



AGENDA

1. Opening & Consider Agenda (10 min.)

- Approve [11/1/23 Meeting Minutes](#)
- Treasurer's Report [Monthly Financial Report](#) and [Bank Statements](#)

2. Updates (25 min.)

- Sherburne County AIS Fall Task Force Meeting
- 2024 Sherburne SWCD AIS Grant Program
- 2024 MN DNR AIS Grant Program Status
- MN COLA December Membership Meeting (November newsletter [link](#))
- [Rum River](#) & [Mississippi Watershed](#) Comprehensive Plan (1W1P)

3. 2024 Business Sponsorship Campaign (5 min.)

4. 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.
- Additional Special Event and/or Project Planning
- 2024 Legislative Session Monitoring and Advocacy

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

MINUTES

Attendees: Shelly Alger-Peyton, Nate Bunce, Scot Chapman, Dan Cibulka, Mike Donnelly, Cindi Edwards-Plant, Sharon Fischer, Karl Krueger, Patrick Plant, Scott Ruiter and Chris Weber.

1. Opening & Consider Agenda (10 min.)

- A motion was made by Chris W. and a second from Karl K. to approve the agenda. All were in favor; agenda approved.
- Approve [11/1/23 Meeting Minutes](#)
 - A motion was made by Scott R. and second from Karl K. to approve the 11/1/23 board meeting minutes. All were in favor; minutes approved.
- Treasurer's Report [Monthly Financial Report](#) and [Bank Statements](#)
 - A motion was made by Shelly AP. and second from Karl K. to approve the Treasurer's Report. All were in favor; report approved.

2. Updates (25 min.)

- Sherburne County AIS Fall Task Force Meeting
 - Dan C. stated that Chris Jurek will be guest speaker about Starry Stonewort efforts, conclusions and a recap of Summer 2023 activities including graphs.
 - Starry Stonewort is present in several lakes around the area.
 - New 5yr.AIS plan outline presentation.
- 2024 Sherburne SWCD AIS Grant Program
 - Forms are on the SWCD website under several links, program is open and accepting applications until 2/1/24.
 - Patrick asked if there will be any changes in grant amounts, Dan C. said that there currently will be no significant changes in grant amount or categories, but will get feedback from community before any changes are made in the plan.
- 2024 MN DNR AIS Grant Program Status
 - One significant change is the DNR enforcement of the 5/15/24 treatment deadline.
 - DNR will be enforcing having CLP treatments before May 15, 2024 deadline, treat early for more impact on CLP and less on native vegetation.
 - Grant Program application deadline 12/11/23. Patrick P. and Scott R. will assist any COLA's to complete/submit applications by deadline for the SWCD and/or DNR.
 - Karl K. stated they can't treat any weeds in our lake (due to a special natural lake designation), but is there any money available for Oak Wilt treatment on our lake? Dan C. said that money for Oak wilt is not available at this time, but is in discussion with David at SWCD. There is a chemical treatment for Oak wilt that is effective and Dan C. will reach out to Karl and COLA board with information.

- MN COLA December Membership Meeting (November newsletter [link](#))
 - Patrick and Sharon attended the meeting. Legislative section large part of meeting and a 12/6/23 a link was offered to anyone that wanted to attend a round table meeting with the DNR Commissioner.
 - Statue 103B is what local LID's (e.g. TLID, OLID) have in place for funding, however Statue 103D can be used for watershed district and flood control/ditch management.
 - Difference in SWCD and Watershed district are the SWCD can work at completing large projects through grants and a Watershed district has access to levy tax dollars to work on larger projects.
 - Big Eagle Lake has a meeting/presentation with Sherburne County 12/7/23 to get a LID in place for their lake management.
- [Rum River](#) & [Mississippi Watershed](#) Comprehensive Plan (1W1P)
 - Rum River update, SWCD will be hosting some events to address agricultural landowners with "Coffee and Conservation" discussion group on a few Saturday mornings to talk about options and ideas for the watershed.
 - Mississippi update, Citizen Advisory board met in November for the 1W1P. SWCD and committee created a "Multi Benefit Analysis" presentation with a list of priorities and focusing on specific areas in particular areas for surface water, wind erosion, groundwater area, habitat, etc. SWCD tech committee will meet in December to go over findings from the citizens advisory board suggestions and make revisions as need to slides in presentation. Implementation table will be created. SWCD also created a slide for Education & Outreach Program and Framework, including ideas for Community Engagement, Awareness and Education and Behavior-Changing and Project Development to reach our water quality goals.
 - Dan C. will email out the CWMP (Citizens Watershed Management Plan) Outreach Program draft.
 - Patrick P. suggested to add examples of areas that need to be addressed and/or that have been addressed in other events and creating new ways to get information sent out to people to start the change.

3. 2024 Business Sponsorship Campaign (5 min.)

- Will address in early 2024 and discuss new platforms to reach people to participate remotely instead of in-person, because in-person may or may not reach as many people.
- Patrick P. will email the materials to the board in preparation for starting our campaign after the holidays. That will include the 2024 Business Sponsorship Campaign letter form and a draft version of the 2024 master list of potential business sponsors. Board member should review the master list and decide if you want to continue to pursue the businesses that they selected last year or name one or two new ones to seek their sponsorship. Also let Patrick know if a business that has been contacted with no response should be removed by Thursday, December 21st.

4. 2023 – 2024 Initiative Next Steps (30 min.)

- Sherburne County Partnerships
 - County-wide water monitoring program
 - Initial meeting was 11/17/23, discussing how/what/why collecting samples, how they get their samples submitted and why they are submitted that way.

- General discussion about how Wright SWCD promotes partner monitoring, they reach out to all of their COLA members and determine who wants to voluntarily participate in their group testing submission and the participating associations get a group discount benefit for participating in the group monitoring program.

- o [Keep It Clean Coalition](#)

- Chris W. and Shelly AP. have been researching and forwarding information regarding the wealth of ready-made materials and communication tools available to support this new legislation (Sec. 66 STORING GARBAGE AND WASTE ON ICE). More to come and this may be an initiative where we invest some of our business sponsorship dollars.

- o 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.

- Additional Special Event and/or Project Planning

- o As mentioned above projects may include “Keep It Clean” and/or AIS Prevention Tools/Stations. The Executive Committee will develop additional items for board consideration.

- 2024 Legislative Session Monitoring and Advocacy

- From the MN COLA, a continued discussion about wake boating on our lakes and their impact, 200ft from shore regulation and some individuals want a 500ft regulation, can it be enforced or not and discussion are taking place.

- Big Eagle Lake may have possible new laws implements around tier 2 developments, which are structures adjacent to the lakes such as large walkways.

- Pursuing an increase to 3yr watercraft license surcharges from \$10.60 to \$25.00, with \$10.00 to MAISRC research, \$10.00 to lake associations for AIS control and \$5 to the DNR.

- Future discussion to increase funding from \$10M to \$20M per year for AIS Prevention.

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

SC COLA Board Upcoming Meeting Dates: 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.