

HCCOLA Hybrid Meeting Minutes - Thursday 4/25/2024 at 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM – Approved 5-30-2024

Attendees: 23 member lake associations out of 31; 13 in-person in the Northwoods Bank Community Room, including our 3 guest speakers, plus 23 signed into Zoom including 2 guests. Total attendees: 36

Sharon Natzel, HCCOLA President, welcomed everyone to the hybrid meeting at 6:30 PM. We did a brief introduction of attendees and their lake in a spin-around.

Our guest speakers presented on the topic areas below, with a 3-minute break between Aaron and Jake. The presentation slides and videos are here: <https://hubbardcolamn.org/presentations.html>

- Aaron Anderson, Hubbard County Environmental Services Specialist presented our 2024 Hubbard County AIS Program [aaron.anderson@co.hubbard.mn.us]
- Jake Shaughnessy, Water Quality Resource Technician, Hubbard County Soil & Water Conservation District
The HCSWCD has a new shoreline buffer program that focuses more on shoreline stabilization and stormwater treatment. This program allows for more shorelines to qualify as past programs required more intensive shoreline erosion to qualify. Reach out to Jake [jake@hubbardswcd.org] at the HCSWCD <https://www.hubbardswcd.org/>
- Claire Hansen, Community Conservationist, HCSWCD
Claire shared information on the National Assoc of Conservation Districts (NACD) Community Canopy and Forest Garden Grant for permaculture gardening pilot program. Reach out to Claire at the HCSWCD [claire@hubbardswcd.org]

Claire also provided information on Nitrate Clinics they are hosting, including the Fair. There is an option if a lake association wants to have this opportunity available at an annual meeting, for example. Reach out to Claire Hansen at the HCSWCD.

After a 2-minute break, the HCCOLA Business Mtg began:

Voting by voice and raised hands will be required by Lake Assoc Reps or Alternates, 1 voter per mbr lake:

- 1) Treasury: Keith Minkel explained the reinvestment opportunity for HCCOLA with a short-term 5 month certificate of deposit available for great rate of 5%. Jon Dennis, Spider Lake made the motion to approve the CD reinvestment for the 5 months. Lynn Goodrich, Tripp Lake seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 2) HCCOLA Charitable Fund Advisory Committee Recommendation for HCCOLA Board for Grant for 2024 was discussed. There was one applicant for \$2000 grant, Middle Crow Wing Lake Association, for an aquatic vegetation survey. Keith Minkle, Gilmore Lake, made the motion to award the MCWLA the \$2000 grant. Ken Grob, Potato Lake seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 3) The HCCOLA Charitable Fund Grant Application due date timing for 2025 was discussed. The motion was made that it be changed to be due sometime between Oct 1 and Oct 15 with exact date to be determined at the HCCOLA president's discretion and that we allow there to be multiple grants or up to 3 grants at \$2000, up to a sum total of \$6000 for 2025. Motion made by Lynn Goodrich and second by Jon Dennis. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3) Other updates below - see committee reports: Restore The Shore – Cheryl Hilgemann, RTS Coordinator just emailed the lake assoc coords who have RTS orders with the Fri May 3, 2024 info on pickup instructions

- A. Water Monitoring Cooler pickup Wed 5/8 from 5 - 7 PM at Chamber of Commerce Park Rapids parking lot – signup sheet in room for poster needs for your kiosks. See the Committee Report for the WQM 2024 sampling dates and shuttle times: <https://hubbardcolamn.org/20241.html>
- B. DNR Loon Restoration Project – the nesting platforms need to be in the water the week of 4/29/24
- C. See our HCCOLA events here for you to enjoy by sharing in the fun with your volunteer energies: <https://www.hubbardcolamn.org/meeting-schedule.html>
- D. Be sure to catch the recent Park Rapids Enterprise HCCOLA article by Potato Lake's volunteer, Craig Bihrlle, "Pre-season Q&A with DNR Fisheries":
<https://www.parkrapidsenterprise.com/sports/northland-outdoors/cola-pre-season-q-a-with-dnr-fisheries>

Sign up for the AIS Volunteer Training so you can educate on AIS prevention at your public accesses. The registration is online now for the 5/1 event at the DNR website where you email Mike Bolinski with your RSVP. Please spread the word! Get trained for educating on AIS when the watercraft inspector is off duty, for example.

