

Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HC COLA)
Minutes of The Board of Director's Meeting; Thursday 9/30/2021 – Approved 10/28/2021
6:30 PM Meeting – Hybrid

“HC COLA is the Leader in Protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers” www.hubbardcolamn.org

1. **Call to order and determination of quorum:** The meeting was called to order by President Sharon Natzel. There were 30 attendees representing 18 lake associations and 3 guests. The meeting was hybrid in nature with 5 attending in person and 25 attending virtually.

2. **Presentation:** Dan Steward, retired Board of Soil and Water Resources presented “Forests and Fish. The Critical Connection!,” with an introduction and supporting comments by Pete Jacobson, DNR Fisheries, retired.
Dan emphasised the importance of forest land in slowing runoff into our waters. Minnesota has 54 million acres of which 32 million was forested prior to settlement. Today the total forested area is 17 million acres, a loss of 15 million. Data shows that when a watershed is 75% forested, there is significant positive impact on water quality.
Efforts to reduce the deforestation of privately owned land is needed to preserve Minnesota's waters. Timber harvest is not detrimental to forests as regrowth and replantings occur. Numerous programs are available to landowners to preserve forested land.
This, as well as other presentations, can be found at <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/presentations.html>

3. **Reports :** Consent approval was given for the minutes of the 8/26/2021 minutes. Motion by Gene Hanson and seconded by Jon Dennis to approve the treasurer's report. Approved unanimously.

4. **Budget Consideration:** The approximate income from memberships is \$8,800. Discussion was held in regards to the Educational / AIS prevention / COLA promotion community-based social marketing ad and the possible need for adjusting the 2022 Budget. Various sizes/costs were reviewed for ads in the "Discovery Guide" and "Resident's Guide." Motion by Deb Massey and seconded by Alan Colliander to purchase a 1/2 page ad in the "Discovery Guide" and full page ad in the "Resident's Guide." Motion passed unanimously. Consideration of the costs will be incorporated into future budgets.

5. **Committee Reports:** Cheryl Hilgemann gave an update of the “Restore the Shore” program. As of yet, current pricing is not available. She will send out information once it is received.

Members are invited to attend an E-Team meeting to encourage becoming members of the team.

Ingrid Bey of Kabekona has joined the AIS Operating Team.

One of the Hubbard County AIS inspectors found several zebra mussels on dried vegetation attached to a boat trailer on a boat arriving at Lake Plantagenet over the Labor Day Weekend. The boat was not allowed to launch until it was brought into compliance.

Other volunteer opportunities include AIS Operating Team, Membership Team, helping with the scheduled cooler shuttle to Detroit Lakes lab next summer as part of Water Monitoring Team, and/or becoming a Shoreland Advisor, part of the Education Team. Email hccolamn@gmail.com for more information.

Committee reports can be found at <https://www.hubbardcolamn.org/2021.html>

6. **Adjournment:** Motion by Alan Colliander and seconded by Deb Rogers to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Next HC COLA Meeting: Thursday, Oct 28, 2021 Hybrid HC COLA meeting at 6:30 PM (zoom & Calvary Lutheran Church, Park Rapids) with presenter, Nick Macklem, Environmental Specialist – Hubbard County Environmental Services. Nick will present on the Hubbard County Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program 2021 and plans for 2022.

Our first HC COLA hybrid meeting of 2022 will be Thurs, April 28th at 6:30 PM with in-person in Park Rapids.

Respectfully submitted
Keith Minkel, Secretary