

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA

BOARD MEETING MINUTES – April 25, 2013

“COLA is the Leader in Protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers”

www.minnesotawaters.org/group/hccola/welcome
hccolamn@gmail.com

1. Call to Order: President Dan Kittilson at 7:00 P.M.

Representatives:

Bad Axe:

Belle Taine: Dick Boehmer

Big Mantrap: Lyle Laske

Big Sand: Al Judson

Blue:

Boulder:

Lower Crow Wing:

8th & 9th Crow Wing: Julie Kingsley

10th & 11th Crow Wing:

Duck: Deb Rogers

Eagle: Janine Weideman

Fish Hook: Jan Rumpza

Gilmore: Tom Thielges

Island South:

Ham:

Hinds:

Kabekona: Ken Shively

Little Sand: Wayne Swanson, Dan & Ruby
Kittilson, Mary Jo Groehler

Long: Larry Roberts, Sharon Natzel

Palmer: Bert Ahern, Dan McCorry

Peysenske: Jeff Mosner

Plantagenet:

Portage: Charlie Pieper

Potato: John Hastings, Bob Berdahl, Chuck
Diessner, Ken Grob, Kevin Brauer

Spider: John Weber, Hillary Stoltz

Stony: Dennis & Pam O’Connell

Tripp: Theora & Lynn Goodrich

Twin Lakes: Don McIntosh

Guests: Nate Sitz - Hubbard County SWCD, Sally Shearer - Hubbard County UM Extension,
Doug Kingsley - DNR Fisheries

2. Guest Speakers: Sally Shearer, Program Coordinator - Hubbard County UM Extension and
Nate Sitz & Julie Kingsley, Hubbard County SWCD

GFO COLA Activity Booth Volunteer Opportunities Discussed & signup sheets passed around
to attendees. Many of the 30 positions have been assigned – thank you to COLA members!

3. Approval of Minutes from Feb 7, 2013 meeting: MSP

4. Addition to Agenda: None

5. Treasurer’s Report: John Weber – Approved - MSP

A. GIS discussion. **MSP** – renew GIS subscription and invite Ed Mutsch to a meeting to
explain data

B. By-Laws require setting dues for 2013-14. Discussed options. **MSP** – continue as is for
another year; subject to review

C. John Weber will send out invoices for water testing in mid-June to the participating lake
associations. Spider Lake is paid up already.

D. Shy \$400 to meet Freshwater Festival needs.

Guest Speaker, Sally Shearer, Program Coordinator - Hubbard County UM Extension presented her background & the process of defining a program. The COLA Reps provided their lake association program survey tally to Sally. Next step: Sally to determine combined program survey tally & with COLA Education Team determine program with course description & date so COLA Reps have info for members for their upcoming lake association meetings. Handout provided on UM Extension Lake-Related videos/ fact sheets www.extension.umn.edu/shoreland/

Guest Speaker, Nate Sitz, Hubbard County SWCD presented the status on AIS Watercraft Inspection Plan. Currently 19 active inspectors plus 1 extra on-call. 19 Lakes with 22 launch sites with 6,040 hrs budgeted and scheduled. Upcoming DNR volunteer watercraft inspection training classes 4/27 9-12 Bemidji & 6/8 in Lake George area also 9-12. If you have 20 attendees, you may schedule a class for your lake association also Nate explained the portable decontamination unit will be at Johnson-On-The-Water in Dorset with on-call basis and by appointment. A boater may want to be proactive after a trip to a contaminated lake and can decontaminate – will probably be a fee.

Guest Speaker, Julie Kingsley, District Manager – Hubbard County SWCD presented information on tree orders coming in 5/1. Theora Goodrich will have more on that in her report.

The Envirothon is an outdoor environmental learning competition for high school students. taking place 5/1 also. Topic this year is rotational grazing. Teams of students compete in five learning stations.

5/8 is Freshwater Festival for 6th graders at Camp Wilderness and they now have enough volunteers. Julie expressed her appreciation for the support that COLA provides as the SWCD isn't able to cover the cost without COLA donation.

Julie explained the grants available for shoreline protection. Information and application forms are on their website: <http://hubbardswcd.org/index.html> Contact Julie if questions too.

Community Partners Program: Geared for community partners that want to complete projects that will restore, protect or enhance water quality in lakes, rivers and streams. Stormwater reduction is goal. The SWCD will advise & provide technical guidance on the placement and design of rain gardens and native vegetation buffers. Eligible community partners include non-profit organizations, citizen groups, businesses, student groups, faith organizations, and neighborhood lake, river or homeowner associations, master gardeners, etc. Can partner with DNR, townships, etc.

