



## AGENDA

### 1. Opening & Consider Agenda (10 min.)

- Approve [8/2/23 Meeting Minutes](#)
- Treasurer's Report [Monthly Financial Report](#) and [Bank Statements](#)

### 2. Updates (30 min.)

- Starry Trek 2023 Results
- Minnesota Traditions Lakes Resources [YouTube Channel](#)
- "[Keep it Clean Coalition](#)" Garbage/Waste Educational Materials
- MN COLA September Membership Meeting
  - [Draft minutes](#) from the 9/19/23 meeting
  - Link to the [video from Dr. Mark Seeley's presentation](#) on Climate Change - Impact of MN Lakes
- Sherburne County AIS Fall Task Force Meeting
- [Rum River](#) & [Mississippi Watershed](#) Comprehensive Plan (1W1P)

### 3. 2023 – 2024 Initiative Next Steps (30 min.)

- Sherburne County Partnerships
  - County-wide water monitoring program
  - AIS Prevention Tools/Stations ([Aqua Weed Stick](#), [Meeker](#), [CD3](#))  
Working Example: Association of Cass County Lakes (ACCL), DNR, Cass SWCD, LAs, Resorts, Service Providers are placing 100 AIS Cleaning Station Signs & Tools at public water access locations. Links to a [PBS video](#), [KAXE article](#) and [PDF](#) file with further information.
- "[Adopt-a-Stormdrain](#)" (AAS) Project
- Additional Special Event and/or Project Planning
- 2024 Legislative Session Monitoring and Advocacy

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

# MINUTES

Attendees: Shelly Alger-Peyton, Ken Andreen, Nate Bunce, Dan Cibulka, Cindi Edwards-Plant, Sharon Fischer, Patrick Plant, Scott Ruitter (voted remotely) and Chris Weber.

## 1. Opening & Consider Agenda (10 min.)

- A motion was made by Sharon F. and a second from Patrick P. to approve the agenda. All were in favor; agenda approved.
- Approve [8/2/23 Meeting Minutes](#)
  - A motion was made by Shelly AP. and second from Chris W. to approve the 8/2/23 board meeting minutes. All were in favor; minutes approved.
- Treasurer's Report [Monthly Financial Report](#) and [Bank Statements](#)
- A motion was made by Sharon F. and second from Ken A. to approve the Treasurer's Report. All were in favor; report approved.

## 2. Updates (30 min.)

- Starry Trek 2023 Results – Dan C.
  - Event was held 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in August, 12 volunteers were in attendance, folks from MAIRSC joined and interviewed participants.
  - Results of 2 snail non-native species were found, but no other findings at this event.
  - Starry Stonewort was found in Clearwater at a private launch early this year, but not during this event.
- Minnesota Traditions Lakes Resources [YouTube Channel](#) – Dan C.
  - This resource was put together as an educational marketing campaign for AIS and best practices.
  - They have a strong social media presence with 50,000 + followers, one link on this page is youtube with a variety of video topics.
  - Dan C. will send out the link to all board members to share with their associations.
- ["Keep it Clean Coalition"](#) Garbage/Waste Educational Materials
  - See website link for details.
  - Shelly AP. will research to see what membership involves and costs, maybe the COLA could be a member and/or different types of membership level. As well as research how to order materials to pass out.
- MN COLA September Membership Meeting
  - Sharon F. and Patrick were our representatives at this meeting.
  - Numerous amounts of information discussed during the 5hr. meeting.
    - [Draft minutes](#) from the 9/19/23 meeting
    - Link to the [video from Dr. Mark Seeley's presentation](#) on Climate Change - Impact of MN Lakes – video length 1+ hr.

- Sherburne County AIS Fall Task Force Meeting
  - Dan C. – working on scheduling a meeting for early December.
  - Should this be a virtual or hybrid meeting? COLA board members discussed that a virtual meeting seems to be the best option with higher attendance numbers.
  - Starry Stonewort would be a large topic discussed.
  - Will be looking at completing a new 5yr plan in 2024 and looking at options for having a single different large topic at each meeting as an option or other thoughts on how to address different topics.
  - Patrick P. – We could focus on local plans and how does that tie into the Watershed plan?
  - Should DNR signage person be involved and the new U of M staff person with analysis facts found on how to address AIS at state and local levels, with watercraft inspection data to create analytics?
- Rum River & Mississippi Watershed Comprehensive Plan (1W1P) – Dan C.
  - Rum River Partnership – staff are doing outreach to landowners adjacent to the watershed, getting more interest in planting new trees/forestry, looking at a LCCR grant for forestry per the legislature.
  - Working on having a year one accomplishment report available January of 2024, regarding funding, project planning, implementation, etc.
  - In St Cloud, the groan zone, discussed service and ground water, habitat and working on an action plan, implementation scheduled, items costs, participation levels, what is needed, what does it cost and who will complete.
  - The citizen advisory committee meeting early February 2024 to go through data that has been collected and create policies that need to be addressed and in what order. Dan C. will send out an email to the COLA board to give feedback on what next steps should be taken.

### 3. 2023 – 2024 Initiative Next Steps (30 min.)

- Sherburne County Partnerships
  - County-wide water monitoring program
    - Dan C. setting up a meeting to discuss options, November is looking busy, waiting to hear back from participants about possible meetings day.
  - AIS Prevention Tools/Stations ([Aqua Weed Stick](#), [Meeker, CD3](#))
    - Working Example: Association of Cass County Lakes (ACCL), DNR, Cass SWCD, LAs, Resorts, Service Providers are placing 100 AIS Cleaning Station Signs & Tools at public water access locations. Links to a [PBS video](#), [KAXE article](#) and [PDF](#) file with further information.
    - Shelly AP. mentioned that some members of BLCA did not think these were a good idea, due to no water being available to clean tools and without water the tools will have dried weeds on them for the next user.
    - Patrick P. suggested Shelly AP. gather a list of pros and cons and submit to ACCL for ideas. ACCL may have answer to these questions already or may assist in solutions.
- [“Adopt-a-Stormdrain”](#) (AAS) Project
  - Dan C. – the two largest cities have not signed up for this project though much effort has gone into getting them to, a discussion needs to be scheduled because no one has stepped up to act.

- Additional Special Event and/or Project Planning
  - If Dan C. schedules another special event and has Steve McComas, The Lake Detective, as a speaker or another person, may be able to partner with the BLCA to have a joint event and share speaker costs or other benefits. The BLCA is having Steve McComas out to speak again for their association members in March/April 2024.
- 2024 Legislative Session Monitoring and Advocacy
  - Nothing new is listed on the website for a 2024 MN DNR AIS Grant Program. Patrick will watch for a notification and perhaps contact the MN DNR directly to get a program status update.
  - Dan C. - per Chris Jurek there may not be funds available and/or small grant programs for 2024 and a possible staff shortage. The grant amount in 2022 was fortunately a large pot of money, in 2023 it was half that and a larger amount may not be possible not for 2024.
  - Ken A. – how do the funds get dispersed/who decides how/where they get dispersed? Patrick P. & Dan C. stated the legislature decides how much funding is given and where the DNR spends funding and grant money.

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

SC COLA Board Upcoming Meeting Dates: 12/6, 2/7, 3/6, 6/5

- Please see meeting follow-up action items underlined above within the minutes.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:52p.m. with a motion to adjourn by Sharon F.

Meeting minutes submitted by Shelly Alger-Peyton, SC COLA Secretary.