

MEETING MINUTES



April 24, 2020

Present from Board: Kevin Horrocks, Gary Pulford, Jim Coors, Chris Bedwell, Mark Laustrup, Dick Laumer, Jeff Aspenwall, Mike Persson, Paul Eckerline, Kris Sivertson, Dave Zimmer

Present from Committees and Guests: Alf Sivertson, Rick O'Neill

Recording **Secretary:** Mark Laustrup

Kevin Horrocks call the meeting to order at 3:10 PM.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to accept the March minutes was made by Jim Coors and seconded by Kris Sivertson. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Chris Bedwell summarized income and expenses for the month. There is a balance of \$1,441.40. Eco-Harvester donations made directly to COLA over the last couple weeks totals \$4,450. March Pines Bach legal bill and LimnoTech invoices are not reflected in the March statement. WDNR 2019 AIS grant money has not arrived yet. COLA will sit on the Clean Boats advance for now. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Kris Sivertson and seconded by Gary Pulford. The vote was unanimous.

SSC Update: The new petition for site specific criteria (SSC) is complete and Alf Sivertson will speak with Krista next week. The tribal attorney will take it to the tribal governing board for approval. Gary Pulford and Kevin Horrocks spoke with WDNR representatives and they will support the science but will not champion the petition. WDNR will support a recommendation for an SSC for LCO.

Shoreline Monitors: Dick Laumer is working on PowerPoint presentation and hopefully it will be completed next week. There are 7-8 interested individuals, some of those are couples. Jeff Aspenwall provided a slide presentation of how data collection will work on the lakes.

CLP Update: Gary Pulford said that 5 sites will be treated this year and that the plants are ahead of schedule.

AIS Mapping: Jeff Aspenwall followed up on his presentation. COLA will be using the ESRI Collector app to collect and attribute data points on the lakes. The not for profit cost to COLA is \$100 per license. The money for Collector will come from the Clean Boats budget. A motion to order 7 (now 10) Collector licenses and additional credits for the COLA web site was made by Jim Coors and seconded by Kris Sivertson. The vote was unanimous.

Time in Kind: Kevin Horrocks reminded everyone to record time spent on AIS work.

Annual Meeting / Picnic: Jim Coors suggested moving the Annual Meeting to July and cancelling the picnic. A motion to move the annual meeting to July was made by Kris Sivertson and seconded by Dick Laumer. The vote was unanimous.

Conflict of Interest: Jim Coors provided a draft. If COLA moves to a 501(c)(3), you need a conflict of interest statement. Review and provide comments by next Monday. Kevin Horrocks will send out a note.

COLA/LCOFI How can we work together: Kevin Horrocks, Gary Pulford and Alf Sivertson summarized the earlier Zoom meeting with the Foundation. COLA's vision and Foundation vision are in conflict. From their standpoint, they control the money. The Foundation's Eco-Harvester fund (about 38k) is being transferred to the Eau Claire Foundation with instructions not to release the money until full payment can be made. Another 55k of the Foundation's general fund is also being transferred to the Eau Claire Foundation with an irrevocable letter of instructions that limits release of the 55k to a maximum of 20k per year. The Foundation adopted new bylaws and provided COLA with two options: 1) Dissolve the Foundation and transfer everything to a like-kind organization with the same purposes as the Foundation or 2) Swap out the Foundation trustees (all of whom agreed to resign) with a slate of new trustees proposed by COLA but approved by the Foundation. Kevin Horrocks was not allowed to provide an alternative because of their parliamentary rules. Alf Sivertson suggested option one where COLA becomes 501(c)(3) and everything goes under one roof. Kevin Horrocks asked if there is any way to slow down the pass-through fund with the Eau Claire Foundation that the Foundation adopted in its meeting until there is a final resolution of the breakup of the two organizations. Jim Coors stated COLA needs the 501(c)(3) designation before anything happens. Paul Eckerline asked if COLA can raise 100K a year to fund the organization. Chris Bedwell said that the Foundation has given COLA \$23,000 so far this year. Chris likes the idea of one organization. It is too cumbersome with multiple checking accounts. Alf Sivertson said the status quo should be maintained until COLA has 501(c)(3) status. A discussion on the Foundation workload followed. Chris Bedwell mentioned that the Foundation does not take credit cards. Alf Sivertson said there are several different approaches to fundraising that can be explored such as if all 650 property owners kicked in \$100, that is \$65,000 per year. It is the status quo for now and the amended articles are complete. A Motion to proceed with 501(c)(3) status was made by Kris Sivertson and seconded by Paul Eckerline. The vote had one abstention: Jeff Aspenwall was unsure of what was being asked. All others voted aye. Articles of Amendment for COLA to become a 501(c)(3) will be sent out over the weekend for COLA board to vote on and approve. Alf Sivertson will inform Rob Gales of the vote for 501(c)(3) status. Mark Lastrup mentioned the need to move the ESRI licenses from the Foundation to COLA once not for profit status is achieved. Alf Sivertson said that at some point COLA needs to write a letter explaining the changes to the membership.

Adjourn: 5:05 PM