



## COLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### MEETING MINUTES

April 24, 2015

**Present from Board:** Kris Sivertson, Gary Pulford, Mark Lastrup, Steve Umland, Steve Lilliblad, Kevin Horrocks, Sue Horrocks, Paul Eckerline (phone)

**Present from Committees:** Alf Sivertson, Jim Coors, Frank Pratt

**Recording Secretary:** Mark Lastrup

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM by Kris Sivertson.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to accept the March minutes was made by Gary Pulford and seconded by Sue Horrocks. The vote was unanimous.

**Treasurer's Report:** Steve Lilliblad stated that COLA received payment of \$23,000 from WDNR for the AIS grant. LCOFI was reimbursed \$13,000 for 2014 treatment cost, leaving a balance of \$12,000 in the account. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Mark Lastrup and seconded by Kevin Horrocks. The vote was unanimous.

**Membership:** Jim Coors indicated that, to date, COLA membership exceeds 400 members.

**Status of Response to WDNR, SSC/TMDL:** Gary Pulford indicated that LimnoTech is working on the response per the amendment to the work order. There was discussion of the politics involved and the perceived allegiance of WDNR; from the response to the complaint letter to the designation of Musky Bay as a separate body of water. A letter is due from WDNR in a couple of weeks and once COLA has that, the response will reflect what WDNR has or has not committed to.

**Review of Discussion with Bender Law Firm:** Alf Sivertson summarized his discussions with Bender. A motion for Bender to FOIA WDNR for the administrative record associated with the 15 ppb standard for ORWs was made by Mark Lastrup and seconded by Gary Pulford. The vote was unanimous.

**LCO Tribe/COLA Partnership Status:** Alf Sivertson indicated that TAS is moving forward and that EPA has indicated the application is complete.

**Shoreland Buffer Grant, Next Steps:** Kris Sivertson said that he would be meeting with WDNR next week to define the project. He will be contacting selected property owners and reaching out to the other original 60 property owners to see if they want to apply. Different habitat types will be selected to showcase different approaches. Sites will also be selected based on potential influence on neighboring properties. Frank Pratt suggested that the sights should also be highly visible and that signage should be used to advertise the opportunity.

**Sue Horrocks Leaving, Communications:** Sue indicated that, in the short term, Jim Coors is willing to fill in but that new board members are needed. Gary Pulford suggested hiring someone to work communications/education for board members. COLA should advertise in the newsletter and on the web site. Sue Horrocks said we need someone with an environmental interest. She will speak with Emily Stone at the Cable Natural History Museum. In addition an email blast could be used to advertise for a consultant. Gary suggested \$15-20 thousand per year while Steve Umland proposed \$1-1.5 thousand per month. Steve Umland will work on a list of potential projects the person would work on.

**Annual Meeting Agenda:** Kevin Horrocks provide a handout of a proposed agenda. Gary Pulford suggested getting Kelly ? from Sawyer County Land and Water Conservation to help with the Shoreland segment. Sue Horrocks said that we need to ask the audience for ideas on recruiting volunteers. Ask them to talk to their kids; we need an infusion of young blood. Steve Lilliblad will provide the treasurer's report. There was a question the expiration of terms. Kevin Horrocks will contact Mickey Odawa for the records.

**Boat Parade:** Paul Eckerline is working with Tom Jones to set up the event.

**Clean Boats Inspector:** Allan Hoeft has hired someone for the summer.

**LimnoTech Schedule:** Gary Pulford indicated that the 9 element plan will be completed by August 1.

**Musky Habitat Scoping:** Frank Pratt said that based on water temperature, he would work the northwest shore locating spawning muskies and characterizing the microhabitats they are using.

**Kathy Hanson Update:** Jim Coors will provide a draft of the first newsletter to the COLA board. The layout provides an opportunity to use a sidebar for notices. He will advertise for the communications position.

**Revised 2015 COLA Budget:** Kris Sivertson said that the budget may increase by an additional \$18,000 and that the Foundation is on board with the modification.

**COLA/LCOFI Web Sites:** Mark Lastrup provided an update on their status.

**Coalition Update:** Gary Pulford indicated that until the 9 element plan is ready, there is no real benefit to call another meeting.

**Adding Volunteers:** Frank Pratt asked that COLA sign a resolution supporting Monarch butterfly and the Shu's Pond buffer demonstration project. COLA support would be helpful.

**Other:** Kevin Horrocks said that the computer with the Publisher software he uses to lay out the Loon Call is dead. He needs to buy and install the software on a new computer. Kris Sivertson made a motion to provide Keven with \$100. The motion was seconded by Steve Lilliblad. The vote was unanimous. Sue Horrocks suggested COLA look at buying baseball caps to advertise the organization. She will look in to it.

April 24, 2015

Bd: me, Gary, Kris, Kevin, Sue, Steve L, Steve U., Paul (phone)

Com: Alf, Jim Coors, Frank

Minutes: Motion: Gary, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sue, Unanimous

Treasurer's Report: Got 23K AIS, 13K to Foundation for treatment costs. Bal, \$12K. Motion, me, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kevin, Unanimous

Membership: Jim, 400 plus members.

Status of COLA Response: Gary: LimnoTech amendment sent. Moving along. Alf: response to complaint, DNR will dodge. Cranberry industry calling the shots. Frank, no way agreement relates only to the one incident. Leaving themselves open. Kevin; calling Musky Bay a separate body of water shows where their allegiance lies. Letter coming back from WDNR within a couple of weeks. Once we have, we will know where we go from here.

According to Bender, If you wait for the DNR to respond, it will never happen. Move forward with goal of judicial review. Or, bypass and go directly to Feds. With tribe, clean water act. Discussion with Bender: Motion for Bender to foia for administrative record for 15 ppb, Me, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Gary, Unanimous.

Media Opportunities:

Partnership Status: Moving forward. EPA says TAS is complete Shoreline Buffer: Kris meeting with DNR next week to scope project.

Shoreland Buffer: Will be contacting selected property owners and recontacting original 60 to see if they want to apply. Different habitat types selected to provide different opportunities. Ones in the middle of others to influence neighbors. Frank, pick sites that are highly visible. Signs to advertise opportunity.

Sue: Jim Coors willing to act interim but suggests new board members needed. Gary, hire someone to work on communication/education projects for board members. Advertise in newsletter/web site. Sue, need someone with environmental interest. Will speak with Emily Stone. Email blast now, COLA looking for communications/education consultant. Gary, \$15-20K/year. Steve, 1K to 1.5K/mo. Shoreland, raw deal with WI, (what else?). Steve will work on list.

Annual Meeting Agenda: Kevin handout. Summarize. Gary, get Kelly here on shoreland; Sue, ask audience for ideas on getting volunteers. Talk to your kids, we need young blood. Add Steve L, treasurer's report. Who is up for reelection? No one knows. Kevin will contact Mickey for records.

Boat Parade: Paul's taking care of

Boat Inspector: Allan has someone hired.

LimnoTech Schedule: Aug 1, 9 element plan

Musky Habitat Scoping: Locate fish spawning on northwest shore. Find muskies and characterize spawning habitat.

Kathy Hanson: Jim will send out draft; sidebar for notices.

COLA Budget: Might be additional 18K; foundation good with that.

Web Sites:

Coalition Meeting: nothing new until 9 element plan is ready.

Volunteers: Frank asking for signing on to resolution for monarch butterfly habitat. Shues pond restoration effort, needs cola support.

Other: loon call; Kevin; need publisher software, 100. Motion: Kris, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Steve L. Unanimous, Sue: baseball caps. She will look in to it. Drones