

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA

Board Meeting Minutes - June 29, 2017; Approved 7/27/17

Website: 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 host: Little Sand, Ham, Stony, and Middle Crow Wing.

1. **Call to Order** at 6:30 pm by President, Sharon Natzel. Pass-the-microphone introductions of lake association presidents, representatives, and guests. Present were 31 attendees, representing 22 lakes, and 8 guests.
2. **Speaker – Moriya Rufer:** Aquatic Ecologist, RMB Environmental Laboratories, Detroit Lakes: “The State of Hubbard County Lakes and How to Protect Them”.
 - a. Recognition: to **Howard Peterson**, 5th Crow Wing, who 21 years ago started lake monitoring on 5th Crow Wing and drove the first sample to RMB Labs; to the **lake monitor volunteers** for 20, 15, 10 and 5 years of water sample collection and to the **volunteers who drove** the sample-coolers to RMB Labs.
 - b. **Presentation:** “The State of Hubbard County Lakes and How to Protect Them”: Part 1 State of HC Lakes, Part 2 Healthy Habitat = Healthy Lakes, Part 3 How to Protect the Lakes.
 - c. http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/hubbard_cola_20_yr_review_-_moriya.pdf
 - d. Handout: Checklist of Stewardship Practices for Lake Protection
 - e. Contact info: Moriya Rufer, RMB Environmental Labs, Detroit Lakes, 218-846-1465, Moriya.Rufer@rmbel.info
 - f. Thank you to all the current volunteers who keep the Water Quality Monitoring program alive and well!!
3. **Break**
4. **Agenda:** accepted as presented.
5. **Middle Crow Wing Lake Association, MCWLA – 5th, 6th, 7th CW:** Cheryl Hilgemann, President.
 - a. **Middle Crow Wing Lakes** are small shallow Lakes, 20-30’ deep, deepest 40’. Depending on the time of the year water clarity is 7-8’ deep. There is a public access on 6th CW and a very rustic access on 7th CW. 5th and 6th are connected by a channel navigable for medium size boats and pontoons. Also, there’s a portage between 6th and 7th Crow Wing Lakes.
 - b. **MCWLA:** focus is on re-building and re-energizing. Purpose: to protect water quality, promote responsible care of the environment and preserve economic value. A colored brochure, MCWLA’s purpose, action and plans, was developed for distribution to all property owners.
 - c. **MCWLA - 2017:** membership now 47, up from 30 in 2014, with participation from all 3 lakes. MCWLA continues to work on growth. MCWLA checks water clarity, participates in Zebra Mussel testing, watercraft inspections and has visibility, interaction, informational Facebook page. MCWLA is working to re-energize social events.
6. **Minutes and Treasurer’s Report:** approved by consent.
7. **HC COLA Committee Report - Line 3 Draft Environmental Impact Statement,** Jeff Mosner
 - a. **Line 3 DEIS,** Draft Environmental Impact Statement, is 5,600 pages. A copy is available at the PR Library. The public comment period ending is July 10, 2017. Comments should regard the DEIS.
 - b. Suggestions for Comments may be found on the **Friends of the Headwaters** website using password: lovecleanwater.
 - c. **HC COLA’s handout,** “Outline of Comments Regarding Line 3 DEIS” suggests four topics and subtopics for response considerations to the DEIS.
 - d. A **motion** was made by Lynn Goodrich and seconded by Steve Hill for HC COLA to draft a Line 3 DEIS Response Letter based on HC COLA’s outline plus Chuck Diessner’s amendment: Dept. of Commerce and MN Board wanted reasonable, fair and independent assessment. Since all reports came from Enbridge, this is not fair or independent. Motion carried.

- 8. HC COLA Committee Report – Educational Opportunities, Sharon Natzel:**
- a. August 5th – Starry Trek 2017**, rain day is August 6th. **Training session** on identifying plants will be held prior to the trek. **Locations:** throughout Minnesota. **Bill DonCarlos, HC AIS Coordinator's 10 sites:** Plantagenet; Big Mantrap; Potato, west; Potato, north; Fish Hook, west; Belle Taine; Garfield; Lake George; Long, south; and Kabekona. Sign up here: <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/starrytrek>
 - b. Public Hearing, Dept. of Agriculture, Water – Nitrogen – Fertilizer**, Julie Kingsley, SWCD
July 11th, 6 pm., Wadena, at new high school. Review of draft Nitrogen-Fertilizer Rule, public input until August 11th. Nitrate is the most common type of contamination in drinking water.
 - c. Friends of Garfield-Steamboat festival with Nitrate Test:** On Saturday SWCD will do free-of-charge nitrate samples from 8 am – noon. The festival is Friday June 30th – Saturday July 1st.
 - d. Hubbard County, new website: See Departments → Environmental Services --> Aquatic Invasive Species → Starry Trek information. There is also a Planning Commission / Board of Adjustments** section with calendar, agenda, and past meetings. Can drill down to site-specific documentation.
- 9. Discussions:**
- a. Lee Hammer, Belle Taine installed 1 of the existing Car Counters. Explained potential opportunities to utilize remaining 2 years of software contract. The E-Team will research more & outline details for July.
 - b. Wayne Swanson, Little Sand explained how he had identified for Bill DonCarlos, Hubbard County AIS Program Coordinator the specific date / time where the watercraft inspector's performance did not meet expectations on Memorial Day Weekend. Bill addressed this opportunity with additional training / expectations for this inspector and communicated with Wayne. Jeff Mosner explained for us the training he had received as a watercraft inspector this year and the tools / procedures that are provided. We discussed that at an earlier HC COLA meeting, Bill DonCarlos had asked us each to provide the specifics if watercraft inspection / education opportunities existed. Wayne did this as noted above.
- 10. Next HC COLA Board Meeting:** Thurs. July 27, 2017, 6 pm refreshments/social, mtg. 6:30 pm, Northwoods Bank. **Steve Maanum** will present on Loons and the Big Mantrap Lake Loon Program. **Meeting Hosts:** Fish Hook, Hinds, Eagle, and Lower Crow Wing.
- 11. Adjournment:** motion to adjourn by Lynn Goodrich; Jeff Mosner seconded. Adjourned.

Nancy Gibbs
HC COLA Secretary