

Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HC COLA)

The Board of Director's Meeting March 28, 2019, 6pm

Held at the Northwoods Bank Community Room - Minutes Approved 4-25-19

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

THANK YOU to the meeting hosts: Blue Lake & Tripp Lake

1. **Call to Order** – Pass the microphone introductions. Those present: **25** members present (1 on conf call) representing **19** lake associations and **12** guests.

2. **Speakers:**

Nicholas Macklem, Environmental Specialist, Hubbard County Environmental Services provided an update on the Hubbard County aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention program. His presentation is available at <http://hubbardcolamn.org/hubbard-county-ais-reports--plans.html>

William Lee, Water Quality Resource Specialist, Hubbard County SWCD provided an introductory guide to identifying terrestrial invasives that threaten Hubbard County. He discussed identifying these species, their origins and current status, ways they spread and how to eradicate them while taking steps toward slowing their spread or reemergence. He also provided an overview of HC SWCD services. His presentation is available at: <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/presentations.html>

3. **Business Meeting**

There were no additions to the agenda. Consent approval for minutes from 2/28/19.
Treasurer's Report reviewed and approved.

4. **Voting Items:**
 - a. Advisory Team recommends NW MN Foundation HC COLA Charitable Fund Grant for Bad Axe in the amount of \$1165 as proposed. Brian Kaatz (president of the Bad Axe Lake Association) gave a brief overview of the uses of the money. Motion to approve by Lynn Goodrich with second by Steve Hall. Unanimously approved.

 - b. Advisory Team recommends another round of Grant Proposals from 5/1/2019 to 3/1/2020 for up to \$1500 in total from the NW MN Foundation HC COLA Charitable Fund with award to be no later than 6/1/2020. Discussion included timing and maximum amount of money to be awarded. Motion to approve by Mike Glynn with second by Theora Goodrich. Unanimously approved.

 - c. HC COLA to provide lunch for approximately 60, Saturday 4/27 at AIS Watercraft Inspector Training with a cap of \$300. Motion to approve by Alan Colliander with second by Charlie Pieper. Motion passed. It was noted that this expenditure should be added as a line item to next year's budget.

 - d. HC COLA letter to DNR Commissioner by 4/15/19 to allow the 3rd year of the planned Wright County Pilot. Motion to approve by Deb Massey with second by Lynn Goodrich. Motion passed.

 - e. HC COLA letter to Heidi Wolf, AIS Program Supervisor and CC to DNR Commissioner Strommen to move SSW from pilot stage to management stage for treatment – similar to Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) management processes. Motion to approve by Deb Massey with second by Charlie Pieper. Motion passed.

5. A gathering to establish “Conversation on Angling, AIS and Access to Minnesota Lakes and Rivers” was to be sponsored by the DNR on Saturday, April 13. It has been postponed. If you wish to participate in the future, send an email to the DNR wip.dnr@state.mn.us with the subject line “I’m in” and you will be notified when it is rescheduled. It’s purpose, working with the Minnesota AIS Advisory Committee, was to sponsor an open space event to invite interested Minnesotans to discuss the question: “How can we all better address the challenges of supporting public access to Minnesota’s lakes and rivers, providing really good recreational fishing, and stopping the spread of aquatic invasive species.”
6. HC COLA is co-sponsor of the Park Rapids Lakes Area Fishing Expo – Fri 4/12/19 – VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! The featured guest Speaker is Chip Leer, a 2019 inductee into Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame.
7. **Sports Sale Date Change** - - We were able to reserve the Environmental Building at the Fair Grounds for Wed 6/5 thru Sat 6/8. Deliver your items for the Sports Sale early Wednesday. The sale will be Thursday/Friday with cleanup on Saturday. Be sure to save items for the sports sale as you do your spring cleaning!
8. Various HC COLA Updates:
 - a. UMN Extension & HC COLA exploring possibility of upcoming class concerning lawn buffers and pollinator gardens. More information to follow.
 - b. HC COLA will have information & freebies available at the Chamber for Resort week the second week in April. The Downtown Business Assoc is planning to provide a binder for resorts in April through Chamber. HC COLA will provide the new flyer focused on gear & equipment - community based social marketing (cbsm) principles.
 - c. HC COLA Committee Reports available at:
http://www.hubbardcolumn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/cr_2019_03_28.pdf
 - d. AIS Volunteer Training is 5/3 from 1 to 4 PM at Northwoods Bank – Register with Sharon or else the DNR – Mike on website: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/volunteer.html> Learn how to educate on AIS at the public access
9. What’s Happening on Your Lake?
Long Lake is implementing a tuition reimbursement upon completion/certification to the AIS Detector Program.
10. Additional Info: In August we will hear from farmers involved in the water certification program. This certifies that they are managing their farms in such a way as to be protecting our waters. Also, the BWSR Board has formally accepted the Leech Lake River Water Mgmt Program and are moving into implementation.
11. Next Mtg: Thursday 4/25/19, 5:30 PM refreshments / social & 6 PM Bus Mtg;
Hosts: Little Sand, Big Sand & Bad Axe

April Presenter is: Todd Holman, Mississippi Headwaters Program Director, The Nature Conservancy, will speak about how private landowners can seek conservation education, cost-share funding, program enrollment or even permanent conservation easements on a spectrum of service delivery options. He'll also share information on the Crow Wing River Healthy Waters Partnership and a few other easement programs. We'll learn about potential ways to protect lakeshore and water health for this and future generations.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.