

**Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations Board of Directors Hybrid Meeting Minutes – Approved 7-27-2023
Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 6:30 PM until approximately 8:15 PM**

Northwoods Bank Community Room, 1200 1st St. E, Park Rapids, MN 56470 and Zoom

In-person attendance 18 plus Zoom attendance 16 for a total of 34 participants. Quorum established with 23 member lake associations present out of 31. HC COLA Meeting was called to order by President, Sharon Natzel at 6:30 PM.

Presenter Christina Hill, Member MN GreenCorps from Hubbard County Solid Waste Dept explained the programs, including her work on community outreach and social media. She highlighted the reuse program available for community organizations. Christina showed the map she is finalizing of the different areas of the south transfer station and the drive-through reuse lane for residents. She spoke about the organics program available too. Motto: We are a community that Rethinks, Reduces, Reuses, and Recycles. (HC COLA benefited from the community organizational program this year for some used PVC pipe materials for the artificial loon nesting platforms, zebra mussel settlement samplers and monofilament line recycling tubes.)

Presenter Zachrie Gutknecht, Beltrami County Soil and Water Conservation District, explained the MN program “Keep It Clean” and the collaborative educational efforts by the coalition of businesses and organizations, and that HC COLA can be part of, to curb garbage and other waste being left on the ice after fishing. The “Be Nice To Our Ice” video by Ron Schara highlights 5 steps to remember when ice fishing. The new MN legislature’s law takes effect this winter that addresses storing garbage on ice.

Both presentations were recorded and can be viewed on our website: <https://hubbardcolamn.org/presentations.html>

Consent agenda items:

- Draft 5-25-2023 HC COLA Minutes - <https://hubbardcolamn.org/2023.html>
- Treasurer’s Report - Keith Minkel

HC COLA Charitable Fund Grant Round began June 1st, 2023 and is available through the Northwest Minnesota Foundation and our website <https://hubbardcolamn.org/hc-cola-charitable-fund--grant.html> Application deadline is 4-15-2024.

The legislative outcomes info was presented by Jeff Forester, MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates, the MN legislative lobbyists for our lakes and rivers, at MN COLA. As a member of each organization, HC COLA provided this recap in June for you to share.

We moved these items ahead to our 7/27 HC COLA meeting:

- 1) Draft of the updated By-Laws. Please get any suggestions to hccolamn@gmail.com before July 5th so we can update the draft, resend, and allow for the 20-day review time by our HC COLA Reps for the lake associations that are the HC COLA Board of Directors.
- 2) Update on MAISRC Labs to Lakes demonstration day by participant, David Nelson.
- 3) The UMN Healthy Waters Initiative – Phase II with Peer Review is occurring this year which focuses on propellor wash characterization. 72% of the desired crowd-sourced funding of \$175,000 has been raised. Approximately \$48,000 is needed to complete Phase II. Info here: <https://sites.google.com/umn.edu/healthywatersinitiative/welcome> The MN Legislation was passed this year to support Phase III through LCCMR funding.

HC COLA Hybrid meetings at Northwoods Bank Community Room & Zoom, last Thurs of the month from 6:30 to 8:30 PM:
July 27, Aug 31, Sept 28, Oct 26