

## MEETING MINUTES



May 22, 2020

**Present from Board:** Kevin Horrocks, Gary Pulford, Chris Bedwell, Mark Laustrup, Jeff Aspenwall, Kris Sivertson, Dave Zimmer, Jim Coors

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

Recording **Secretary:** Mark Laustrup

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

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to accept the April minutes was made by Chris Bedwell 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 \$16,729.09 in the checking account. COLA received a SBA Disaster Relief check for \$1,000. The \$1,000 advance from the Clean Boats Program was also deposited and will be carried over to 2021 because of Covid-19. COLA has received \$10,675 in donations to date for the purchase of the Eco-Harvester. There was a \$600 expense for the 501(c)(3) application and a \$1,000 expense for the ESRI Collector licenses. A motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report was made by Kris Sivertson and seconded by Jim Coors. The vote was unanimous.

**Annual Meeting:** Kevin Horrocks said that the Annual Meeting has been moved to August 1<sup>st</sup> and that the picnic has been cancelled. A final decision on the Annual Meeting will be made sometime in June.

**SSC Petition Update:** Alf Sivertson said he is waiting to hear back from tribe. Gary Pulford added that the sooner we get it in, the better. Gary will talk to Brian Bisonette to keep it moving.

**Shoreline Monitors:** Gary Pulford stated that the water temperature is approaching 60-degrees. Maybe plants will be visible next week. Jeff Aspenwall looked at Little LCO and the mouth of Musky Bay. There was nothing visible yet.

**CLP Update:** Gary Pulford has the permit and we won’t be able to treat the hump in the west basin. Gary will work with WDNR as to what we can use in the west basin. The applicator has the chemicals to begin work once the plants are up.

**AIS Mapping:** Gary Pulford asked how many people will be using the ESRI Collector app. Jeff Aspenwall replied 10. Jeff went to Barbertown Bay and mapped an algae bloom. With the 1pm bright sun and challenges it presents trying to “see the screen”, we will be recommending early morning, late afternoon/early evening for any planned observation runs, if expecting clear skies.

Jeff went to Barbertown Bay and mapped an algae bloom but had problems with screen visibility. Early morning and late afternoon reconnaissance will be required to get around the problem. COLA has a total of 12 Collector licenses.

**COLA/LCOFI Update:** Last Wednesday, the Foundation had a Zoom conference and next Wednesday they will vote to dissolve. A total of \$55,000 will be placed with the Eau Claire Foundation along with Eco-Harvester money; we need to have the whole thing paid for before that money is released. Legacy funds will be controlled by the Eau Claire Foundation. Fundraising is already a COLA responsibility. Jim Coors said we need a vote to change "Court" to "Courte" in the original 1994 filing for incorporation with the WI Department of Financial Institutions. Apparently, the name was misspelled on the original articles of incorporation. Jim went on to say that after recently searching unsuccessfully for "Courte Oreilles Lakes Association" with DFI (the search did not come up with the misnamed organization), he applied for incorporation for the "Courte Oreilles Lakes Association" in preparation for 501 (c)(3) status. Now there are two organizations registered with WDFI, one with the word "Court" and the other with "Courte." So, prior to renaming "Court" to "Courte," we need a resolution to dissolve the recently formed "Courte Oreilles Lakes Association." Jim Coors provided the motion to dissolve the "Courte" non-stock corporation, and it was seconded by Gary Pulford. Kris Sivertson then provided a motion to amend the spelling from "Court" to "Courte" for the 1994 WIDFI filing, and it was seconded by Chris Bedwell. Both votes were unanimous. David Zimmer suggested also looking into simply filing a "Doing business as" and then use the name we want. This can then be the commonly used, legal name. Alf was asked to look at this for the Court/Courte situation. (as an aside...Kevin has a corporation named Downtown Giclee, after the specialized printer used for printing fine art...when we ceased we kept the corporation for taxes etc. but then registered the name Reserve Belt Company, and now simply are simply doing business as Reserve Belt Company). Kris Sivertson said that we need to make sure there is not another organization using the name. Chris Bedwell checked and there is not. Mark Lastrup will speak with ESRI about the transfer of their not for profit license from the Foundation to COLA; we will forward the 501(c)(3) designation as soon as we get it.

**Eco-Harvester Update:** Alf Sivertson stated that COLA has raised \$49,000 with another \$5,000 available as soon as the 501(c)(3) letter is available. This total does not include the \$25,000 from the Tribe. Jim Coors is getting ready to send out second blast but will wait until the \$25,000 is in the bank. Jim reminded everyone that we still need to generate a total of \$100,000 to cover operation, a dump trailer, etc.

**COLA General Fund Strategy:** Kevin Horrocks said that in addition to funding the Eco-Harvester, we also need to deal with the general fund and that will be a lot of work.

**COLA Memberships:** Kevin Horrocks said that Rick O'Neill has been working on it. He's looking at how other lake associations operate. There are still problems with providing something of value, i.e., the picnic and then declaring it as a donation. Chris Bedwell suggested getting rid of the picnic. Turn it in to a pay at the door event. Kevin Horrocks suggested we might still want future options of providing items of value, for example: tumblers with the COLA logo to get the name out there. Chris Bedwell suggested we use credit cards to get monthly donations. Rick O'Neill will contact other associations to see what is working for them. Chris Bedwell reiterated that we combine membership with donations; it will end the confusion. Kevin Horrocks suggested creating a welcome package from COLA and distribute to realtors for people who buy LCO properties.

**COLA Fundraising Chair:** We need to get organized. Kris Sivertson asked how many current Foundation members are willing to stay around. Alf Sivertson said that Bill Zimmer is interested in continuing. Kurt too. Mark Lastrup mentioned he met Barb (and Bill) Baird who has experience with United Way in Minneapolis. He will try to get her contact information so Kevin could contact her with regard to involving her with fundraising efforts. Kevin Horrocks said he has a lead on a grant writing person. And we also need an AIS coordinator.

**Humphries Shoreline Damage:** Gary Pulford and Kevin Horrocks met with John Humphries about damage to his shoreline. He was interested in shoreline restoration funds.

**Future Issues to Consider:** Chloride and dog poop. We need to address both as they have the potential to negatively impact LCO water quality.

**Membership Thoughts:** skip

**Forestry in Watershed:** Kevin Horrocks asked where we are at with the project. Mark Lastrup said that the ball is in Paul Eckerline's court; he was to make initial contact with the three logging firms that adhere to best management practices. Kevin Horrocks will contact Paul.

**Landing Signs:** skip

**USACE Grant Update:** skip

**LCO Lake Management Plan Update:** Gary Pulford suggested that we turn to Limnotech for the update. He estimates a cost of \$5,000-\$10,000. Dave Zimmer asked about going to Eau Claire Foundation to release money for the update. Gary requested that everyone read through the current LCO Lake Management Plan—February, 2011 (it's on the COLA website) and bring your thoughts on the scope and priority of tasks for the next ten years of COLA operations aimed at improving/preserving LCO water quality and biological integrity. Be prepared for a lengthy discussion at the next Board meeting.

**Fund Raising Ideas:** Kevin Horrocks asked about the possibility of accessing county tax money. Dave Zimmer said that Sawyer County has hired an economic development director he will contact him.

**2020 Grants:** Kevin Horrocks stated that we need to get a couple more people on the board/committees to tackle grant writing.

**Septic Survey and Shoreline Buffer Surveys:** Mark Lastrup will contact Sawyer County on what their policy is for a septic system remap of LCO. We also need to address buffers; new data (lidar) and drones will make it much more accurate and less subjective.

Adjourn:500