



COLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

September 23, 2016

Present from Board: Kris Sivertson, Gary Pulford, Mark Laustrup, Steve Lilliblad, Chris Bedwell, Steve Umland, Kevin Horrocks, Paul Eckerline

Present from Committees and Guests: Dick Laumer, Susan Horrocks, Alf Sivertson

Recording Secretary: Mark Laustrup

Approval of Minutes: A motion to accept the August minutes was made by Steve Lilliblad and seconded by Kevin Horrocks. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Lilliblad indicated that everything is up to date and that he will turn the checkbook over to Chris Bedwell next week. He said that he enjoyed working on the board for the last seven years and will keep in touch. He mentioned that there was a problem with a Limnotech check but that it will be worked out. Gary Pulford asked for a copy of the UW-Stevens Point check for his files. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Mark Laustrup and seconded by Kevin Horrocks. The vote was unanimous.

New Treasurer: Chris Bedwell is ready to take over duties. Steve Lilliblad will go do a final briefing next week.

COLA Board Insurance: Alf Sivertson stated that under current federal and state law, lake associations are protected from law suits. Even so, Alf recommends that COLA go ahead and pick up coverage; Paul Eckerline resigned from the board because of a lack of insurance. He estimated the cost at \$1200/year. He gave an historical account of the threat to sue by the cranberry association and the loss of board members because of it. He sees nothing in the current law suit against WDNR that would negatively impact the board but that D&O coverage would cover any expenses should a suit be filed against the board. He went on to say that the LCO Foundation has the coverage and so should the COLA board. A motion to acquire insurance coverage was made by Kevin Horrocks and seconded by Chris Bedwell. The motion passed with five votes for and two against.

Law Suit Update: A motion to go in to executive session was made by Mark Laustrup and seconded by Kris Sivertson. The vote was unanimous. A vote to come out of

executive session was made by Steve Umland and seconded by Steve Lilliblad. The vote was unanimous.

Fishkill Report: Gary Pulford said that the event spanned 26-days and resulted in hundreds of dead whitefish/cisco. An email blast went out to 800, asking people to report any sightings of dead fish. Limnotech has been tasked to analyze water quality parameters with profiling data collected at 1-foot intervals to determine cause. The phosphorus levels were high in the deepest part of the lake. Warm water runoff from storms this summer together with increased phosphorus loading are likely causes of the loss of oxygen in the cold water that led to the die off. The final report should be out next week. Gary will speak to Max Wolter and ask him to brief Jordan Gensmer on the cause of the fishkill.

Ag GIS Project: Gary Pulford summarized preliminary results from the watershed study. There are few high risk ag parcels in the watershed. The results will be presented at the October meeting. The NRCS and Sawyer County are the key players; they will be doing the follow up with producers. The status of BMPs is still a question. A presentation of the results will be scheduled for October 28th with Tim Siedl and Ron Siering present. The Foundation meeting will run from 1-2:30, the presentation from 2:30-4, and the COLA meeting from 4-5:30

Bass Lake Ordinance: Gary Pulford indicated that the ordinance has been passed by the town supervisors, pretty much based on the COLA recommendations. The time to comply has been extended over what was proposed in the draft.

Shoreland Buffer Update: Kris Sivertson said that two projects are in the design phase and will be implemented in the spring. Gary Pulford talked about a potential project at Broken Arrow Condos that would stabilize the shoreline that was severely damaged by a July storm that uprooted trees and accelerated erosion. Companies from Rhinelander and Wausau will meet with the condo association. The NRCS and Sawyer County may step up to help with the cost.

Fall Loon Call: Kevin Horrocks suggested articles on CLP treatment, the fishkill, the need for additional volunteers and the new picnic venue. If you have additional ideas, contact Kevin. Alf Sivertson suggested something on the potential deal between COLA and the cranberry industry to install retention basins. Gary Pulford suggested making assignments to ensure all bases are covered.

Staff Gage Update: Sawyer County will install the gage on the second pier of the Thoroughfare Road bridge. Mark Laustrup and Gary Pulford will contact Phil Nies about using the ordinary high water mark established on his property to mark same on the staff gage.

Communications: Steve Umland is working with Kathy Hanson on a Short Ears, Long Tales article about 'Dark Skies'.

Line 66 Pipeline: Gary Pulford attended a meeting at Flat Creek about the expansion of Line 66 that lies less than 1500-feet from LCO. The current 42-inch line runs from Superior to Illinois with the contents eventually exported to China. A twin pipe sends diluent chemicals back to Canada. The expansion of line 66 will replace the carrying capacity of the Keystone XL line in Nebraska. The expansion will require a larger easement. Private companies can now use eminent domain to establish the needed easements. The meeting was called by Wisconsin Easement Action Team (WEAT) for property owners along line 66. For \$1800, the team will negotiate easement payments for participating land owners. Gary Pulford suggested adding an item to the October agenda to join the WEAT program as one does not have to be and line 66 property owner to participate.

9-Key Element Plan: Gary Pulford is looking for comments on the draft plan.

TAS Update: The clock is ticking on the Tribe's petition to USEPA that has 90-days (from 3-weeks ago) to respond. When TAS is in place, the SSC (10 ppb) will be turned in and apply to one-third of the lake. Gary Pulford said that it will be important to mobilize membership in support of the Tribe.

WDNR Meeting October 13: The meeting will be held in Eau Claire and will be used to try and improve relations between COLA and WDNR. The fishkill will be discussed.

Additional Board Members: Dick Laumer will make a decision on joining the board.

CBCW/AIS Grant/EWM: Mark Lastrup said the paperwork is ready to turn in for the CBCW program. Steve Umland will meet with WDNR in Spooner to discuss AIS applications.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.