

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA
Board's Annual Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2017

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: Plantagenet, Belle Taine and Twin Lakes*****

1. **Call to Order** at 6:30 pm by COLA President Sharon Natzel. Pass-the-microphone introductions of lake association presidents, representatives, and guests. Present were 34 attendees, representing 23 lakes associations and 9 guests.

2. **Speaker: Heather Baird**, Fisheries Forestry Landscape Coordinator, MN DNR.
Protecting Forest For Fish Using Conservation Easements to Protect the Watersheds of Cisco Lakes.
 - a. **Need to look beyond shoreline to protect watershed:** Protecting 75% of watershed of a lake as forested contributes to good water quality and good habitat.
 - b. **Ciscos are the canary in the coal mine.** Ciscos need cold, clean well oxygenated water. Protect Cisco habitat, you protect habitat for other species of fish, which are food for big fish. There is a direct connection between land use and Cisco habitat.
 - c. **Private Conservation Easements (PCE):** permanent protection of forested land.
 - I. PCE is a division of Forestry incorporating many partners. PCE are a working land easement.
 - II. Along with large parcels of land, small private landowners need to be targeted as well. Minimum acreage for PCE is 20 acres.
 - III. Land conservation provides extraordinary water quality benefits. Intolerant fish species are sensitive to water quality and are especially useful as indicators of biological integrity. Water with many intolerant fish species, the better quality of water.
 - IV. Discussion
 - d. **Heather Baird's presentation link:**
<http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/hc cola 2017 - heather - protecting forests for fish by heather b.pdf>

- Ron Ray, Garfield Lake:** Zebra Mussel Veligers update
 - A. Saturday, Sept 30th, Friends of Garfield Meeting. HC COLA president, Sharon Natzel, to attend.
 - B. Friends of Garfield is not a lake association; it's people interested in Lake Garfield.
 - C. Garfield participated in the HC COLA Zebra Mussel (ZM) veliger surveying program for late-June to late-July sampling. Later ZM larvae were confirmed by RMB Environmental Laboratories in Detroit Lakes in the analysis process. The MN DNR did perform on-sight searches both on shore and in the water on two occasions; no ZM were found. Lakeshore owners will be conducting searches on their boats, docks & lifts & lakeshores in autumn and the DNR plans to utilize a dog that can sniff Zebra Mussels.
 - D. Through the HC AIS Coordinator, Bill DonCarlos, there were boat inspections on Garfield.

3. **Speaker Dr. Michael McCartney**, Zebra Mussel biologist in the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center, MAISRC, at the University of Minnesota.
 - a. **ZM, (Dreissena Polymorpha):** Native range: southern Russia. Outstanding characteristics: **High fecundity**, females can lay ¼ - ½ million eggs into water; **Broad dispersal**, long distance spread; and **Huge filtering capacity**, dense mussel bed.
 - b. **North American invasion:** transported to Great Lakes by trans Atlantic ships, 1988 first appeared in Lake St. Clair [a freshwater lake that lies between the Canadian province of Ontario and the US State of Michigan...Wikipedia], and later found through navigable water: Great Lakes, Mississippi River, Hudson River and Susquehanna River, [At 464 miles long, it is the longest River on the East Coast of the US that drains into the Atlantic Ocean, via the Chesapeake Bay...Wikipedia].
 - c. **MN Dec. 2016 affected waters:** 16 rivers and streams and 114 inland lakes. MN rate of new inland invasions is now amount the highest in the US.

- d. **“We have the time, the will, and the resources to slow spread and prevent infestation of many prized water bodies!”** “Prevention works, but must be targeted by understanding transport pathways to pinpoint invasion sources, routes and vectors (boats, docks, lifts, etc.)” Examine pathways of spread. Examine spread downstream through connected waterways. Examine the residual spread, vectors of spread by watercraft.
- e. **Take-home message:** “Boat inspection/decontamination must be working and should be continued and expanded.” Mille Lacs zebra mussel DNA has not proven it to be a “super spreader”. “Most important thing to do is prevention. We need a better conversation about it (with the) state and public engaged.”

f. **Dr. Michael McCartney’s presentation link:**

http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/mccartney_hc cola 2017 09 28 1 .pdf

- 4. **Restore the Shore:** Lynn and Theora Goodrich have Restore the Shore information packets with the coordinator order form for lake associations to pick-up and distribute to their members. Julie Kingsley, SWCD, noted there are more varieties of Trees, Shrubs, Berries and Native Seed Packets to chose from this year. Orders for 2018 delivery are due Thurs. Oct. 26, 2017. Members are encouraged to get their orders in early.
- 5. **Steve Hill, HC COLA Vice President:** Work is in progress for the December newsletter for the lake association members. Steve placed two questions to the members and asked for feedback. 1. How do we communicate with Millennials who are busy parents and/or have busy schedules? 2. How would you [a millennial] like to get information about your lake? Twitter? Instagram? Please call Steve at 218-252-8895 with responses.
- 6. **Consent Agenda:** The Secretary’s minutes and the Treasurer’s report were approved by consent. A warm welcome was extended to new VP Steve Hill.
- 7. **Stolzenberg Memorial:**
 - a. Discussion
 - b. **Motion by Lynn Goodrich:** That 25% of the Stolzenberg Memorial be directed to the Northwest Minnesota Foundation, NMF, 0344 Hubbard County COLA Charitable Fund for Endowment and 75% be directed for the NMF 0344 Hubbard County COLA Charitable General Fund. **Motion seconded by Ken Grob. Motion carried unanimously.**
- 8. **Other:**
 - a. Lynn and Theora want the **Restore the Shore** sheets back by the next COLA Board Meeting Oct. 26th.
 - b. Lynn: the **MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates Concordia Survey** for lake associations is ready.
<http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org/>

Next HC COLA Meeting: Thurs. Oct. 26th, 6 pm Social & 6:30 meeting. **Nifty Nine Hosts:** Spider, Gilmore & Kabekona. **Presenter:** Darrin Hoverson, Hydrologist, MN DNR. **Water Related Topics:** groundwater management area, forest conversion, gap lakes that could benefit from water monitoring, etc.

Nancy Gibbs,
HC COLA Secretary