



## COLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### MEETING MINUTES

June 23, 2016

**Present from Board:** Kris Sivertson, Gary Pulford, Mark Laustrup, Steve Lilliblad, Jim Coors, Steve Umland, Kevin Horrocks

**Present from Committees:** Susan Kendrick

**Recording Secretary:** Mark Laustrup

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to accept the April minutes was made by Jim Coors and seconded by Kevin Horrocks. The vote was unanimous.

**Treasurer's Report:** Steve Lilliblad provided a handout that will be used at the annual meeting. Kris Sivertson had a question on the 'Watershed Contract' listed under 'Communications'. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Gary Pulford and seconded by Kris Sivertson. The vote was unanimous.

**Annual Meeting:** Hans Homburg (LimnoTech), Max Wolter (WDNR) Tressy Camp (Midwest Environmental Advocates), and Frank Pratt will provide PowerPoint presentations that will be eventually loaded on the web site. Kris Sivertson will cover the budget and introduce James Brakken who will have his book, 'Saving Our Lakes and Streams – 101 Practical Things You Can Do Today' available for sale to meeting attendees. Kris asked if there was any actual business as no one is up for reelection. It was suggested that Kris mention that COLA needs and additional 3-4 more board members. Kevin Horrocks said that COLA needs volunteers beyond the board of directors. Kris will mention the need in his opening remarks. It was decided to hold questions until the end of the presentations and make sure people identify themselves. Steve Umland said he would set up the CLP table and have aerial videos available. There was discussion about rolling out the videos prior to announcing a COLA proposal to help fund closed systems. The general consensus was that the two don't have to be linked and that the proposal has not been approved by the Foundation Board. The storyline of the presentations will be: good science trumped by politics (Holmburg), the fishery is in trouble (Wolter) and a petition to remove water quality certification from Wisconsin (MEA).

**Judicial Review:** Gary Pulford stated that it would probably be a year before a decision comes down from the courts. WDNR has asked for a 30-day extension for their answer to the COLA request for judicial review. The case may be argued in February or March, 2017.

**Status of Closed System Proposal:** Once a decision comes down from the Foundation Board on the proposal, Susan Kendrick will prepare a press release.

**Shoreland Buffer Status:** Kris Sivertson visited another property today and sees a split between those who are willing to install buffers and those who are not willing. It appears to be related to a perception that buffers will decrease property values. Kevin Horrocks mentioned that it's this perception vs. healthy lakes. It's death by a thousand cuts; one property with a lawn to the lake probably makes no difference but many properties with the same trait will do harm. Kris mentioned a letter from a Victory Heights property owner saying that they liked their yard and will not install buffers. The individual went on to complain about COLA and mosquito control signs.

**NRCS Meeting Results:** Gary Pulford, Mark Lastrup, and Brett McConnell met with the NRCS in Spooner. Gary provided handouts at the meeting detailing the water quality degradation occurring in Musky Band and the West basin. He mentioned a \$2 Million dollar price tag and they didn't blink an eye. The head of the NRCS in Wisconsin stated that if a grower came in requesting assistance, they can help make it happen. Brett McConnell and Gary Pulford will meet with one of the growers to see if they are interested. It would be 2018 before anything could happen because of budget cycles.

**Picnic Status:** Kris Sivertson suggested sending out an email indicating that this year COLA will offer a kayak and bike rather than a bunch of donated items. The COLA board doesn't have the time to contact local businesses. Susie Sivertson and Linda Pulford have Barbara Hoeft's list to run with.

**Grindstone Lake Association (GLA) Engagement:** COLA will meet with the GLA board at Trails End Resort in September and if all goes well, COLA will attempt to broaden the social event to include other lake associations.

**Town of Bass Lake Ordinance:** Gary Pulford said that the proposed ordinance covering reserve strip properties on Grindstone and LCO looks to follow COLA's suggestions. Kevin Horrocks stated that the lawyer's comments could create problems. Kris Sivertson suggested that the verbiage could be a bargaining point that will be taken off the table. It was suggested that COLA contact Phil Nies so that he is aware of the COLA position with respect to the reserve strip. Mark Lastrup will contact him.

Mark Lastrup will work with Chris Gales to set up new email accounts for the COLA board.

**Point O Pines Cranberry Operation:** Gary Pulford will organize a couple of COLA board members to meet with Mr. Jensen regarding his new closed system operation the

next time Mr. Jensen is at the lake. Jim Klabough is making the contact with Mr. Jensen.

**Executive Session:**

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.