



## **COLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**December 5, 2014**

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

**Present from Committees:** Frank Pratt, Alf Sivertson, Dan Tyrolt

**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 October minutes was made by Paul Eckerline and seconded by Steve Umland. The vote was unanimous.

**Treasurer's Report:** A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Steve Umland and seconded by Paul Eckerline. The vote was unanimous.

**Recap of December 4 WDNR Meeting:** Gary Pulford stated that the group representing COLA at the meeting insisted that Musky Bay not be separated from rest of lake. They were also informed that WDNR is currently in a rulemaking mode on site-specific criteria (SSC) and it could be a year and a half until the rules take effect. COLA was not notified of this action prior to the meeting. Dan Tyrolt stated that the 9 point program that LimnoTech is currently working on is important in setting on-the-ground action. With an approved 9 point action plan in place, Federal 319 monies will be available to pay for phosphorous reduction projects.. WDNR was impressed with the supporting documents and liked the science. Until the new rules come out the TMDL and SSC are unofficial. Gary Pulford said he came away with two observations; COLA provided sound scientific documents according to WDNR and WDNR acknowledged that the 15ppb standard is not protective of the LCO two story fishery/ORW classification.. This is a big acknowledgement by WDNR. COLA and LimnoTech will beef up the SSC and TMDL documents and that will cost an additional \$5,000. Once the revised documents are provided to WDNR, COLA will post them to the web site. COLA will move forward with phosphorus reduction projects like shoreline buffers, musky spawning habitat restoration, watershed coalition engagement, etc. COLA also needs to look at 2014 data for the West Basin to see if it (and therefore the whole lake) is impaired. A group will work on the second edition, and provide to the board for comments.

**Approve Musky Habitat Restoration Application:** Frank Pratt handed out copies of the application. The grant requests \$25,000 from the state with a \$7,500 match. Frank has been working with Alex Smith (WDNR) to make sure everything is covered. Table H has to be revised referencing the 9 point plan. Kevin Horrocks asked Frank if alum treatment will hurt musky spawning. Frank said that the alum section of the proposal isn't being submitted because until phosphorus inputs cease, treatment is not realistic. COLA will put the alum treatment proposal on shelf until inputs cease. Kevin Horrocks made a motion to approve application and it was seconded by Kris Sivertson. The vote was unanimous. Gary Pulford said that COLA needs a signatory for bidding documents, billing, etc. and that it will be a lot of work. Dan Tyrolt said that COLA needs to assign a position, not a person. The board decided that Steve Lilliblad, being the Treasurer should be the signatory. Kris Sivertson will work with Steve on grant implementation.

**Status of Shoreland Buffer Grant:** Kris Sivertson said that Bruce Wilson wrote the grant for \$100,000 with a \$25,000 COLA match. Kris went on to say that 60 letters sent out to the most impacted shoreland properties and to date, he has 6 positive responses back. The grant is due Feb. 1, 2015. Once Kris has received the responses back, he will provide a draft to the board. The grant proposal calls for the contractor(s) to work with property owners to design and install plants. He envisions 25 properties and up to \$25,000 in COLA cash/in-kind. Every site is different and will require a different approach. Frank Pratt stated that in-kind can be from the owner and/or the contractor. Dan Tyrolt said that the grant carried a cap maximum and once you hit it, you are done. Kris will have the final draft ready next month and will send it out before the meeting.

**Sissabagama Response:** Kris Sivertson said that he's heard nothing back in response to the letter he sent out. The letter went to watershed coalition members and the Sissabagama lake association board where he had email addresses. He said that Bill Tessler(?) will pick up ball and move to get Sissabagama back in the game. Steve Umland said that this is awake up call for COLA; Sand and Sissabagama are not on the same page and that there is a huge need for education. Kris Sivertson said that Sissabagama is the only lake that we hit the wall with and Sand Lake still is interested. Frank Pratt suggested that maybe we need a different messenger with the same message. COLA should request help from the Hayward Lakes Forum, Namakagon Watershed Trust, etc. in selling shoreline restoration and lake preservation. Sue Horrocks suggested that COLA send our brochures on septic systems, Limnology 101, Shoreline Restoration etc. to other lake associations.

**Contribution to "Water Walker" Effort:** Gary Pulford will find out more about the Water Walker effort, the Native American communities response to the assault on Wisconsin's natural resources.

**Approve 2015 COLA Budget:** The cost of alum treatment was removed (-\$7,500) and the cost of the TMDL/SSC was increased from \$21,000 to \$26,000 for a 2015 budget of \$152,000. A motion to approve the budget was made by Steve Umland and seconded by Kevin Horrocks. The vote was unanimous.

**2015 CLP Treatment Plan/Permit:** Steve Umland stated that the 2014 treatment is paid in full and that the 2015 permit is due the end of February/ early March to WDNR.

**Web Site Issues:** Mark Lastrup said he needed approval for Steve Lilliblad to pay Applied Data Systems for adding five additional pages and a site map. Kris Sivertson thought we had done that by email. Mark said he only got four votes back. Kris said that was good enough.

**LiDAR Info from Ayres & Associates:** Mark Lastrup provided the Board with an overview of what could be accomplished with high resolution elevation data, from individual shoreland buffer restoration plans to the monitoring of Ag BMP's on the west side of LCO. Ayers can provide 1' or 2' data. The consensus was to go with 1-foot. COLA is getting a bid for the entire watershed as well as a 1100-foot buffer around the lakes. Dan Tyrolt stated that it would be better to get coverage of direct drainage rather than an arbitrary 1100 feet. Lastrup said he would get a quote for the direct drainage areas. He will approach Limnotech to get the GIS files transferred to Ayres.

**Information on Riparian Meeting in June:** Frank Pratt said that there will be a meeting in June and in conjunction with Musky Fest. It will include all the major players working on the issues and COLA should be involved.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.