Call to Order: the meeting was called to order by President Dan Kittilson at 6:30 p.m.

Welcome to guests and members.

Announcements:
1. The September 27th COLA meeting featured a special program in place of our monthly business meeting. The meeting focused on a presentation on MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates by our guest speaker – Executive Director, Jeff Forester.
2. The COLA committee reports and announcements were emailed to COLA Reps and Presidents. Special announcements included the Legislative Forum 5 in Walker; Candidate Forums sponsored by the League of Women Voters and Restore the Shore Orders.

Representatives:
Bad Axe: Mary Ann Erpelding
Belle Taine: Dick Boehmer
Big Mantrap: Helen Marsh
Big Sand: Carol & Richard Sederstrom, Irene Weis, Al Judson
Blue: Peter Tuomisto
Boulder:
Lower Crow Wing: Jenifer Piddle, Anthony McKeown
Middle Crow Wing:
8th & 9th Crow Wing: Julie Kingsley, Bill Hofstad
10th & 11th Crow Wing:
Duck: John Lundquist,
Eagle: Janine Weideman, Dave and Jackie Fastenow
Emma/Bottle/Stocking: Ellis Lysne
Fish Hook: Marvel Haynes
Gilmore:

Island South:
Ham: Paul Jensen
Hinds:
Kabekona: Gary & Mary Arndt
Little Sand: Mary Jo Groehler, Dan & Ruby Kittilson, Rod Westrum, Maggi Yerkes, Wayne Swanson, Larry Bexell
Long: Sharon Natzel, Larry Roberts
Mow:
Palmer: Dan & Betty McCorry
Peysenske: Jeff Mosner
Plantagenet:
Portage: Jerry Knoblich
Potato: Chuck Diessner, Ken Grob
Spider: Hillary & Bob Stoltz, John Weber, Mary Adams,
Stony:
Tripp: Bill Clausen, Michael Van Guilder
Twin Lakes: Don McIntosh, Chuck Tritz

Guests: Bill Clausen, SWCD; C.T Marhula, DFL; Bob Hanson, Peysenske Lake & Assessor; Darrin Hoverson, DNR; Jeff Forester, MSRPO; Calub Shavlick, DNR Fisheries; Gary Korsgaden, FM Walleyes & Long Lake; Matt Dotta, Commissioner Candidate; Christine Herwig, DNR; Brita Sailer, Legislative Candidate; Charlene Christenson, Island Lake & Arago Township; John McKinney, City of Park Rapids and Stephen Aultman, Rockwood Township.
Attendees to our program on MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates included DNR personnel, anglers, commissioner candidates, township supervisors, media, SWCD representatives, City of Park Rapids, COLA reps, lake association presidents and leaders.

Approval of Minutes from September 29, 2011 meeting: MSP

Program Summary: Jeff Forester’s presentation focused on how MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates, COLA’s and lake associations can work together at the State Capitol to protect our lakes for present and future generations. His discussion included the following talking points:

1. Who is MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates
2. What’s at stake – preserve property values and tax revenue, impacts on lakes
3. AIS – we can stop the spread
4. Funding
   a. Long term sustainable funding mechanism.
   b. Legacy Amendment funding
5. Shoreland Management Practices
   a. Incentives for shoreline protection.
   b. Shoreland Standards Update
6. Legislative agenda for 2013
7. Legislative Process/Influence
8. Discussion on the importance of grassroots citizens to join MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates. Forester pointed out that a larger group of grassroots citizens can have greater influence on their local legislators.
9. To join MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates go to: www.mnlakesandrivers.org

Next Meeting:
Thursday, November 1, 2012. Northwood’s Bank Community Room; 6:30 Social hour, 7:00 regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted Julie Kingsley, COLA Secretary

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