Tullibee Lakes Forest Stewardship Program: SWCD received \$37,000 of the Clean Water Legacy Funds to protect & enhance water quality of deep cold water lakes. Partnered with DNR, BWSR, the SWCD can provide a low cost Forest Stewardship Plan to qualified landowners. Landowners who own forested 20 acre parcels or larger and live within 9th Crow Wing, 11th Crow Wing, Howard, Kabekona, Big Sand, LaSalle, Spearhead and Ten Mile lake watersheds are eligible for grant funds.

Wild Rice Program: Hubbard County SWCD is partnering with Ducks Unlimited, Board of Water and Soil Resources, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on an Outdoor Heritage Fund project to protect shorelines on important wild rice lakes in North-Central Minnesota. The following Hubbard County lakes are eligible: First Crow

Wing, Fourth Crow Wing, Spring Lake, Upper Mud, and Crow Wing A conservation easement protects land from future development while keeping land in private ownership and on the local tax rolls.

The Cost-Share Program was created to provide funds to share the cost of systems or practices for erosion control, sedimentation control, or water quality improvements that are designed to protect and improve soil and water resources. Through the State Cost-Share Program, landowners can request financial and technical assistance for the implementation of conservation practices.

6. Unfinished Business:

A. John Hastings provided an update on the Wild Rice Fundraising Project. Rice packages, gift boxes and pottery were available at the meeting. “How To Purchase” info on COLA Website was suggested in discussion.

B. Dan K asked for COLA presence at lake association meetings. There is a new COLA tri-fold available with COLA materials that was displayed and is available for COLA Reps for their annual meeting. This tri-fold will be used at the GFO COLA activity booth on Fri 5/10 at the Community Picnic.

C. Indiana University Capstone Project on COLA / Lake Association Sustainability status was provided by Dan K. Hubbard County COLA is now on Facebook. Discussion on how valuable this service is to COLA! Doug Kingsley asked for those with video expertise to help him video tape Burney Fischer’s Capstone presentation at our next COLA mtg. The goal is to be able to provide a DVD to our COLA lake associations who want to show at their annual meetings.

7. New Business:

A. Sponge Fund: John Hastings. Dan K & John worked out the details for application for grant from 3M and received 2500 sponges of commercial grade. Worked with Northwest Minnesota Foundation where the COLA Project Fund resides. Ken G asked for volunteers for Tues 4/30 (& received names) to help package 125 with literature for the GFO Fishing Hosts - complimentary. (This team will also package COLA / AIS literature for 400 media). A plan is being developed for selling sponges at Lake Association mtgs.

8. Committee Reports:

The Committee’s provided their reports ahead of time so just touched on highlights in their reports. The committee reports will be posted on the Hubbard County COLA website.

Additional handouts were provided by:

The AIS team on news highlights:

- On 5/18 10th & 11th Crow Wing Lake Annual Mtg, Akeley Senior Center – presentation on AIS Inspection planned – seeking attendance by township and city leaders
- Bob Berdahl to head planning on County Rapid Response Plan for AIS
- State Advisory Committee:
DNR identified lead for containment & decontamination planning for Lake Winnie

The IPA team gave a legislative summary on HF 1183 – Omnibus Legacy Bill which includes \$200,000 for watercraft inspections and decontamination stations in Hubbard County in FY2014. Write your legislature asking for support. Contact Chuck Diessner cfdiessner@gmail.com; or Dan Kittilson drkittil@q.com for further details regarding HF 1183. The IPA team is also working on an even better method of asking Hubbard County COLA members to write legislatures, etc.

The Civic Service team on:

- ZM Veliger monitoring
- Restore-the-Shore Tree Order Forms for 2014 for Coordinators and Lake Associations
- Reminded all to remove the old forms from all the websites including COLA's
- Theora asked that Restore-The-Shore Coordinators pick up their order:
 - o Thurs 5/2 at 3-5 PM at the Senior Citizen's Building at Fair Grounds
 - There will be signs to show the way.
- The Cover Letter Page for Timing for Restore the Shore for 2014 will be created.
- Water monitoring registration forms should be returned by 5/8/13 to Hubbard COLA, P.O. Box 746, Park Rapids, MN 56470 or email to hccolamn@gmail.com

Theora G displayed the Chili Cookoff Award & thanked all for their support.

Larry Roberts & Jeff Mosner will work with Judy Novak to transition the webmaster responsibilities. Facebook will need management also.

10. What's Happening on Your Lake: 2 lakes provided their newsletters to Dan K and John H. Long Lake is working on theirs

Next Mtg: Thurs June 27, 2013; 6:30 PM social gathering; 7 PM meeting, Northwood's Bank Community Room. Group 7 Hosting: Big Mantrap, Duck, Potato, and Twin Lakes

12. Adjourn Meeting: MSP to adjourn meeting

Respectfully submitted by Host Team – **Group 6:** Eagle, Long, and Stony

Contact Information

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