan & Don Rumpza

Gilmore:

Ham:

Hinds:

Kabekona:

Little Sand: Dan Kittilson, Wayne Swanson,
Dan Swanson

Long: Larry Roberts, Carolynne C. White,
Sharon Natzel

Palmer:

Peysenske: John Wilhelm, Nancy Gibbs

Plantagenet: Alan Colliander

Portage: Jerry Knoblich

Potato: Ken Grob, Bob Berdahl

Spider: Hillary Stoltz

Stony: Mike Glynn, Greg Johnson

Tripp: Theora Goodrich, Lynn Goodrich

Twin Lakes: Kari Tomperi, Rose Ragole, Chick Tritz

Guests: Doug Kingsley, DNR Fisheries; Julie Kingsley, HC SWCD; Sue Tomte, Sandpiper and Line 3; Carrie Hitchcock, Northwoods Press; Kari Tomperi, Tami Wenthold, Randy Wenthold, and Lefty Lindbolm, Menahga Conservation Club; and Bill DonCarlos, Hubbard County AIS Coordinator.

1. **Call to Order, Lynn Goodrich, HCCOLA President**

- A. Welcome and individual introductions by the attendees.

- B. Thank you recognition to the meeting hosts: Fish Hook, Eagle, Hinds & Lower Crow Wing Lakes.

- C. With no additions or corrections to the Agenda, Burney Fischer made the motion to accept the agenda, Becky Rowland seconded. The agenda was accepted as presented.

2. **Speakers: Menhaga Conservation Club (MCC), “Shell River – A case study of protection”**

- A. Introduction of speakers: Kari Tomperi, Tami Wenthold, Randy Wenthold, and Lefty Lindblom.

- B. **History of Club, Tami Wenthold & Kari Tomperi:** 1948 Club established; 2003 Officially adopted Shell River, River Management Plan completed; 2005 First citizen based Mussel Survey; 2006 Club toured Bell Museum to learn about mussels; 2008 DNR Adopt-a-River program to clean-up the Shell River, 900 pounds of trash; and 2012 Petition for AIS study expansion and received the Touchstone Energy Community Award.

- I. **Sponsored events:** Water Nitrate Clinic and, as part of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District, hosted 5th graders for Conservation Day.

- II. **Shell River** is composed of the Mississippi River Watershed and the Crow Wing Watershed, Wadena County.

- C. **Freshwater Mussels, Randy Wenthold:**

A proportion of US Species are at risk, endangered from soil erosion, polluted streams and years of being over harvested to obtain shells for buttons and other uses. Photos shown of representative mussels, of which some are never seen.

Mussels:

- I. There are 13 varieties of mussels resident in the Shell River. The most common varieties are: Pocketbook, Fat Mucket and some Black Sandshell.
- II. Since 2006 a Shell River mussel count has been done every year, rotating yearly between three locations. Detailed count-records are maintained recording the year, location, varieties found, and number found of each variety. It's hard to spot trends with the data. More time is needed. Also, it depends on the equipment and the number of volunteers counting.
- III. Mussels breathe using two valves, an intake valve with fingers and an outflow valve. From the outflow comes an expulsion of water after the mussel has filtered the intake water for nutrients.
- IV. There is a distinction between male and female mussels. Without fish mussels don't survive. Life cycle: A mussel eggs, called a Glochidia, are emitted from the female on the bottom of the stream. The Glochidia move upward to find a fish host and enter the fish through its gills. Once grown the juvenile mussel falls to the bottom of the stream to grow, become an adult mussel, and the cycle begins again.
- V. Mussel age: can be determined by the number of rings on its shell. Mussels can live up to 100 years. Mussels can not swim away to get away from pollutants. A record of the contaminant levels passing through the stream may accumulate in the shell.
- VI. Mussels filter water for nutrients, which helps clarify the water. The Menahga Conservation Club is concerned about the health of mussels, since algae has been found on the intake valve of some mussels, which could impair the filtering of needed water.
- VII. If a mussel is extracted from the river, a DNR permit is needed. During the mussel count, the Club works with the DNR.
- VIII. Zebra mussels will cause colony collapse in freshwater mussels.

3. AIS/WID Program, Bill DonCarlos, HC AIS Coordinator

A. **HC AIS Mid-Season Data Summary**, handout, was reviewed and discussed.

B. **Decontamination**, Decons:

- I. Bill wants to see the Decon numbers come-up for the number of decons and the number of decons from infested waters.
- II. Leave a boat out of the water for a week and that should decon it.
- III. Resorts have asked for decon verification: a photos of the inspector and the decon sign at the decon site.
- IV. Tournament Fishing: In the Leech Zone and Cass Zone, boats can't move within fishing zones without decontamination and proof of it.

