

Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HC COLA)
Minutes for the Board of Director's Annual Meeting Thursday 8-29-19 – Approved 9-26-19
5:30 PM Refreshments & Social, 6 PM Meeting - Northwoods Bank Community Room

1. Call to Order 6 PM - Sharon Natzel, President
 - a. Thank you to Meeting Hosts: The 4 Crow Wing Lake Associations
 - b. Pass the microphone introductions. Present: 30 individuals from 22 HC COLA member Lake Associations were represented and 7 Guests

2. We met and learned from 3 speakers on Farmers Who Are Protecting Water Quality

Jim Lahn is the MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) area certification specialist for Hubbard and 10 other north central counties. Jim spoke about protecting surface and groundwater through this voluntary program. http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/hubbard_cola_mtg_-_august_29_2019.pdf

Andy Dombeck farms a few miles west of Wadena, where he produces corn, soybeans and a variety of other crops. Dombeck's farm is a Water Quality Certified Farm. Andy shared how he uses cover crops with up to 14 different seed varieties to build the soil and retain water reducing the need for irrigation. He has developed a unique seed distribution method for the area between the growing corn stalks - - a motorcycle with spreader over the back tire.

We also learned from Rich Jibben who has been harvesting wheat this year. Rich is also a Water Quality Certified producer. His farm is near the town of Battle Lake, very near Clitheral Lake and West Battle Lake. Rich has farmed for many years and he is very committed to both productive farming and protecting our water & soil resources. He created and sang us a song about his care of the water and soil resources. He is striving to build soil health.

Here are additional links regarding our speakers and their terrific endeavors in protecting water quality:

Andy Dombeck and parents – both farms water quality certified article:

<https://www.agweek.com/business/agriculture/4526453-local-father-son-farmers-get-water-quality-certified/>

Andy Dombeck – Conservationist of the Year – article by SWCD with a link to the Wadena Pioneer Journal

<http://www.eotswcd.org/blog/andy-dombeck/>

Rich Jibben – Fergus Falls Journal article on water quality certification

<https://www.fergusfallsjournal.com/2017/11/rich-jibben-farm-now-water-quality-certified/>

Another article on Rich Jibben, others and water quality certification:

<https://www.fergusfallsjournal.com/2018/02/certifiably-the-best-farmers-adopt-conservation-practices/>

3. Business Meeting – HC COLA Annual Meeting
 - a. Quorum verified.
 - b. Treasurer Report presented by Steve Hall, Treasurer. Motion to accept by Lynn Goodrich. Seconded by Deb Rogers – Passed to accept.
 - c. Minutes of 7/25/19 Meeting - Consent approval.

Appointments / Elections:

Keith Minkel, Gilmore Lake, through appointment, will be our HC COLA Secretary with Meeting Hosts to assist.

Steve Hall, Boulder Lake, will continue with his appointment as HC COLA Treasurer.

Deb Massey, Twin Lakes, nominated as President-Elect. Motion by Dick Carman. Seconded by Cheryl Hilgemann. Unanimous approval by 19 lake associations.

Lynn Goodrich made a motion to set aside HC COLA ByLaw section 6.2 to allow Sharon Natzel to serve another term as HC COLA President. The motion was seconded by Alan Colliander. Unanimous approval by 19 lakes.

4. Updates on HC COLA - Updates on HC COLA – related activities & plans too:
 - a. HC COLA Partners: RMB Envir. Labs, MN DNR, HC SWCD, HC Environmental Services, Univ of MN, ETC
 - b. HC COLA Memberships: MN COLA, MN Lakes & Rivers, Conservation MN, Park Rapids Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Business Association, Volunteer Heartland Lakes, etc.
 - c. VIP – Please Read and share the Committee Reports with your lake members – available at meeting & then online: <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/2019.html>
 - d. Asked for feedback on items to consider changing for our upcoming year – basket on table for ideas.

Burney Fischer shared that Big Mantrap lake has been researching methods for dues payments by credit cards. A couple HC COLA member lake associations provide that capability based on their analysis. Multiple options include PayPal and individual banking institutions.

For the Discover Guide, through the Park Rapids Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce with 50,000 circulation, motion was made to expand the HC COLA ad to 1/8 size by Ken Grob. Seconded by Dick Carman. Unanimous.

5. What's Happening on Your Lake? – Meeting Hosts will lead off the discussion. Middle Crow Wing Lake Association has had great response in building their membership with trifold flyer and outreach including a fun “meet in the middle” gathering by boat.
6. Next Mtg: Thur 9/26, 5:30 PM refreshments / social & 6 PM Bus Mtg at Northwoods Bank; Hosts: Eagle-Island, Palmer, South Island, Ham; Speaker: Tim Terrill is the Executive Director of the Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) which protects the Natural, Recreational, Cultural, Historical, and Scientific values of the Mississippi River <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/meeting-schedule.html>
7. Motion to adjourn by Lynn Goodrich. Seconded by Dick Carman. Approved & all helped meeting hosts clean up!