



Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

6:30 PM – 7:45 PM

Hybrid: Zoom & Sherburne SWCD Office
425 Jackson Ave NW, Elk River, MN

AGENDA

1. Opening & Consider Agenda (10 min.)

- Approve [12/8/21 Meeting Minutes](#)
- Treasurer's Report [Monthly Financial Report](#) and [Bank Statements](#)

2. Updates (30 min.)

- Mississippi Watershed Comprehensive Plan (1W1P)
- AIS Early Detection and Rapid Response Planning Resources "[Live](#)"
- SC COLA's Liaison to MN COLA
- 2022 [Sherburne SWCD](#) and/or [MN DNR](#) AIS Grant Applications

3. 2021 – 2022 Initiative Next Steps (35 min.)

- [Business Sponsorship Campaign](#) and Project Fund Use (e.g., education, AIS prevention, soil erosion, well sealing, or agricultural projects)
- Educational Tchotchkes/Swag (e.g., coasters, placemats, key chains)
- Sherburne County Partnerships (website [projects page link](#))
 - "Adopt-a-Stormdrain" (AAS) Project
 - [DNR Shoreland Training for Local Officials](#)
 - Septic System Education and Compliance
 - Sheriff's Office Water Safety Annual Meeting

4. Meeting Follow-up Recap and Closure (5 min.)

SC COLA Board Upcoming Meeting Dates: 4/13, 6/8*

*The proposed 2022-2023 meeting calendar will be presented on 6/8/22 for board approval.

MINUTES

Attendees: Shelly Alger-Peyton, Nate Bunce, Scot Chapman (voted via email*), Dan Cibulka, Mike Donnelly, Cindi Edwards-Plant, Sharon Fischer, Steve Mockenhaupt, Patrick Plant, Scott Ruiter and Chris Weber.

1. Opening & Consider Agenda (10 min.)

*A quorum was not met at the time of the meeting, as three delegates were from one lake. Patrick contacted Scot Chapman following the meeting to seek approval of the meeting agenda, previous minutes and Treasurer's Report, the only three voting items on the agenda, and he approved the items.

A motion was made by Scott R. and a second from Shelly to approve the agenda. All were in favor; agenda approved.

- Approve [12/8/21 Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Shelly and second from Cindi to approve the 8/11/21 meeting minutes. All were in favor; minutes approved.

- Treasurer's Report [Monthly Financial Report](#) and [Bank Statements](#)

Chris shared a review of the Treasurer's Report, including the Statement of Financial Position from Jan 2021 to Jan 2022, Membership Receipts, and Statement of Financial Income and Expense.

A motion was made by Shelly and second from Patrick to approve the Treasurer's Report. All were in favor; minutes approved.

2. Updates (30 min.)

- Mississippi Watershed Comprehensive Plan (1W1P)

Dan shared an overview of the 1w1p project, in development, and discussed progress on getting the project started. Staff from the region are putting together the Work Plan and wrote an RFP to hire a facilitator for the project. A Local Advisory Committee (LAC) will soon form that draws citizens from the community to be involved. There will be several people representing lakes that will be involved on this committee. Dan asked if anyone was interested in learning more or sitting on the LAC to get in contact with him.

- AIS Early Detection and Rapid Response Planning Resources "[Live](#)"

Patrick shared the link to the AIS EDRR template, which is now live on the SC COLA website. Dan shared that MN DNR asked him to give a presentation to AIS Coordinators from other counties on the project at an upcoming meeting. DNR staff have given good feedback on the project.

- SC COLA's Liaison to MN COLA

Chris shared an update on activities with MN COLA. Sanford was our previous liaison to MN COLA, so we need another representative to fill this role. MN COLA was active in supporting the wake boat study that the St Anthony Falls Laboratory at the UofM had recently released. MN COLA is also active in a current initiative for Boater Education in Minnesota. Sharon and Patrick discussed being involved in the process. Sharon will serve as the primary representative, and Patrick as the alternate.

- 2022 [Sherburne SWCD](#) and/or [MN DNR](#) AIS Grant Applications

A study group of Scott R., Patrick and Dan looked into the new MN DNR grant programs and seeing how the COLA could partner to increase familiarity amongst Sherburne County lake groups with the program and also encourage additional participation in the Sherburne SWCD program. Steve indicated interest in learning more on this topic. Patrick summarized some of the major differences between the SWCD and DNR programs. Scott, Patrick, Steve and Dan met after the COLA meeting to discuss the two programs further.

3. 2021 – 2022 Initiative Next Steps (35 min.)

- [Business Sponsorship Campaign](#) and Project Fund Use (e.g., education, AIS prevention, soil erosion, well sealing, or agricultural projects)

Patrick shared an image of the SC COLA sponsors page. From mid-February to early March is when the sponsorship drive needs to begin. Patrick asked if there are businesses on the list that board members would like to contact, with the goal of having each board member contact 1-2 or more businesses. Scot C. had mentioned that insurance companies might be a good business to target, as all lake residents who own a boat have to have it insured. Patrick will send out sponsorship materials by next week and ask the board members to sign up for businesses.

- Educational Tchotchkes/Swag (e.g., coasters, placemats, key chains)

Previous discussions at SC COLA meetings have occurred regarding creating educational swag. Patrick mentioned that some of the lake stewardship items that Dean had put together for Little Elk Lake could be a good fit. Items could be created that spread a message about protecting lakes but also promotes the SC COLA. Chris brought up an idea to promote membership in lake associations, or to develop something to hand out at boat landings. Patrick and other Lake Orono folks had discussed developing a QR code to direct lake visitors to information. Sharon expressed interest in developing something that can help engage lake residents to support lake associations. Shelly expressed interest in QR codes, or investing in something that is technologically-based (social media, cell phone accessible). Dan shared that a “geo-fencing” media campaign could be looked into that brings advertisements to cell phone users as they reach lakes. Patrick will set up a meeting with the Executive Committee, Sharon, and Shelly to discuss further.

- Sherburne County Partnerships (website [projects page link](#))

- “Adopt-a-Stormdrain” (AAS) Project

Dan shared an update on the AASD project. Several townships and a few cities, including Princeton and Big Lake, will be joining the program. With the greater capacity, we can gear up to promote the program heavily in the spring.

- [DNR Shoreland Training for Local Officials](#)

Dan has been in contact with County Planning & Zoning on this topic. There will be a DNR shoreland training provided for the County Board of Adjustments in March. The Board of Adjustments is responsible for determining variances from proposed projects that do not fit within stated county ordinances, including shoreland ordinances. Board members are encouraged to speak with their townships to see if there is interest in holding a training at a township level.

- Septic System Education and Compliance

Dan has thus far received no word on a septic system education program, which was scheduled for 2020 but was postponed due to the pandemic.

- Sheriff's Office Water Safety Annual Meeting

The Executive Committee had discussed setting up a meeting with the Sheriff's Office in the spring regarding any announcements the Water Patrol would like to share with the lake community, or any issues lake associations can share with the Water Patrol. A spring meeting is anticipated.

4. Meeting Follow-up Recap and Closure (5 min.)

Please see meeting follow-up action items underlined above within the minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. with a motion to adjourn by Chris.

Meeting minutes submitted by Dan Cibulka, Sherburne SWCD ex-officio representative.