

**HUBBARD COUNTY COALITION OF LAKE ASSOCIATIONS (HC COLA)**  
**The Board of Directors Meeting - April 26, 2018**  
**Approved 5-31-18**

*“HC COLA is the Leader in Protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers for this and future generations.”*

**THANK YOU to the meeting hosts: Little Sand, Big Sand and Bad Axe.**

- 1. Call to Order:** Pass the microphone introductions. Those present: **33** members present representing **24** lake associations, **11** guests.

**Speaker: Nicholas Macklem**, new Hubbard County (HC) Environmental Specialist, who oversees the AIS and Decontamination programs.

**A. Infested Waters Updates** or where we're at for 2018:

**Lakes 2017:** Bad Axe, Eurasian Watermilfoil; Benedict, Zebra Mussels; Garfield, Zebra Mussels; Long, Faucet Snails; and Steamboat, Zebra Mussels.

**Lakes 2018:** George, Faucet Snails, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Crow Wing, Faucet Snails.

- B. Training and upcoming events:** DNR Level 1 Training was held with 41 Inspectors present. Level 2, May 7<sup>th</sup> for Decon Station attendees. May 11<sup>th</sup> Inspection Mentor Day. May 12<sup>th</sup> Fishing Opener.
- C. Decontamination Station:** free, located between Detail Shop and the Transfer Station. It will be in operation for fishing opener. Decon Station on call 7 days a week, call 218-252-6738. Hours and schedule are on the Hubbard County website and the HC COLA website.
- D. Inspector Schedule:** now posted on HC AIS webpage. There are 33 boat launches on 31 lakes in HC. 14,752 hours are scheduled in 2018, which is 341 more hours than 2017.
- E. HC AIS Prevention Aid Funding:** \$250,000. Supplemental Hours Aid: roughly \$85,000 from Lake Associations. 2019 Supplemental Hours Payment deadline: January 31, 2019. Township & City Supplemental Funding: 2018 roughly \$30,000 from Townships & Cities. 2019 Supplemental Funding payment deadline, January 31, 2019. The deadlines were listed in the sent-out 2018 Supplemental Funding letter.
- F. Contact info for Nicholas Macklem, Environmental Specialist,** Environmental Services office, 301 Court Ave, Park Rapids. Email: nmacklem@co.hubbard.mn.us Phone: 218-732-3890.
- G. Website for presentation:**  
[http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/2018\\_county\\_ais\\_program\\_overview.pdf](http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/2018_county_ais_program_overview.pdf)

**Speaker: Jeff Mosner**, HC COLA Webmaster, Fly Fishing “A Lake Runs Through It”.

- A. Myth buster:** Fly fishermen come from all walks of life.
- B. Tips:** You want to do fly fishing in calm water on shallow lakes. Wading is very effective for fly fishing. Motion when swinging the rod is a 10 to 2 clock motion. It's fun to be accurate, in placing a fly between lily pads.
- C. Fish for fly fishing:** bass; sunfish; pumpkin seed, a variety of sunfish; blue gills and even northern pike.
- D. Flies:** Most fly fishermen start to tie their own flies. Flies can be made from feathers, animal hair, shiny strands, anything to attract their attention. Two types of flies: wet and dry. Wet flies sink and dry flies float.
- E. Catch and Release:** Let the big ones go.
- F. Fly fishing streams:** Fly fishing in streams is usually for trout. A premier trout stream is the Straight River running out of Straight Lake in Osage. The Straight River is known for Brown Trout.

**2. SWCD Update – Julie Kingsley, SWCD**

- A. Tree order:** backed-up a week. Pick-up trees at the Hubbard County Fair Grounds Fri May 11, 1:00-6:00 pm; Sat May 12, 9 am-3 pm; and Sun May 13, 12:00 noon -3:00 pm.
- B. SWCD to do water monitoring** on George, Benedict, Hart Lake and Lake Alice. SWCD is trying to fill-in data gaps for lakes that have no lake associations.
- C. County Commissioners** are in support of the 1 Watershed 1 Plan for the Mississippi Watershed. The next watershed, after the Mississippi, will be the Crow Wing Watershed.
- D. Rainfall monitoring:** if interested in being a rainfall monitor, call SWCD.

3. **AIS Social Marketing – Steve Hill**
  - A. **Early into the project**, collecting data, asking people to fill-out a survey.
  - B. **Nicole Kovar**, DNR, is on the team.
  
4. **Chamber of Commerce, Member to Member program – Sharon**
  - A. **15 resorts** signed up for Zebra Mussel samplers, picking up 4 additional lakes that will participate in HC COLA's "Eyes on Water" Program. These 4 lakes are not on the HC COLA lake list.
  
5. **AIS Operating Team – Bob Berdahl**
  - A. **Big Sand Lake Assn Petition** request, for team to study and make recommendation.
    - a. AIS Operating Team focused on Big Sand request
    - b. Wright County pilot project comes close to Big Sand request. Three lakes in Annandale area, Regional Enhanced Watercraft Decontamination and Inspection Program Pilot.
    - c. **Some Barriers Include:** To accomplish BSLA petition request, couldn't only be done in the county, because of boats moving around for fishing; there's more that 2,500 public accesses across the state; and we don't have support of the DNR.
    - d. **Alternative AIS Protection:**
      - i. **Policing Process, "Police & Control":** go into the state, stop at a way station to decontaminate.
      - ii. **Public awareness & Education:** in a few cases deny launch, routing to decon station.
      - iii. **AIS Research:** Actively support the AIS Research Center at University of Minnesota.
      - iv. **Support Wright County pilot program** as a way to learn more from it.
    - e. **Proposal** for a letter to DNR Commissioner Landwehr and Governor Dayton in support of Wright County's Pilot of a Regional Watercraft Inspection & Decontamination Program  
[http://www.wrightswcd.org/Water\\_Management/wrip.html/](http://www.wrightswcd.org/Water_Management/wrip.html/)
    - f. **Motion made by Chuck Diessner** to eliminate the last sentence referencing 2019 and approve the Statement of Support letter. Seconded by Hillary Stoltz and carried by a standing vote.
    - g. Ken Grob asked that a CC of the letter be sent to senator, representatives, AIS reps at the State level too
  
6. **Consent approval** of the February Minutes and the Treasurer's Report.
  
7. **Free information** available from **MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates**. It is worthwhile to be on their Citizen Action Network email list. <http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org/>
  
8. **Sports Sale:** with not enough support to provide items, the Sports Sale will not be held this year.
  
9. **What's Happening on Your Lake:** Kari Tomperi, HC COLA Rep from Twin Lakes reported folks spotted an Eagle perched in tree watching as an otter pulled a large fish from the lake onto the ice, ate what it wanted, left the rest and went underwater. Then the eagle landed on the ice to eat the rest of the fish.
  
10. **New Statewide Northern Pike regulations – Doug Kingsley, DNR Fisheries**
  - a. **Bag limit:** 10 Northern Pike, 2 over 26" may be kept, none between 22"-26" may be kept, pike under 22" may be kept.
  - b. The first **Walleye eggs** were harvested. Spring is coming.
  
11. **Peter Tuomisto: Water Quality Container Pick-up** is May 9<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 - 8pm, Northwoods Bank parking lot.

**Next Meeting: Thurs May 31<sup>st</sup>, 5:30 PM Coffee & Conversation – Mtg at 6 pm, Northwoods Bank Community Room.**  
**Host lakes: Duck, Spider, Twin Lakes & Gilmore.**

Motion by Lynn Goodrich to adjourn, seconded by Ken Grob. Adjourned.  
 Nancy Gibbs - HC COLA Secretary