



COLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 2016

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

Present from Committees: Alf Sivertson, Susan Kendrick, Frank Pratt

Guest: Ed Packee

Recording Secretary: Mark Laustrup

Approval of Minutes: A motion to accept the February minutes was made by Gary Pulford and seconded by Paul Eckerline. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Lilliblad stated that the account has a balance of \$3100. The AIS reimbursement was submitted a couple of weeks ago. Kris Sivertson mentioned that there was a problem with the shoreland reimbursement because of a title issue. It has been resolved. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Kevin Horrocks and seconded by Paul Eckerline. The vote was unanimous.

Ed Packee Address: Ed Packee provided information on his background; certified forester/soil science. He is concerned about the impact of Billy Boy Dam on the water levels of LCO. He said the dam was put in in the 1890s to float logs. The dam needs to be lowered to protect shorelines from erosion. The high water levels have negatively impacted wild rice on the lake. He is interested in obtaining historical pictures of the wild rice beds and the shoreline.

Report on Wisconsin AFS Meeting: Frank Pratt said that the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society said that the LCO issues were too local so they would not support an AFS resolution. He went on to say that given the nature of the current administration in Madison, they are unwilling to deal with policy issues. Gary Pulford asked Frank about the status of the request to the Foundation for cisco seines and other equipment. Frank said that the Foundation wants the project run through COLA. The request is for \$1000 to purchase cisco seines, tubs, rubber gloves, night lights, etc. A motion to fund the project was made by Paul Eckerline and seconded by Kevin Horrocks. The vote was unanimous.

Communications Update: Jim Coors and Susan Kendrick are working on the PR associated with the release of the SSC. They are also working with Midwest Environmental Advocates (MEA) on a letter supporting the MEA petition to take back CWA authority from the State of Wisconsin. . Jim indicated the need to expand the effort to the watershed; the Short Ears, Long Tales newsletter will be used toward that effort. The press release needs to be revisited and updated as the original came out in August. Susan Kendrick indicated that Steve Verburg, Wisconsin State Journal, wants exclusivity, i.e., the first shot at the SSC story.

AIS Treatment Plan Update: Steve Umland was unavailable so Gary Pulford provided the update. Stantec has dropped the herbicide applications branch and Mark Kordus and his crew have transferred to a new company Wisconsin Lake and Pond Management LLC. Kordus indicated that the billing problems that characterized Stantec will disappear with the new organization. Gary Pulford indicated that there is \$8100 left in AIS grant account to use for treatment in 2016.

Shoreland Buffers: Kris Sivertson stated that the lakeside properties with buffer problems have been identified and now the question is, where does COLA put the money. The projects should be distributed so that they maximize exposure to shoreland owners. Steve Lilliblad suggested that one of his neighbors might be interested. Gary Pulford said that 150 owners have been identified as high priority but how best do we communicate with them. Kris Sivertson is developing a letter to send out to try to get them interested in participating.

Ag GIS database Intern and coordinator/facilitation consultant: Gary Pulford indicated that he contacted both UW-Stevens Point and UW-Eau Claire for interns to work on the Upper Couderay Watershed agricultural inventory. There was a question about whether the budget was sufficient and that a \$15/hour rate would help stretch the money. It is also important that the student is supervised by faculty.

Gary mentioned that he was impressed with the person he spoke with about facilitating the 9 key element plan out reach. She's willing to work on the design for the entire effort. It was decided to hold off on the position until the plan is out.

Tribe as State Application: Alf Sivertson stated that the application is sitting on the tribal attorney's desk and is ready to go.

Authorize FOIA on In Lake Dredging: Jim Coors made a motion to authorize and it was seconded by Paul Eckerline. The vote was unanimous.

Review of SSC Report: Hans Holbrook provided a PowerPoint summarizing the results and conclusions of the SSC proposal.. He stressed Clean Water Act provisions including fishable/swimmable, beneficial uses, narrative criteria and anti-degradation provisions. The PowerPoint presentation will be posted to the COLA website.

WDNR Compel Performance Discussion: Alf Sivertson summarized the options available in his discussions with the Bender law firm. Public support will be important as will the tribal TAS application.

Approval of Resolution Seeking Legal Action: Should WDNR fail to act on the COLA SSC in a timely manner, a resolution was developed authorizing the Bender law firm to move forward. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Jim Coors and seconded by Steve Lilliblad. The vote was unanimous.

COLA Tax Status: Steve Lilliblad said he received 1099D form from WDNR for a awarded to COLA by WDNR. Alf Sivertson said that he would take care of it.

The next meeting will be held on April 1 ..

The meeting adjourned at 5:20.