

HUBBARD COUNTY COALITION OF LAKE ASSOCIATIONS

Committee Reports and Announcements

July 25, 2013

www.hubbardcolamn.org

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Strategic Actions 1, 2 and 3

By Dan Kittilson

1. **Executive Committee**

- a. At the next several COLA meetings, the COLA committees and lake associations will be reporting on their review of the finding and recommendations of the IU Capstone project and any action items that they have selected to implement. **All COLA Reps, Lake Presidents and COLA Committee members are encouraged to attend our July 25th COLA meeting to learn about the Indiana University, Capstone Project.** Each COLA Committee will be reporting at the July 25, 2013 COLA meeting while Lake Associations will report at the August COLA meeting.
- b. **Calling all Secretaries'**. COLA is still in need of a Secretary. If you have an interest in this position and have the necessary skills for Secretary or know of someone who has those skills and are lakeshore property owners, please contact us at hccolamn@gmail.com
- c. Check out the new website at www.hubbardcolamn.org and click on the COLA Blog to comment on the website.
- d. Heavenly Seven lakes responsible for the August 29th COLA social gathering include 8/9 Crow Wing, Bad Axe, Big Sand, Boulder, and Plantagenet. Each group is responsible for setting up the Northwood's Bank Community Room, providing and preparing the refreshments and treats, and doing the tear down and clean up after the meeting. **Until COLA has a Secretary, the Heavenly Seven Lakes are responsible for taking minutes at the COLA meeting.**

2. **President's Report and Announcements**

- a. Mark your calendar and save the date.....Attend the next COLA board meeting on August 29, 2013, social gathering at 6:30 p.m. and meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Northwood's Bank Community Room.
- b. Our call for contributions to the 2013 Children's Freshwater Festival since our June COLA meeting was successful. Thank you to the lakes that supported this event.
- c. The future for expanding the Healthy Lakes and Rivers Partnership (HLRP) in 2014 and beyond looks promising for lakes in Hubbard County and throughout Minnesota. The Freshwater Society is enthusiastic about exploring funding opportunities to expand and deliver the HLRP program anywhere in the state. Because they are a statewide organization, they are better suited to administer the program regardless of location, and perhaps more familiar to many funders. One change to the previous program format would include the utilization of RMB Laboratories in Detroit Lakes and their state of the lake/watershed reports. RMB's involvement would be of interest to Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) who has long appreciated RMB's standard assessment and summary of existing conditions and trends in water quality. Planners are hopeful that the relationship between BWSR and RMB would allow for greater alignment with County Water Plans and a potential partnership with the Clean Water Fund.

Lakes that are currently interested in the HLRP in Hubbard County include Stony, Tripp, Eagle and Kabekona. Lakes that have previously participated in the HLRP may have an opportunity to review and update their Lake Management Plan. Please contact Dan Kittilson if your lake has an interest in the Healthy Lakes and Rivers Partnership.

- d. **What's happening on your lake?** Please provide updated contact information for your COLA reps, presidents and e-mail coordinators so we can keep our contact lists up-to-date. Lake associations are encouraged to send newsletters to John Hastings at johnhhastings@live.com and Dan Kittilson at drkittil@q.com
- e. Hubbard COLA's e-mail address: Correspondence and questions can be sent to hccolamn@gmail.com

Improve Internal Communications

Strategic Action #4

By Larry Roberts

1. New website up and running. Looks really good. Check it out at: www.hubbardcolamn.org. Jeff Mosner is doing a great job. There are several new headings you will want to explore.
2. Also check out Hubbard County COLA on Facebook. Jeff has changed the photo and we are starting to get "likes" on it, along with a few comments. It is your page, so please use it.

Lakeshore Education Committee

Strategic Action 5

By Sharon Natzel

1. The University of MN Extension will offer a complimentary program entitled "Winterizing Your Septic" on Saturday, October 5th, from 9 to 11 AM at the Northwoods Bank Community Room. Call 218-732-3391 UMN Ext to register for this UMN Program.
2. The Storm Water Reduction / Buffer Zone / Rain Garden potential site on Belle Taine Lake is being visited by Eleanor Burkett, UMN on Friday July 26th. Any program offering will likely be during the 2014 season.
3. The hands-on planting portion of the Wildflower Seminar made possible through the Kabekona Lake Association is at the end of July 2013. Participants were notified of the details by KLA.

