

COLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES



March 3, 2017

Present from Board: Kris Sivertson, Gary Pulford, Mark Laustrup, Chris Bedwell, Steve Umland, Mike Persson, Paul Eckerline, Jim Coors (phone)

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

Recording Secretary: Mark Laustrup

Kris Sivertson called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to accept the January 27 minutes was made by Gary Pulford and seconded by Kris Sivertson. The vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Chris Bedwell provided balance and budget versus actual handouts. COLA has \$7765.95 in the account. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Mark Laustrup and seconded by Gary Pulford. The vote was unanimous.

2017 AIS Update: Steve Umland said that WDNR informed him that the 2017 application was incomplete. Steve filled out the application and used hard copy of post treatment surveys that he turned over to Alex Smith in Spooner. Steve said that the files had to be digital and asked them to reconsider. Gary Pulford said that he met with Alex Smith and there were other problems with the application. Gary Pulford said that COLA has budgeted \$20,000 for treatment and Steve Umland replied that it will take \$30-35,000 to treat Stucky, Musky and Barbertown Bays. Dan Tyrolt stated that without WDNR money involved, there is no requirement for pre and post treatment point intercept surveys and that's where the costs are located. Dan went on to state that according to the Aquatic Plant Management Plan, bays haven't reached trigger points for treatment and a 2017 permit to treat could be denied because of this. Gary Pulford said that the trigger points need to be revised. Dan went on to say that competition for AIS money is increasing and that WDNR will use Aquatic Plant Management Plans to deny funds. Dan agreed to revise the plan. A motion to provide LCOCD with \$1500 to update the plan was made by Paul Eckerline and seconded by Steve Umland. The vote was unanimous. Steve Umland made a motion to provide him with the authorization to submit a rapid response grant for the treatment of Eurasian milfoil in Little Lac Courte Oreilles and the motion was seconded by Mark Laustrup. The vote was unanimous.

2018 Impaired Water Update: Gary Pulford stated that there is a May 1 deadline for submittal to WDNR. Dissolved oxygen and the two story fishery will be used to argue that Lac Courte Oreilles in its entirety should be listed. Limnotech will develop the package. Mike Persson asked why not include the loss of musky reproduction as part of the need for lake impairment declaration. Frank Pratt responded that there is uncertainty as to where muskies actually spawn in LCO.

Tribe as State Update: Dan Tyrolt said that they haven't heard from EPA although they did ask where the records for public participation should be posted. Dan expects the public comment period to commence soon. Gary Pulford said that COLA will need to chime in during the comment period. On the listing of Musky Bay, 167 people responded and it did make a difference. Dan Tyrolt will be visiting with EPA on April 20.

Cranberry Grower Discussions: Closed session.

Musky Spawning Habitat Feasibility Study Update: Mike Persson spoke with Max Wolter and Dan Tyrolt and will include Frank Pratt and Paul Crystal in the group. With ice out, Mike plans on getting on the water to survey Musky Bay. Gary Pulford mentioned that Limnotech is getting ready to release the study on the feasibility of treating Musky Bay sediments. Frank Pratt suggested using a drag line to remove sediments along the shoreline and place cedar boughs for spawning habitat. Permeable bags could be used to collect sediment and allow water to return to the lake. He went on to suggest that the entire north shoreline of Musky Bay represented some of the best musky spawning habitat in the world. He said that once a detailed plan is developed, there will be no problem recruiting organizations for implementation. Gary Pulford wondered what consultant could put together such a plan.

Thoroughfare Bridge Staff Gage Elevation: It's in.

Red Cedar River Watershed Conference: Gary Pulford stated that the conference is March 9 and that Limnotech does work for them. They've been engaged with farmers for years now. Kris Sivertson said that he will attend.

Annual Meeting Theme: Frank Pratt suggested summarizing activities to date, i.e., the TMDL, the agricultural and forestry watershed surveys, etc. Gary Pulford suggested a report on the results of the ag survey. Gary Pulford asked Mike Persson if preliminary results of the musky spawning feasibility study would be available by June. Mike wasn't sure if that would be the case. A discussion on the date included Saturday, June 24 and the following Saturday, July 1; the thought being that participation might increase closer to July 4. Alf Sivertson said that attendance depends on the weather. Good weather means fewer people attending the meeting. Gary Pulford will contact UW-Stevens Point to see if they will be able to present the results of the agricultural survey.

Future SELT Articles: SELT topics for the near term are available from Jim Coors, but he needs any and all ideas for future issues.

Website Update: Susan Kendrick has developed a prototype to replace the existing site. She will send a link (with login) to the board for review.

2017 Buffer Work: Gary Pulford said that work on the restoration of the shoreline of ? will include \$40,000 from COLA and \$40,000 from the ? association. Kris Sivertson said that they are looking at recruiting an additional 10-12 sites.

Fleur De Lane Update: Kris Sivertson will present the COLA position on the rezoning of agricultural land to residential at the Sawyer County Board meeting. There is currently 1000 acres currently zoned ag/forestry within 1000 feet of LCO.

2017 Lake Monitoring: Gary Pulford needs volunteers to take dissolved oxygen readings on LCO for several dates. He asked for recommendations on who could help out. Frank Pratt suggested the environmental school and asked Gary to provide him with dates.

The meeting adjourned at 3:03 PM.