

**HUBBARD COUNTY COLA**  
**Board Meeting Minutes for 2/16/17**

**Minutes Approved 3/23/17**

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

***“Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations is the Leader  
in Protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers for this and future generations!”***

**Thank you for tonight’s meeting hosts: Long and Peysenske Lakes**

1. **Call to Order** at 6:30 pm by President, Sharon Natzel. Pass-the-microphone introductions of lake association presidents, representatives, and guests:

**Representatives:**

**Bad Axe:**

**Belle Taine:** Chuck Blair

**Big Mantrap:**

**Big Sand:** Irene Weis, Barb Kimer

**Blue:** Peter Tuomisto

**Boulder:**

**Lower (1-4) Crow Wing:**

**Middle (5-7) Crow Wing:**

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

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

**Duck:**

**Eagle-Island:**

**Fish Hook:** Don Sells

**Gilmore:** Keith Minkel

**Ham:**

**Guests:** Bill DonCarlos, AIS Program Coordinator; Nicole Kovar, MN DNR AIS; Carol Kummer, Steamboat Lake; Paul Brewinski, Lake Plantagenet; Valerie Bedsted, Long Lake; Carrie Hitchcock, Northwood Press

**Hinds:**

**Kabekona:** Rolf Smeby

**Little Sand:** Dan Kittilson, Wayne Swanson

**Long:** Monika Wilkins, Sharon Natzel, CC White

**Palmer:** Janet Ahern

**Peysenske:** John Wilhelm, Nancy Gibbs

**Plantagenet:** Alan Colliander

**Portage:** Jerry Knoblich

**Potato:** Ken Grob, Bob Berdahl

**South Island:** Richard Graham

**Spider:**

**Stony:**

**Tripp:** Theora Goodrich

**Twin Lakes:** Kari Tomperi

2. **Nicole Kovar:** Announcement, reminder and encouragement to talk to your own congregation to promote the Interfaith AIS meeting, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 - 8:30 pm at Riverside Methodist Church, with guest speaker MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates, Executive Director, Jeff Forester.
3. **Bill DonCarlos, update on AIS program:** Deadlines for payment for supplemental inspection hours are March 1<sup>st</sup> for Lake Associations and April 30<sup>th</sup> for Townships. The money is needed by March 1<sup>st</sup> for schedule preparation, a contract with the Staffing agency is entered into in March, and for the Staffing agency to run interviews and do the hiring. Discussion.  
Working together with the Staffing Agency, it was decided to standardize the shift hours, for greater success in scheduling and fulfilling shifts. There will be two 8 hours shifts: 7 am – 3 pm and 11 am – 7 pm. Most lakes choose 11 – 7 pm, Monday – Friday and 7 – 3 pm on the weekends. Discussion.  
To promote funding for 2017 and 2018, Lake Associations are encouraged to attend their annual township meetings, held statewide on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Discussion.  
A COLA Operating Team has been formed as a liaison between COLA and the County. The COLA members serving on the Team are: Bob Berdahl, Dan Kittilson, Jeff Mosner and Al Judson. Discussion.
4. **Theora Goodrich, Chili Challenge:** March 8<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 – 1:00 pm at the American Legion. HC COLA’s entry will be Frostbite Fighter Chili. Three out of the last 4 years HC COLA has won the contest of giving the most donated money to the Food Shelf. On behalf of HC COLA, Theora and Mike VanGuilder will prepare and serve the chili.

**Details & Donation info:**

[http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/1up\\_flyer\\_chili\\_2017final.pdf](http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/1up_flyer_chili_2017final.pdf)

## 5. Break

6. **Peter Tuomisto, Civic Service Committee:** Water quality monitors will meet, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm at the Northwoods Bank Community Room for a complimentary light supper served by HC COLA. The required Water Monitoring training will be at 6:30 pm for refreshing standardized test protocol. The trainer will be Moriya Ruffer from RMB Labs, Detroit Lakes. Coolers & water quality monitoring kits will be distributed at 7 pm. Cinder blocks will be available for zebra mussel testing. There will be a new sign-up sheet for water monitors and zebra mussel veliger monitors available in March. See Committee Reports for more details.

7. **Sharon Natzel:** Year of Water Action....Water Quality Monitoring:

**A. Water Quality and You:** If 5 gallons equals all the water on earth, how much freshwater is available? 2 cups. Subtract ½ cup for ground water, lakes, wetlands, and water vapor, with 1 drop of that ½ cup of water reserved for animals and us to drink. That leaves 1 ½ cups for the Polar ice cap. The total doesn't change; the water changes states.