Manage Public Image Committee

Strategic action #6

By Larry Roberts

1. Continuing to review recommendations from Capstone study regarding public image.
2. Communications committee has moved forward with proposal for first action plan and is proceeding (website and Facebook).
3. Other recommendations are under review and will be prioritized for implementation.
4. Also working on recruiting new member for the Committee after 3 previous members advised they were unable to commit again.
5. Completed hosting COLA booth in the Environmental Education building at the County Fair. Sold fundraising items. Total sales: \$285 Thanks to the 11 COLA members who helped make it a success. Our presence at the Fair should become a regular event with more emphasis on education (AIS, water quality, shoreland issues).

6. Still seeking individuals willing to write articles for the Enterprise on COLA related issues.

Membership Committee Report

Strategic action #7

By Hillary Stoltz

1. COLA Report
 - a. Twenty-two (22) Lake Associations were represented at the June COLA Meeting.
 - b. **2nd Reminder:** New representatives and newly elected Presidents need to inform Deb Rogers so that can be added to the COLA Master Lists, and so they can obtain Handbooks (if the previous representative did not pass theirs on to the new representative).
 - c. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 11, 2013 for the annual COLA social gathering at Zorbaz.
 - d. All new reps (and some old ones) shall be assigned to a committee in need of members. Reps should indicate their area of interest or expertise for this function.
2. Any Representatives and Presidents that do not have badges, should notify Hillary Stoltz prior to the next COLA Meeting. Her preferred COLA email address is hillbob@arvig.net
3. Call for Assistance
 - a. Assignment of COLA Members to appropriate Committees. ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS IN NEED OF MEMBERS SHOULD NOTIFY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBER so that assignments can be appropriately made. NEW REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD NOTIFY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBER OF THEIR AREAS OF INTEREST AND/OR EXPERTISE.
 - b. Membership Committee would like COLA Reps to share their success stories in building their memberships and any ideas to help other Lake Associations to increase their memberships.
 - c. Duties of specific Committee Members
 - i. Report on Attendance – Mary Ann
 - ii. Name Tags – Hillary
 - iii. Recognition and Thank You Notes – Shirley Koltes or Deb Rogers
4. Mary Ann, Janine & Deb fulfilled commitment at County Fair to serve at COLA booth on July 18, one of the hottest and muggiest days of 2013! “Great Job Women”!

Finance Committee:

Strategic action #8

By Lynn Goodrich

1. The ongoing fundraising activities (i.e.: Wild Rice & pottery, AIS sponge project) are continuing. Sales have not met our expectations or needs. We will be making a “AIS Sponge Project” push at upcoming events (Legends & Logging Days, Taste of Dorset) in the area. Additionally lake associations are encouraged to feature them at their annual meetings and summer events.
2. We have been contacted by a couple of members wanting to donate items for a future HCOLA event. Please consider sharing your time, knowledge and talents to ensure the long term funding of our GOOD WORKS. We are investigating various types of events and will report later.
3. If you have any suggestions please contact me Lynn Goodrich @ triplake1@mac.com or (218) 652-3130.

Impact Political Action Committee

Strategic action #9

By Chuck Diessner

1. IPA is looking for people that are interested in joining the committee. Please contact Chuck Diessner, Bill Cowman, Ed Mutsch or Janine Weideman to learn more.
2. In light of the Board of Adjustments not discussing Eric's recommendations regarding the variance applications, we requested that the BOA have Eric review for the BOA his recommendations before the board's discussion and the public comments. There was no response from the board.
3. Recommendations to the Commissioners: The IPA Committee submitted to the commissioners and Eric recommended updates to the policies, procedures and practices of the BOA and Planning Commission. The recommendations were approved by the executive committee and included regular training, presentation of the ESO staff report, ESO staff must correct any misstatements at the meetings, and allow public comment at the start of the meeting. The recommendation document is on the COLA website at the Communications link the go to Government Relations, County/Local and County BOA.
4. Section 513 of the Shoreline Management Ordinance (regulating geothermal heating/cooling systems). The Planning Commission recommended to the Commissioners that 513 should be deleted. The commissioners held a public hearing on the 16th. COLA and the DNR asked that the matter be tabled for further study. No action was taken by the commissioners, except to ask that the public be requested to provide comments on the deletion or amendment of Section 513, that Eric draft an amendment to 513 that continues to require that such systems (including discharge water be located behind the structure set back for the property), that such systems not discharge water over the ground to the lake and that open loop systems be a last resort and allowed only by variance where the discharge water goes to the lake in an underground pipe in compliance with certain requirements to avoid erosion, excavation not exceeding that permitted under the ordinance and the well water used is tested currently and meets the requirements for a permitted well. We also suggested that the Commissioners consider grandfathering existing open loop systems that are in violation of 513 (they dump the discharge water into the lake through a buried pipe) as long as the systems meet the standards for such open loop systems even though the grandfathered systems are not required to obtain a variance. There will be another public hearing on 513. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions please contact Dan Kittilson, Ken Grob or Chuck Diessner.

