

## MEETING MINUTES



**December 3, 2021**

**Present from Board:** Kevin Horrocks, Chris Bedwell, Mark Lastrup, Dick Laumer, Jeff Aspenwall, Mike Persson, Jim Payne, Shelly Payne, Rick O'Neill, Steve Umland, Dave Zimmer, Kurt Shroeder, Jim Coors, Paul Eckerline

**Present from Committees and Guests:** Alf Sivertson, Jess Brickner

Recording **Secretary:** Mark Lastrup

Kevin Horrocks called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to accept the November minutes was made by Paul Eckerline and seconded by Chris Bedwell. The vote was unanimous.

**Treasurer's Report:** Chris Bedwell summarized income and expenses for the month. There is a balance of \$102,247 in checking and \$6,958 in the Eco-Harvester accounts. The checking account includes \$37,670 in 2022 donations. A Tribal invoice from Limnotech for \$1,765 was paid. Legal for the month came to \$2,652. Printing and copying totaled \$1,318.87. Total expenses for the month equal \$6,317.56. Chris summarized outstanding budget items that still need to be paid; donations to Muskies Inc., St. Francis, Walleyes for NW Wisconsin, and Bass Lake. The board approved the donations. Chris also pointed out that the bill for water quality monitoring from LCO Conservation is still outstanding (\$13,000). We need to make sure that the WQ data are entered in the SWIMS database. Kevin Horrocks will check with Linda Pulford to see if she is available. With the above-mentioned deductions, COLA will have approximately \$62,000 left in budget with \$45-\$50,000 transferred to next year. Dick Laumer asked about making buoys more visible. Mike Persson will check on reflective tape. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Mark Lastrup and seconded by Dick Laumer. The vote was unanimous.

**New Board Members:** Kevin Horrocks welcomed Shelly and Jim Payne, Kurt Shroeder, Rick O'Neill, and Steve Umland to the COLA Board. Steve Umland volunteered to head up the AIS committee. Alf Sivertson suggested announcing new board membership in January. Jim Coors responded that we need to get membership approval. He suggested that we have a full-fledged plan for the meeting next June so keep it quiet for now.

**Fundraising Update:** Alf Sivertson said that so far, we have 93 donors for \$37,000 so far. If the past is any indication, there will be significantly more contributions. Chris Bedwell mentioned that there is \$5600 coming in from a single donor and that all donations from October 1 have been credited to the 2022 budget. With a flush 2021 budget, move donations to 2022. Kevin Horrocks asked Alf Sivertson and

Jim Coors if we are we going to send out a reminder. The answer is Yes, and Alf will work with Jim. Jim will be unavailable so it has to happen soon.

**COLA Party:** Chris Bedwell said that we will meet at the Chicago Club January 8<sup>th</sup> thanks to the generosity of Paul Eckerline. Chef Christopher Ray will be catering. Chris will take care of beverages. All costs associated with this end of year party will be paid for with donations from COLA board members.

**2022 Budget Estimates:** Kevin Horrocks said that Legal and Limnotech are the big budget items. Kevin will speak with Limnotech to get an estimate. Get numbers to Kevin by the end of the month.

**COLA Files to GoogleDrive:** Chris Bedwell has set up a directory structure and Shelly Payne will help with organizing. Before you transfer files, make sure that the file names are intuitive.

**I-LIDS:** Mark Laustrup said that we will need to fund a ramp monitor per DNR requirements for the funding of the I-LIDS. Given the hoops associated with the surface water grants, we may want to forgo the DNR money and pay for the unit ourselves if we get the land use agreement from WDNR. We need to look at a decontamination station after county passes their ordinance. We will need more people working with clean boats if we install a station. Mark will work with Mike Persson to identify fishing tournaments that need to be monitored. Next step: wait and see if we are awarded the grant.

Closed Session

**Rulemaking:**

**Miller/Hill:**

**Lake Levels:**

**Highlands:**

Open Session

**2022 Eco-Harvester Plans:** Kevin Horrocks stated that we've learned a lot, but questions remain. Why do plants harvest in different ways in different places? Is it water depth, growing season or a combination of both? We need to put teams together for (1) harvest, (2) vehicles/drivers, (3) satellite boats, (4) cleaning and (5) repairs and maintenance. Kevin suggested putting teams together by the day of the week. Dick Laumer said that the machine should stay on the lake; too much time was spent moving equipment around. If the boat remains on the water grease fittings will need to be extended above the water. Chris Bedwell mentioned that paid staff will need to be budgeted for. Jim Coors said that we can't afford to pay staff if the weather is bad, and they accomplish nothing. Kevin suggested that a herbicide may be need to be used in some big areas and the Eco-Harvester in other areas. He went on to say that we need to increase the educational effort with shoreline property owners. Think about what groups you want to work on or head up.

**AIS:** See above.

**Musky Bay Spawning Restoration:** Kevin Horrocks communicated with Max Wolter, DNR fisheries biologist, who supports the effort. Max took out Nate Walker to Musky Bay to look at the site. Scott Van Egren also said the plant study is not a big problem. We need to show an ecological benefit of in-water disposal of dredged spoil. Maybe all they want to see is that all the boxes are checked. Kevin will talk to

Limnotech about which way we should go before we decide on moving forward or killing it. Mike Persson suggested putting it on hold and look for different alternatives, i.e., land purchase and on land disposal or another option that might present itself.

**Shoreline Restoration:** Skip

Adjourn: 5:15