MN DNR's AIS Volunteer Training, Wed 5/1/24 at 3 PM in Park Rapids at the Northwoods Bank Community Room. This updated MN DNR in-person training is required to educate the public about invasive species at a public access. This training is also required to educate on the use of the CD3 System at a public water access. DNR AIS Volunteer Training info, and other locations / dates: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/volunteer.html>

Sign up for the AIS Detectors course below to help you learn even more about aquatic vegetation and critters for your near-shore monitoring for lake health. Expand your capabilities that you learned and used in Starry Trek or just peering at the vegetation in the water at the end of your dock.

UMN Extension - AIS Detectors Core Course offerings - some free offerings available to register for yet!! This training will equip you for early detection of AIS on your lake. (Several in HCCOLA have enjoyed this training in the past!) Registration: https://learning.umn.edu/search/publicCourseSearchDetails.do?method=load&courseId=27946673&courseTitle=ais-detectors-core-course#courseSectionDetails_46572448

4) **April - May 2024 HCCOLA Google Folder** with lake-related news in the link below. We encourage you to subscribe to collaborator's newsletters directly so you can be informed in a timely manner! We will keep adding to this folder during April-May 2024. Be sure to read the article honoring AIS Detector & volunteer - Ingrid Bey, from Kabekona Lake! https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TOced9OEU0K_Z22dnf4WcDAJXkDjsX9r?usp=sharing

Our next HCCOLA Hybrid Meeting is on Thursday 5/30/2024 at 6:30 PM!

Attendee List Key: LA = Lake Association, P = in-person, Z = Zoom, *=LA's "Designated voter" for 4/25/2024 mtg

Bad Axe LA: Stacey Barrow – Z*
 Belle Taine LA: Andrea Dutcher – Z*
 Big Mantrap LA: Burney Fischer – Z*
 Big Sand LA: Steve Kimpton – Z*
 Blue LA: Brent Wittenberg - Z*
 Boulder LA: Bob Wolf – P*
 Duck LA:
 Eagle- Island LA: David Fastenow – Z*
 8th & 9th Crow Wing LA: Judy Anderson – Z*

Emma-Stocking-Bottle (ESB) LA:
Fish Hook LRA: Gary Smith – Z*, Don and Jan Rumpza - P
Garfield LA: Mike Frank – Z*
Gilmore LA: Keith Minkel – P*
Ham LA: Walt Stachon – Z*
Hinds LA: Christina Hill – P*
Kabekona LA: Ingrid Bey – Z, Rolf Smeby – P*
Little Sand LA: Cindy Nollette – Z*
Long Lake Area LA: Sharon Natzel – P*
Lower Crow Wing LA:
Middle Crow Wing LA:
Palmer LA: Phil Kirkegaard – Z*, Luann Kirkegaard – Z
Plantagenet LA: Krystie North – Z*
Portage LA: Tom Stennes – P*
Potato LA: Ken Grob – P, Craig Bihrlle – P*
South Island LA:
Spider LA: Dan Olympia – Z, Jon Dennis – Z*
Steamboat LA:
Stony LA: Mike Glynn – P, Bill Petersen – Z*
10th & 11th Crow Wing LA:
Tripp LA: Lynn Goodrich – Z*
Twin LA:
Sustaining Individual Members – non-voting: Dave Nelson - Z
Presenters: Aaron Anderson – P, Jake Shaughnessy - P, Claire Hansen – P
Guests: Shannon Geisen – Z, Joe Durand – Z