Civic Service Committee

By Peter Tuomisto

1. Restore the Shore orders for 2013 will be due **Monday, September 16**. Have order form and payment to your lake coordinator. Make checks payable to your lake association. Keep a copy for your records. Please contact the new Restore the Shore Coordinator, Theora Goodrich, tdgoodrich@mac.com, with questions.
2. Veliger Water Testing is being done again in July and August. It is normally done on the same weekend as the Water Monitoring so the samples can be sent to RMB Labs at the same time as the water samples. Please contact Peter Tuomisto ptuomisto@resco1.com cell 612-597-1386 if you are interested again to do this (Blue, Potato, Eagle, Big Sand, Little Sand, and Long Lakes from 2012 as well as SWCD tested lakes Spider, Ojibwa, Middle, East, and West Crooked) and also let me know if you want to participate for the first time. Cost for the net is \$200 for the net and \$90 for the sample; see handout at **April 25th** Cola meeting. Only one sample test per

date is necessary. Cinder blocks will again be available (to hang on the side of the dock) at the July COLA meeting.

3. Hydro Lab. SWCD will again have the Hydro Lab available for those interested lakes in 2013. This is for monitoring the dissolved oxygen and the water temperature in your lake. Please contact Julie Kingsley with SWCD if interested. Julie.Kingsley@mn.nacdn.net

4. Water monitoring. Sampling dates are [May 19](#) or 20, [June 16](#) or 17, [July 14](#) or 15, [Aug. 18](#) or 19, Sept. 15 or 16.

AIS Task Force Report

Strategic Action #10

By Ken Grob

1. County-wide watercraft inspection program continues to progress well for the summer. Decontamination unit installed and operating. Resort owners can call a dedicated decontamination unit number (218-252-3701) on weekends for their guests. Grace Lake has started an aggressive watercraft inspection program with volunteers and LGU inspectors. This brings our total to 23 lakes with inspectors. See Julie Kingsley's report for all the details.
2. Bemidji Pioneer Newspaper is publishing a series of reports on AIS. Each Sunday there is a major front page column and a few smaller ones. July 14 and 21 were very good. Check them out on line.
3. Some more bad news on Zebra Mussel Front: Cross Lake in the Brainerd area was declared to be infested and the entire Whitefish Chain (14 lakes) that it is part of, is now declared as infested. Also, three new lakes (Lida) in the Pelican Rapids area and a new lake (Lakota) in the Alexandria area were declared infested. This demonstrates the impact of a "super spreader" lake in a region. We must keep Zebra Mussels out of Hubbard County!
4. Resort information folders are being distributed again this year, with a small survey on what the resort owners do to help prevent AIS.
5. Work to develop a County-wide AIS Rapid Response Plan has started. Bob Berdahl is leading this project. Targeting end of year to have it completed.
6. We are working with Beltrami County and Lake Bemidji lake association to help them gain funding for watercraft inspectors next year. Their proximity to Hubbard County makes it important that they are doing their best at AIS prevention with inspections.
7. Cass County has completed a final draft of a County-wide AIS Plan. Presentation of the plan to the public will be on Wednesday, August 7 from 4-7 pm at the Walker Area Community Center. Attend if you are interested. Hubbard County AIS Task Force will be codifying a similar plan later this year.
8. COLA had an AIS booth at the County Fair. Thanks to those who helped.