4. Break

5. AIS Monitoring Early Detection Program, Dan Kittilson

An update on Lake Monitoring/Early Detection Strategies

Handout sheet: AIS Early Detectors/Lake Monitors on Hubbard County Lakes 2008-2016, Communication & Outreach.

- I. Names per lake of volunteer Detectors/Monitors, request for additions or changes.
- II. Communication network includes: Volunteers who have participated in training for AIS lake monitoring, aquatic plant identification, AIS and look a likes, and zebra mussel veliger sampling; Zebra mussel monitoring volunteers; volunteers conducting aquatic plant surveys; AIS Lake Coordinators and AIS Lake Core Teams; lake leaders, presidents and COLA representatives;; opportunistic observers, all lake users; and positive messaging from HC COLA.
- III. The AIS Monitoring and Early Detection Program encourages lakes to refine early detection: utilize monitoring devices; distribute monitoring protocols; promote opportunistic, casual, approaches looking for AIS; and participation in COLA's September online Zebra Mussel Monitoring Survey.
- IV. Because of veliger sampling Lake Osakis (East Island, Ottertail County) found an infestation.
- V. **Julie Kingsley, HC SWCD:** all Hubbard County veliger testing is done for the summer.
Bill DonCarlos, HC AIS Coordinator: spoke at a township supervisors meeting re: AIS, reported supervisors are "getting it". Resort owners are "getting it".

6. **Consent Agenda, Lynn Goodrich:**
 - A. **Minutes:** Deb Rogers name was added to the June Minutes as the attending representative from Duck Lake.
 - B. **Treasurer's comments:** The first two RMB Labs bill for \$842.00 will be paid. Water monitoring bills will be going out tomorrow, July 29th to the Lake Treasurers from the HCCOLA Treasurer.
 - C. The minutes and the treasurer's report were **accepted as presented**.

7. **HCCOLA Leadership, Lynn Goodrich:**
 - A. The search committee of Sharon Natzel, Janine Weideman and Lynn Goodrich will make calls for those who are interested, dedicated and have a talent for three open positions: Vice President and two Committee chairs.
 - B. **Recognition:**
 - I. Hillary Stoltz, Spider Lake rep, asked recognition for a new president of a lake association and two new lake association reps.
 - II. **Rose Ragole**, the new president of Twin Lakes; **Barb Kimer**, the new Big Sand representative; and **Mike Glynn**, the new Stony Lake representative.

8. **HC COLA Committee Report and Announcements:**
 - A. Executive Committee, E-Team, will present recommendations at the August annual meeting.
 - B. 2016 Water Testing Update by Lynn on behalf of committee chair, Peter Tuomisto. Peter has supplies for those who need more. There are more cement blocks available, as well. Jerry Knoblich, Portage rep, shared this was his 20th year of water monitoring.
 - C. **HC COLA Summer Social**, member/spouse, Zorbaz, Sept. 14th at 5:00 pm.
 - D. Other: Sharon Natzel, Past President of Long Lake Association, a short memo went out to Long Lake property owners and resort owners, encouraging: wet-drain-dry, AIS, and decontamination.

9. **Happening on Your Lake:**
 - A. **Tripp Lake**, Theora and Lynn Goodrich: the Eaglets are flying and the baby Loons are beginning to fish for themselves.
 - B. **Potato Lake**, Ken Grob and Bob Berdahl: the color-printed newsletter, "The Potato Laker", a lakeshore guide with an AIS card insert, has gone-out to the members of the Lake Association and will be distributed to non-members as a membership tool.
 - C. **Twin Lake**, Rose Ragole: after consulting with the DNR, an Eagle in distress, tired and needed protection at night was taken out of the Ragole's Twin Lakes backyard and driven to the Garrison Animal Hospital, where the veterinarian, who treats wild animals, found the Eagle suffering from lead poisoning, a neurotoxin, which induced liver and kidney failure, before this sick Eagle later died. The lead may have come from lead shot or lead sinkers on fishing lines.

10. **Next HCCOLA Annual Board Meeting** will be Thursday Aug. 25th. Coffee & Conversation at 6:00 pm, with the meeting at 6:30 pm, Northwoods Bank Community Room. Meeting hosts will be: **Long, Bad Axe, Portage and South Island Lakes**.

11. **Adjournment and a thank you for attending.**

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Gibbs, HC COLA Secretary