

Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HC COLA)
Minutes of The Board of Director's Meeting Thursday 9-26-19 – Approved 10-31-19
5:30 PM Refreshments & Social, 6 PM Meeting - Northwoods Bank Community Room
“HC COLA is the Leader in Protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers” www.hubbardcolamn.org

1. 6:00 PM - Call to Order - Sharon Natzel, President
 - a. Thank you to Meeting Hosts: Eagle-Island, Palmer, South Island, Ham
 - b. Pass the microphone introductions. 27 Attendees with 18 HC COLA member lakes & 2 guests
2. Tim Terrill, the Executive Director of the Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB), gave a presentation on the history, goals and successes of the MHB. It was established in 1980 to protect the Natural, Recreational, Cultural, Historical, and Scientific values of the Mississippi River. The MHB has consistent zoning over eight Minnesota counties along the river's corridor.

Minnesota Traditions is the marketing effort of the MHB. Through TV infomercials and the social media platforms of Facebook and Twitter, the MHB draws attention to AIS in a proactive and offensive, rather than defensive, manner. It focuses on meaningful life stories that are specific to five major water related activities: fishing, boating/sailing, water sports, canoeing/kayaking, waterfowl hunting. Articles are user focused and timely in delivery.

Statistics were shared showing the success of the program. The goal for 2020 is to continue the social media outreach as well as distribute articles and stories to 600 media outlets.

Link to Tim's presentation on the HC COLA website & also see the MHB & MN Traditions websites:

http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/03_minnesota_traditions_2020_campaign.pdf

<http://www.minnesotatraditions.com/> and <http://mississippiheadwaters.org/overview.asp>

3. Mark Warisch of Garfield Lake Association reported on the success of the first two years of the Garfield Lake Association. They have 55 members out of 104 possible. Large community support has led to a revitalization of the landing, a concern of many members and residents. Fundraising and funds from other sources resulted in additional funds for landing inspections. For the first time in three years, there have been no zebra mussel veligers detected in the lake samples.
4. HC COLA Business Meeting
 - a. Quorum verified
 - b. Motion by Deb Massey and seconded by Deb Rogers to appoint Keith Minkel to the Executive Board to replace Dan Kittilson, who moved to Otter Tail. Dan will continue to assist with special projects and research. Passed with 17 LA's in favor, 0 opposed.
 - c. Motion by Allan Colliander and seconded by Lynn Goodrich to approve the Treasurer's Report. Passed.
 - d. Motion by Lynn Goodrich and seconded by Gene Hanson to approve the 8/29/2019 minutes. Passed.
 - e. Volunteers are needed to check, remove by 10/13, clean, store and set out in 2020 the zebra mussel samplers at area public landings. Thank you to those who have undertaken the task. Please check your own docks / lakeshore too & complete the “Eyes on the Water” survey:
<http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/eyes-on-the-water---early-detection.html>
 - f. Cheryl Hilgemann gave an update on Restore the Shore. Emails will be sent with information and pricing. One check from the LA to HC COLA is due October 31 at our HC COLA meeting with May 1, 2020 delivery. More information at our HC COLA website:
<http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/score--restore-your-shore.html>
 - g. Articles pertaining to E-coli outbreaks at metro, Ohio and Iowa lakes were shared. These outbreaks closed beaches. We can learn what to avoid and prevent this from occurring here potentially. See the

research links:

Using wetlands to clean the waters <https://www.thegazette.com/subject/news/government/treading-water-millions-of-dollars-riding-on-water-quality-in-the-midwest-20190905>

<http://www.startribune.com/e-coli-leads-to-record-number-of-beach-closures-in-minneapolis/543148062/>

<https://www.mprnews.org/story/2019/08/29/too-many-contaminated-lakes-in-the-metro-this-summer>

- h. The Leech Lake One River, One Watershed has funding of \$600,000 over the next 2 years.
- i. Newsletters from Steamboat and Stony were shared.
- j. Hillary Stoltz from Spider Lake shared her research (see link below and picture attached). Pine Sawfly larva were reported to be prevalent in the area. They feed on pine needles and should be eradicated. <https://extension.umn.edu/yard-and-garden-insects/sawflies>
- k. The ad on Cleaning Gear and Equipment that is being developed must have a reduced number of pictures. http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/ais_flyer_2019_-_final.pdf Nicole Kovar, DNR Northwest Region AIS Specialist is assisting in photos to be included.
- l. Preserved samples of zebra mussels were passed around so monitors are aware of what to look for.

5. Updates on HC COLA Partners and Memberships

- a. Steve Henry from RMB Labs will present next month. He made mention that pollution is a key contributor to the establishment of AIS. Good water quality practices are encouraged to be used to help prevent the spread of AIS.
- b. The Minnesota AIS Research Center Showcase info from mid-Sept is now on their website, including the presentations and posters. Sign up for their newsletter too: <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/>
- c. The Hubbard County SWCD is still looking for a manager.
- d. MC COLA learned about wake boats concerns from a Sept mtg speaker; they can disturb lake bottoms to depths of 16 feet. Learn more: safewakes.org and also <https://www.boatus.com/magazine/2019/february/wakeboat-etiquette.asp>
- e. The Downtown Business Association is updating their web site (HC COLA ad is currently on webcam pages) <http://www.parkrapidsdowntown.com/contents/webcams/webcam1.php>

6. What's Happening on Your Lake?

The south landing on Long Lake near Hubbard is now open and upgrade completed.

7. Next Mtg: Thur 10/31, 5:30 PM refreshments / social & 6 PM Bus Mtg at Northwoods Bank; Meeting hosts are Plantagenet, Potato, Stony and Garfield

8. Speakers at our Thursday 10/31/19 meeting are:

- a. Nicholas Macklem, Hubbard County Environmental Services on the AIS Program Results and Plans including Supplemental Funding for the Watercraft Inspection Program and key dates for 2020
- b. Steve Henry, RMB Environmental Laboratories Inc on "How Lakes Age: With or Without Zebra Mussels. Over time, nutrients build up in our lakes causing changes to the lake bottom, aquatic plants, fish and water quality. Zebra Mussels have not changed how fast nutrients accumulate in our lakes but they have changed where nutrients are stored in the lake and how nutrients are expressed. Learn about how our lakes age, how zebra mussels change lake aging and what new techniques researchers are using to track lake health.

9. Motion by Steve Hall and seconded by Wayne Swanson to adjourn. Passed.
Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.