



## **COLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**October 28, 2016**

**Present from Board:** Kris Sivertson, Gary Pulford, Mark Laustrup, Jim Coors, Chris Bedwell, Steve Umland, Paul Eckerline

**Present from Committees and Guests:** Susan Kendrick, Alf Sivertson, Frank Pratt

**Recording Secretary:** Mark Laustrup

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to accept the September minutes was made by Paul Eckerline and seconded by Steve Umland. The vote was unanimous.

**Treasurer's Report:** Chris Bedwell passed out three reports, a monthly balance, a monthly profit and loss, and a year to date profit and loss. She asked what options the board wanted on a monthly basis. The consensus was to receive all three monthly. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Steve Umland and seconded by Gary Pulford. The vote was unanimous.

**New Board Members:** Kris Sivertson asked for a vote on new board members, Chuck Gundersen and Dick Laumer. A motion to approve was made by Paul Eckerline and seconded by Steve Umland. The vote was unanimous. As some board members aren't available during the winter months, audio/video conferencing will be added to allow participation. Paul Eckerline found a Bluetooth speaker for \$129 that can be used with cell phones. We will need a hot spot to stream video and Paul will look in to what is available.

**Communications Recap:** Jim Coors summarized activities that occurred over the past week. He found out that the 'thank you' to the growers wasn't published in the Sawyer County Record (SCR) because one of the growers thought it was backhanded. Apparently Paul Mitchell, the general manager, ran it by the grower and wouldn't run the press release. COLA then went with the paid full page add. The story on the fish kill met with a similar fate. COLA seems to be getting the cold shoulder from the SCR. Jim said that the full page add was also distributed statewide via a press release. Susan Kendrick mentioned that the first press release mentioned cranberries and that may have influenced the decision by Mitchell. A suggestion was made to package work to date and release it statewide. Gary Pulford said that Max Wolter spoke with Jordan

Gensmer on the die off. Frank Pratt mentioned that the issues with SCR is unprecedented; they've never done anything like this before.

**Financial Assistance Policy Statement:** Kris Sivertson presented the following statement to the board:

“The \$100,000 grant offered by COLA can be used by cranberry producers with bogs on Lac Courte Oreilles to supplement federal Natural Resources Conservation Service grant money available for the construction of closed water management systems. The COLA Board of Directors will solely determine whether any application for the \$100,000 grant will be awarded.”

Kris went on to say that the earliest the money could be spent is 2018, and probably 2019. A motion to adopt the resolution was made by Steve Umland and seconded by Mark Laustrup. The vote was unanimous.

**Broken Arrow Buffer Project:** Gary Pulford said that a company from Rhinelander will do the initial work. COLA is responsible for \$16,000 of the project cost. Kris Sivertson said that the condo association, plus all members, needs to sign the agreement but they won't sign on without a design. The cost of design services is between \$1500 and \$2000. Kris is signatory per the original buffer restoration grant. A motion to approve design fees was made by Jim Coors and seconded by Steve Umland. The vote was unanimous.

**D&O Insurance:** Alf Sivertson said that the policy he worked on with Cincinnati Insurance Company will provide \$1 million in coverage with a \$1000 deductible. It also provides \$100,000 for investigative fees along with \$20,000 for additional expenses. The Board needs to approve the expenditure and Alf needs a check to cover. A motion to approve the expenditure was made by Steve Umland and seconded by Paul Eckerline. The vote was unanimous. Alf made a phone call to activate the policy.

**NRCS Letter:** Alf Sivertson said that he emailed the letter and within 30-minutes, he got a call from Jimmy Bramblett. He will have something back within a week. Gary Pulford mentioned that the 2016 NRCS Project Book doesn't include tail water recovery systems and a project would have to be cobbled together using multiple project funds.

**9-Key Element Plan Comments:** Gary Pulford said he will keep asking for comments from the COLA Board and that the last two chapters are critical. Kris Sivertson said that the milestone dates are unrealistic. He went on to say that COLA needs to access 319 monies for restoration. Alf Sivertson said that as soon as Limnotech is finished with the DO3 project, they need to pick the 9-Key Element Plan back up. The 319 money could be used to make up for NRCS shortfalls.

**November Communications:** Gary Pulford summarized the email sent out by Jim Richter on the movement to reduce the impact of Act 50 on Wisconsin lakes. Kris Sivertson was less than pleased that he totally sidestepped the politics associated with the issue.

**Reschedule Ag GIS Presentation:** Gary Pulford indicated that COLA will need to reschedule the presentation because of a data issue; a dataset provided UW-Stevens Point by Limnotech had masked (null) Lac Courte Oreilles and that impacted the identification of internal drainage areas. He suggested a December 2 meeting because of the Thanksgiving holiday. The presentation will begin at 2 PM with the Board meeting immediately following.

**2016 AIS Post Treatment Report:** Steve Umland indicated that separating treatment and report preparation has created a problem. Mark Kordus will not include the data provided by the treatment company because he says it doesn't comply with WDNR protocols. Gary Pulford suggested that next year, COLA use Foundation money for treatment and by doing so, eliminate the need for a post treatment rake survey. Steve will provide both reports to WDNR when he files.

**Line 66 Update:** Gary Pulford summarized the meeting held by the Wisconsin Easement Action Team (WEAT). It costs \$100 to join and \$1700 if an action goes forward. Joining would provide COLA with all the information associated with the potential expansion of Line 66. Jim Coors made a motion to join WEAT and his motion was seconded by Paul Eckerline. The vote was unanimous.

**Loon Call Update:** Kevin Horrocks had a prior commitment. Nothing reported.

**Madison Meeting:** Closed Session.

**New Business:** Kris Sivertson said that COLA needs to write a \$100 check to Fireside for the gift to Steve Lilliblad for his service as Treasurer.

Art Malen provided Kris Sivertson with a map showing a property on Fleur De Lane wanting a rezone of Ag to Residential to make the lot large enough for condos. It would reduce the buffer zone protecting the lake.

Frank Pratt needs help seining for cisco in a couple of weeks. Shoot for November 8. Frank will let everyone know.

Steve Umland said that WDNR has requested comments on the AIS program. Steve will respond for COLA.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.