

MEETING MINUTES



July 24, 2020

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

Present from Committees and Guests: Alf Sivertson, Rick O'Neill, Jim Payne, Dan Tyrolt, Ted Bariamis

Recording **Secretary:** Mark Laustrup

Kevin Horrocks call the meeting to order at 3:03 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Kevin Horrocks asked about the need to change bylaws with the new structure. Jim Coors replied in the affirmative but first, decisions need to be made on how COLA will function. A motion to accept the June minutes was made by Chris Bedwell and seconded by Jim Coors. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Chris Bedwell summarized income and expenses for the month. There is a balance of \$123,588 in checking/savings. \$54,000 has been raised for the Eco-Harvester and that money is in the savings account. We received \$1325 in donations in June along with \$525 in membership dues. Expenses include AIS treatment legal and LimnoTech for a total of \$14,911.80. Kevin Horrocks stated that we still need to raise money to cover this year's budget. He also mentioned that we need to check with Pines Bach as we are already at 89% of the yearly budget number. And what is still outstanding with the 9-key element plan update. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Jim Coors and seconded by Dave Zimmer.

Motions:

A motion to cover the expense (\$150) of an FAA License for drone work by Jeff Aspenwall was made by Kevin Horrocks and seconded by Chris Bedwell. The vote was unanimous.

A motion to provide \$2000 to the Lac Courte Oreilles Conservation Department to update the Aquatic Plant Management Plan was made by Mark Laustrup and seconded by Jim Coors. The vote was unanimous.

LimnoTech: Mike Persson said the musky habitat spawning habitat support is estimated at between \$4500 and \$6000 with another \$6000 for Aqua Thruster. All, over and above 2020 project allocation. Chris Bedwell suggested moving 9-key element plan money to habitat (\$7000). Kevin Horrocks said that we need to move carefully; we are on new ground with the elimination of the Foundation. Mike Persson said that we could revisit the aqua thruster next year. Sediment sampling and analysis for dredged material is estimated at \$5000 per Gary Pulford. Chris Bedwell mentioned that we are sitting on a

\$11,638 AIS grant reimbursement that comes back to us. Dan Tyrolt mentioned that he has \$34,000 to spend on musky habitat spawning. A motion to move forward with the habitat project was made by Jim Coors and seconded by Chris Bedwell. The vote was unanimous.

Aqua Thruster: Mike Persson said that we need to wait until we get the permits to dredge. Skip for now.

Book Reprint: Kevin Horrocks said that people are looking for The Tales of Lac Courte Oreilles by the Tom and Sue Burgess. The Mission has several copies but not enough to meet demand. Originally, it cost \$5000 for 500 copies. Advance Printing has the files and is willing to work with us. Jim Coors suggested printing 200 copies. Kevin Horrocks will get the estimate.

COLA Donation Model: Kevin Horrocks said that we need to decide on timing of the transition. Chris Bedwell mentioned that memberships expire at end of year and that would be the time to move from memberships to partnerships. Ted said that it would be good to have something in hand to show neighbors that we are members. Dave Zimmer suggested a boat sticker showing donation level. Dick Laumer likes the NPR model, a monthly donation. Chris Bedwell will update website to provide a donate monthly option. It will cost \$250 more a year. Jim Coors thinks the idea of partner is attractive. Signs: I am a COLA Partner. Barb Baird, in a discussion with Alf Sivertson, suggested adding higher amounts; \$5000 and \$10,000 Alf Sivertson said we need to decide on levels and then sell the message. Barb Baird says it's easier to raise funds for specific projects. She is willing to sit down over coffee to develop a strategy. Ted Bariamis mentioned that the musky habitat project would generate funds from his family. Gary Pulford argued for a more general approach; donations for the preservation and enhancement of LCO. Kevin Horrocks will develop a written plan so people can react to it. Kevin Horrocks jumped to item 10: General Fundraising Strategy. We should work off the fundraising plan. Kevin is writing the draft. Alf Sivertson, Chris Bedwell and Rick O'Neill will be involved. Jim Coors stated that this must occur within a month. Jeff Aspenwall made a motion to merge partnership and fundraising in to one effort, committee. I didn't get the vote.

2020 Annual Meeting: Because the annual meeting has been cancelled Jim Coors suggested a 2-3 page report to membership. Dave Zimmer asked if we are required to hold an annual meeting? Alf Sivertson replied, yes. We need to hold the election of officers at next board meeting. Dan Tyrolt mentioned that Grindstone held a Zoom annual meeting that went well. Dave Zimmer said that we need to be accountable to membership; keeping people engaged is critical to success. Make people think they are part of the organization. Dave suggested that Labor Day might be good for the Zoom annual meeting. Dan said that someone needs to monitor the chat box because that is how questions will come in. He also mentioned that we do not want to conflict with people recreating. Jim Coors suggested Tuesday, September 8 in the evening. Jim will set it up.

SSC Update: Alf Sivertson reported that WDNR is still considering whether they will accept and then there is a scope statement. Gary Pulford stated that we are pretty much assured that the NRB will attempt to deny any scope statement or rule making. Gary Pulford made a motion that "COLA initiate litigation in the event the NRB rejects the second petition for the SSC and associated rule making." Mark Lastrup seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Alf Sivertson will inform Tricia Westerborg to let the NRB know we will take them to court.

CWA Action: Gary Pulford asked what is in the sediment? Does it come from cranberry operations? Alf Sivertson said that a draft of the complaint includes new data and that we are going forward with solid

data. The next step is finalizing the complaint and then it goes to the 60-day notice to growers. Jim Coors asked if the tribe is a co-plaintiff? Alf is working on it.

501(c)(3) Certification: The ESRI licenses are at risk if we go past November. Jim Coors said that we will not have paper by the end date for the Foundation. Alf Sivertson will work on trying to speed up the effort and Mark Lastrup will communicate with ESRI to see if the Foundation termination letter and the COLA 501c3 letter will take care of it. Kevin Horrocks said that we need to put together a list of others that need the 501c3 letter. Chris Bedwell said she has that information.

AIS Update: Gary Pulford said that CLP treatment has been completed and we can now seek reimbursement. All AIS work is done. From here on out, it is Collector work. Dick Laumer asked if we should wait for in kind hours. There is still work to do. Gary said if we want to hold off that's fine but with existing in kind, we should be near the 25% match requirement.

APMP Update: Dan Tyrolt is drafting the update and will distribute for comment. Then the committee needs to meet. It's also part of the existing grant. The reimbursement and the APMP update need to be submitted together.

Eco-Harvester: Kris Sivertson is working on the strategy.

COLA Fundraising Strategy, 2020-2021: See COLA Donation Model above.

2021 Surveys: Mark Lastrup will look in to see if we can get a grant to redo the septic system survey. Someone? suggested focusing on the most egregious lakeside properties for the shoreland survey revisit.

Grant Writing: Kevin Horrocks said his friend may be interested but needs to know more about what is required.

Watershed Forestry: Paul Eckerline said the timber market is in the tank; three mills have closed. There isn't much of a threat at the moment. Kevin will follow up.

Adjourn: 5:06