

**Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations Board of Directors Hybrid Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, July 27, 2023 at 6:34 PM until approximately 8 PM – Approved 8-31-2023**  
Northwoods Bank Community Room, 1200 1st St. E, Park Rapids, MN 56470 In-Person and Zoom

In-person attendance 14 plus Zoom attendance 15 for a total of 29 participants, including 1 sustaining member and 3 guests. Quorum established with 21 member lake associations present out of 31. HC COLA Meeting was called to order by President, Sharon Natzel at 6:34 PM.

Jake Shaughnessy, Water Quality Resource Technician, Hubbard County Soil and Water Conservation District (HCSWCD) spoke about the Crow Wing River One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) planning process. Jake explained that you may still provide input on potential issues and opportunities for the plan to address if you reach out now and email him at [jake.hcswcd@gmail.com](mailto:jake.hcswcd@gmail.com). The survey for public input is open yet on the SWCD website also <https://www.hubbardswcd.org/>. This plan does not include AIS issues, but can include a wide range of topics such as lake and stream water quality, groundwater quality, habitat, and land stewardship. The watershed encompasses many of the Park Rapids Area lakes and beyond to Brainerd. His presentation was recorded and is available on the HC COLA website: <https://hubbardcolamn.org/presentations.html>

The proposed HC COLA By-Laws Changes for Adoption were developed and are recommended by the Executive Team. These were provided to all member Lake Association Presidents and HC COLA Representatives at least 20 days in advance of this vote as specified in the By-Laws. After a motion to accept the HC COLA By-Law Changes as Proposed by Burney Fischer and a second by Dave Fastenow, we discussed the changes, displaying them on the screen. The motion passed with no objections.

The Consent Agenda included the draft minutes from 6-29-2023 HC COLA Board Meeting and the July Treasurer's Report.

The UMN Healthy Waters Initiative Phase II outcome with Peer Review is expected in Autumn 2023 and is raising funds (approx. \$30,000) to complete this phase. The legislature is providing funding toward Phase III. Motion by Jon Dennis for HC COLA to provide a \$1000 donation for the UMN St. Anthony Falls Laboratory Healthy Waters Initiative Fund (#23587) to help complete phase II. Motion was seconded by Gene Hanson. We discussed the propulsion lab study of waves. The motion passed with no objections. <https://sites.google.com/umn.edu/healthywatersinitiative/welcome>

David Nelson, member of our AIS Operating Team, provided a report on the MAISRC Labs to Lakes Field Day session held Sat, June 24 near Cass Lake, MN. Some of the highlights included trapping Rusty Crayfish and recipes, aquatic invasive plant identification, and observing the DASH unit in operation which stands for Diver Assisted Suction Harvest. In order to help manage Starry Stonewort, divers feed Starry Stonewort into tube, to area on pontoon where water is removed & SSW bagged.

Committee Reports included the following:

Our Education Team reported our outreach at the Hubbard County Fair in the Environmental Education Building touched approximately 1000 people from Tues through Sat. The native carnivorous aquatic bladderwort plant that we were able to show Wed – Fri with the special permit was a hit. We educated on Lead-Free tackle use to help preserve Loons, Keep It Clean new law re ice, and how to use the CD3 units at accesses with starry stonewort, made possible with LCCMR Grant by MLR.

AIS Operating Team – Gene Hanson:

The new Decontamination Station phone number is active, business cards are available, & radio ad is updated. Use a Sharpie fine point pen to update the new phone number on the existing AIS ID plastic cards please to: 218-616-1631.

AIS watercraft inspection program update – So far this season, 6700 hours of watercraft inspection have been completed with 9793 inspections performed for an average of 1.5 inspections per hour. Dead zebra mussels have been found on trailers at 3 public lake accesses by the watercraft inspectors.

To Aid our Hubbard County Early Detection of AIS – please sign up for Starry Trek to volunteer for 5 hours on Sat Aug 19 with training at Lake George Community Park on Paine Lake <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/starry-trek-2023-tickets-664078706287>

The MAISRC Showcase will be online Wed 9/20/23 -. Early registration begins 8/14/23 <https://maisrc.umn.edu/showcase>

HC COLA in partnership with the Hubbard County Environmental Services AIS Program have created a 2<sup>nd</sup> resort letter reminding our Resort Partners, about the complimentary service to have volunteers from the Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations conduct the initial sampling of aquatic vegetation at their resort to do early detection of aquatic

invasive species, Aug - mid-Sept 2023. If discovered early, management of ais may be helpful. Visit with your resorts please on your lakes.

The DAC Salvage Depot in Park Rapids clients have produced welded double-headed rakes with ropes for sale for \$30 plus tax of \$2.21 for your lake association's shoreline monitoring program. This is a reuse program in partnership with Hubbard County Solid Waste/GreenCorps. For sales tax exemption, if the lake association is a 501c3 nonprofit, complete the ST3 form to provide at purchase... <https://www.revenue.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/2019-07/st3.pdf>

At the Thurs Aug 31, 6:30 PM HC COLA Hybrid Annual Meeting, each lake association will share a two-minute update on 2 things that are working well and you wish to share with other lake associations plus an area your lake association would like to learn more about from other lake associations.

Keith Minkle made the motion to adjourn. Craig Bihrlle seconded. Meeting adjourned.

**Attendee List Key:** LA = lake association, P = in-person, Z=zoom, \*=lake association's "designated voter" for this meeting

Bad Axe LA: Stacey Barrow – Z\*

Belle Taine LA: Andrea Dutcher – P\*

Big Mantrap LA: Burney Fischer – P\*

Big Sand LA: Tom Van Bruggen – Z via Phone\*

Blue LA: Brent Wittenberg – Z\*

Boulder LA: Bob Wolf – P\*

Duck LA: Bridgett Cook – Z\*

Middle Crow Wing LA: Andrew Schmidt – P\*

Eagle-Island LA: David Fastenow – Z\*

Emma-Stocking-Bottle LA: Gene Hanson – Z\*

Gilmore LA: Keith Minkel – P\*

Ham LA: Walt Stachon – Z\*

Kabekona LA: Ingrid Bey – Z\*

Little Sand LA: Cindy Nollette – \*Z

Long Lake Area Assoc: Sharon Natzel – P, Larry Roberts – P\*

Plantagenet LA: Krystie North – Z\*

Potato LA: Ken Grob - P, Craig Bihrlle – P\*

Spider LA: Jon Dennis – Z\*, Rose Lawler – Z, Dan Olympia - P

Stony LA: Mike Glynn - Z\*

Tripp LA: Lynn Goodrich – Z\*

Twin LA: Deb Massey – Z\*

Sustaining Member: David Nelson

Guests In-Person: Jake Shaughnessy, HC SWCD; Annie Knight, Northern Waters Land Trust

Guest on Zoom: Randy Wenthold