

Hubbard County COLA Board of Directors Annual Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 25, 2022, 6:30 PM – Hybrid Meeting Format – Approved by Consent Agenda 9-29-2022

The 8-25-2022 HC COLA Annual Meeting was held in Hybrid format beginning at 6:30 PM. 16 members were present in-person and 19 members were present on Zoom for a total of 35 attendees. There were 25 member lake associations out of 31 represented, constituting a quorum. Each had a designated voter. (See the detailed attendance / voter list at the end.)

The HC COLA Annual Meeting was opened by President, Sharon Natzel at 6:30 pm on Thursday, August 25, 2022.

Program Guest Speaker:

Sharon introduced Sue Schiess as the guest speaker. Sue is a HC COLA Shoreland Advisor and also a UMN Master Gardener with 18 years of MG experience. Sue's presentation was "**Lawns to Lakes: There is a connection**". Key points were:

- Northern Minnesota enjoys many healthy lakes due to later development.
- Run-off of water with nutrients from impervious surfaces (driveways, building roofs, lawn fertilizers, erosion, etc) is major contributor to lake eutrophication, except for natural decay.
- Vegetation/Lake buffer zones are the best defense against water run-off to lake.
- Buffers are biofilters; they help to protect against wave action erosion and help prevent run-off plus provide wildlife protection areas.
- Native plants with deep roots are the preferred vegetation for a buffer zone.
- Rain gardens and rain barrels are two techniques for catch water before it runs into the lake.
- Grass clippings, fire pit ashes, and animal waste are undesirable shoreline materials that can affect a lake.

Sue and/or other HC COLA Shoreland Advisors will, free of charge, come to private property if invited and do an assessment. A written report is provided later with recommendations / ideas for shoreland improvements. This is a HC [COLA program](#). Contact HCCOLAmn@gmail.com for more information or to invite a shoreland visit.

The recording of the presentation is on the HC COLA website: <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/presentations.html>

Annual Business Meeting:

- A. Sharon noted the following voting requirements per Section 3.6 of the HC COLA [By-Laws](#) pertaining to member lake associations. One vote per lake association's HC COLA Rep, or in their absence, the lake association President or an Alternate designated by the member.
- B. Draft Minutes 7-28-2022 Mtg – Submitted by Tripp Lake's Theora & Lynn Goodrich – Approved by Consent Agenda.
- C. Treasurer Report – Keith Minkel
HC COLA Balance as of August 14, 2022 is \$35,224.44. Expenses in July were \$500.
NMF Endowment Fund Balance is \$73, 357.19. \$6,875.73 is spendable. Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Gene Hanson; Second by Jon Dennis. Approved by unanimous vote.
- D. Recognition of Theora Goodrich, Hubbard County's Outstanding Senior Volunteer for 2022. Ken Grob informed members that Theora Goodrich had been selected as the Hubbard County Senior Volunteer of the year. She was recognized for her many contributions to HC COLA, Civic Organizations, and Government positions. Most worthy of mention is her leadership in coordinating the HC COLA Chili Challenge which has raised over \$15,000 for the local food shelf while winning first place 3 years, and her participation in the Hubbard County Township Association & Headwaters Regional Development Commission. Congratulations to Theora, a strong proponent of volunteer work!

E. Motions / Business:

- 1) Nomination of Jon Dennis, Spider Lake Association as HC COLA Vice President / President Elect. HC COLA By-laws section 6.5. Jon gave a brief summary of his background. Motion to approve Jon as Vice President per Section 6.5 of COLA By-Laws by Lynn Goodrich; Second by Keith Minkel. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2) Motion to extend Sharon Natzel's term as HC COLA President for 2 years to allow for the orderly transfer to Jon Dennis in August, 2024, per HC COLA By-laws section 6.2, by Deb Massey; Second by Mark Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3) President Natzel requested approval of Keith Minkel to continue as HC COLA Treasurer through 8/2024 (per Section 6.3 of By-Laws), and to move approval of the Treasurer Report to the Consent Agenda going forward. Motion made by Jon Dennis to approve request; Second by Bob Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4) President Natzel informed Board that the Secretary's position will continue to be unfilled until a willing volunteer is identified and appointed. Board, by consensus, agreed that the monthly Scribe role will rotate through member Lake Association Representatives until position is filled.
- 5) HC COLA Hybrid Board Meeting Schedule – President Natzel recommended that HC COLA Board continue to meet the last Thursday of the month for the 7 months of April through October at 6:30PM for duration of Sept, 2022 – August, 2024. Motion to approve recommendation made by Theora Goodrich; Second by Deb Massey. Motion carried unanimously.
- 6) President Natzel suggested that with Hybrid meetings planned for HC COLA Board Meetings and the AIS Operating Team, and other committees also, technology is needed. Options being investigated (example: OWL sale thru 8/31/22) for use in different locations. Natzel requested up to \$2000 for purchase of the technology for HC COLA hybrid meetings. Motion to approve purchase made by Jon Dennis; Second by Gene Hanson. Motion carried unanimously.
- 7) President Natzel requested approval for purchasing an ad in the 2023 Discover Guide thru Chamber of Commerce. Early Bird Special deadline is Sept 16 – ½ page ad \$1674 & adjustment \$140, add image \$40 = \$1854. Motion to approve expense up to \$1900 made by Craig Bihrlle; Second by Rolf Smeby. Motion carried unanimously.
- 8) President Natzel requested that the Board consider an increase in the compensation for transporting the monthly Water Quality samples to RMB Labs. Current cost is \$50. She proposed \$75/per round trip. Motion to approve the request made by Jon Dennis; Second by Bill Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Committee/ Lake Association Highlights