[http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/hubbard\\_county\\_water\\_quality\\_and\\_you\\_-\\_hc\\_cola.pdf](http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/hubbard_county_water_quality_and_you_-_hc_cola.pdf)

**B. Water education opportunities:**

- Within Hubbard County, free water testing for Nitrates is done on the first Friday of each month from 9-2 pm at the SWCD office. Water Quality education is available at RMB Labs in Detroit Lakes. Shoreland brochures are available from SWCD to give to people on your lake.
- The HC SWCD is planning the May 17<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> Graders Freshwater Festival at Wilderness Boy Scout Camp near Emmaville for area schools. They are looking for volunteers – 218-732-0121 Ext/4

**C. Overview:**

- Hubbard County is part of 4 major watersheds and 89 minor watersheds. There are 728 lakes, with information on 333 lakes available online through the DNR.
- 20 years of water monitoring and 20 years of collaboration with SWCD and RMB Environmental Labs.
- In 2012 through a SWCD grant the Hubbard County Large Lakes were analyzed in a 15-year study with lakes purchasing additional 15-year lake specific water monitoring reports. There is now 20 years worth of data. 44 lakes have 10 years or more of seasonal data; 21 lakes have 20 years of data. You can do individual analysis of your lake's data on the RMB Labs website, comparing your 10 & 15 year reports to the 20 year charts for trend analysis. Each of the HC COLA lakes have participated for at least two years, so opportunities exist for you to continue the conversation with your lake.  
<http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/water-quality-monitoring-reports.html>
- There are opportunities to start water quality monitoring on more HC lakes. Engage citizens and become involved.
- Actions make a difference. Limit run off. Keep leaves and grass clippings out of the streets & lakes.
- What We Do on the Land and In Our Lives Can Improve – or Impair – Our Waters.

**D. MN Tour of "We Are Water":** Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> – April 9<sup>th</sup> in Detroit Lakes. For more information :

[www.mnhum.org/waterways](http://www.mnhum.org/waterways).

8. **Nifty-Nine Host, Peysenske Lake, John Wilhelm, Peysenske Lake Assoc. President:**

- A.** Almost every resident lives on north side of the lake where the terrain is very hilly. 80% of the shoreline on the south side is agricultural, owner by one farmer. The lake is 5 miles east of Park Rapids, 220 acres in size with 6.5 miles of shoreline. It's a two basin lake with 190 acres on the west and 30 acres on the east, with an average depth of 14' on the west and 8' on the east.
- B.** Peysenske has good water quality, bottom substrate and vegetation. It's a good fishing lake yielding Crappies, Bluegills, Large-Mouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkin Seed, Rock Bass, Yellow Perch, White Suckers and Golden Shiners. After the 2014 partial winter kill, during the past 3-4 years Peysenske has bounced back.
- C.** Two islands support loon nesting areas and other wildlife. The DNR classification for Peysenske is an environmental lake.
- D.** There are 27 residents on the lake with no public access. For 12 off-lake residents, there is a deeded access.

- E. Per the DNR, Peysenske is most affected by the watertable rather than springs feeding the lake. There are Beavers in the east side basin which plug the culvert with debris. The residents dislodge the debris and, by arrangement, the county hauls it away.
- F. From the research of John Clauer, a lake resident, the lake is named for its early settler, Mike Peinsky, whose name was changed through the years to become Peysenske.

**9. Dan Kittilson, Aquatic Invasive Species/ Lake Monitoring/Early Detection:**

- A. **Zebra Mussel Veliger monitoring:** 12 lakes participated in 2016. The cost was \$160.00, \$90.00 per sample, sampled twice, with a \$10.00 volume discount per sample reduction from RMB Labs.
- B. **Three non-COLA lakes**, Benedict, George and Garfield, are in close proximity to Leech Lake, which has Zebra Mussel Veligers. With the County declining to fund Zebra Mussel veliger testing for 2017, COLA proposes, for 2017, to have Veliger Mussel Monitoring in Lake Benedict, Lake George and Garfield Lake, paying for testing from the Sleeping Fawn AIS Fund or the Sporting Sale fund.
  - We want to protect lakes and have as many ways as possible to do that. We want to create an army of eyes on the lakes and in the county. The more people, the more activities, the better chance for early detection.
- C. **Motion by Ken Grob:** The COLA Board supports to continue the Veliger Testing Program for 2017 at the level of the 2016 program with the COLA Executive Team to come back to the COLA Board at the March meeting with how to fund and pay for the RMB lab work. **Seconded** by Jerry Knoblich. Discussion. With one no vote by Theora Goodrich, the motion was approved.
- D. **August 5<sup>th</sup>, Starry Trek**, where everyone is checking their lake for Starry Stonewort. More information will be forthcoming.
- E. **Hubbard County Extension and COLA to co-host AIS Plant ID training in June.** More information will be forthcoming.

**10. Consent Agenda, Minutes and Treasurer's Report:** Motion by Wayne Swanson, to accept, Jerry Knoblich seconded, so moved.

**11. What's happening on your lake?** Kari Tomperi, Twin Lakes, met with the DNR and the Corp of Engineers. The DNR needs a land survey to determine the route to restore the ditch to Twin Lake as a meandering river. Kari also mentioned a school program for students & volunteers with varied skills. [Ktomperi@parkrapids.k12.mn.us](mailto:Ktomperi@parkrapids.k12.mn.us)

**12. Meeting adjourned:** Wayne Swanson made the motion to adjourn, Jerry Knoblich seconded, meeting adjourned.

**Next HC COLA Meeting: Thurs March 23, 2017, 6 pm refreshments / social, meeting at 6:30 PM at Northwoods Bank Community Room. Host Lakes for March are: Big Mantrap, Blue, plus 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wings**

**Nancy Gibbs**  
HC COLA Secretary