- AIS Operating Team: Aaron Anderson, Hubbard County Environmental Services Dept will update us on the on 2022 watercraft inspection results available at the time of our October 27th Board Meeting along with 2023 programs in development. The MAISRC showcase event is all virtual this year – registration information is available [here](#).
- Restore The Shore Orders: SWCD waiting for nursery info. Hopefully will have order forms for Sept mtg.
- Eyes on the Water Survey: Email was sent out reminding participants to complete the [online survey](#). Check zebra mussel samplers, docks, lifts, rafts, etc. Complete the survey even if you do not find any AIS please.
- Burney Fisher requested that at a future meeting, the Board should get a report on the short term rentals from the Hubbard County Environmental Service Dept. A recent article by Shannon Geisen, July 25, 2022,

in the [Park Rapids Enterprise](#) was discussed where “short-term rental licensing proceeding well in Hubbard County” according to the Hubbard County Environmental Services Office Director.

Next HC COLA Hybrid Meeting is Thursday, Sept 29 at 6:30 PM – Each lake association representative is asked to share a brief 2-minute overview of your lake association’s most important achievement this season and 2 challenges please. This sharing may help to uncover future educational topic areas of interest, for example.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Lynn Goodrich; Second Jon Dennis. Approved. 8:05 PM

Monthly Scribe role for this meeting was provided by Ken Grob, Potato Lake

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Attendee List Key: LA = lake association, P = in-person, Z=zoom, *=lake association’s “designated voter” for the meeting

Bad Axe LA: Beth Haukebo – Z*

Belle Taine LA: Andrea Dutcher – Z*

Big Mantrap LA: Burney Fischer – Z*

Big Sand LA:

Blue LA: Steve Stromme – Z*

Boulder LA: Bob Wolf – P*

Crow Wing Lower (1st-4th) LA:

Crow Wing Middle (5th-7th) LA: Mark W. Johnson – P*

Crow Wing 8th & 9th LA: Cheri Godfrey – Z*

Crow Wing 10th & 11th LA:

Duck LA: Bridgett Cook – P*

Eagle-Island LA: David Fastenow – Z*

Emma – Stocking - Upper & Lower Bottle LA (ESB): Gene Hanson – P*

Fish Hook Lake & River Assoc: Don Rumpza – P, Jan Rumpza – P, Tom Harmon – Z*

Garfield LA:

Gilmore LA: Keith Minkel – P*

Ham LA: Walt Stachon – Z*

Hinds LA: Christina Hill – Z*

Kabekona LA: Ingrid Bey - P, Rolf Smeby – P*, Sue Schiess - P

Little Sand Area LA: Majeana Hallstrom – Z*

Long Lake Area Assoc: Jaimie Beretta – Z*, Sharon Natzel – P

Palmer LA: Phil Kirkegaard - Z*

Plantagenet LA: Krystie North – Z*

Portage LA:

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

South Island LA: Matt Lamb* via phone

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

Steamboat LA:

Stony LA: Bill Petersen – Z*, Mike Glynn - P

Tripp LA: Lynn Goodrich – Z, Theora Goodrich – Z*

Twin Lakes LA: Deb Massey – Z*

Sustaining Member (non-voting): David Nelson - P, welcomed as a new sustaining member; he lives on Pickerel Lake