

# Board Meeting

### Wednesday, March 6, 2024

### 6:30 PM – 7:45 PM

Via Zoom: [hyperlink](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82264885562?pwd=Z2dHNFA0bU4xMmVHQSsybVgraW80UT09) to join meeting

## AGENDA



1. Opening & Consider Agenda (10 min.)

* Approve [2/7/24 Meeting Minutes](https://docs.google.com/document/d/196EveHweCXD_s-NyvKdwMFPg9gKCkrH7/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117415464370246852042&rtpof=true&sd=true)
* Treasurer’s Report [Monthly Financial Report](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1u3Od1VXx0JvamoN6bCNmLkTWDYx37C3c) and [Bank Statements](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MOPGplZ0rMIst2UfC3W4FvwmPBJ1Gp6E)

1. Updates (20 min.)

* 2024 Sherburne SWCD and MN DNR AIS Grant Programs
* 2025-2029 Sherburne County AIS Prevention Plan
* [Rum River](https://www.millelacsswcd.org/1w1p/rum-river-one-watershed-one-plan/) & [Mississippi](https://www.millelacsswcd.org/1w1p/mississippi-river-st-cloud-watershed-plan/) Watershed Comprehensive Plan (1W1P)

1. 2024 [Business Sponsorship Campaign](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PAuxC9qxIeI3Gq-rZ6g5w0-G6ZL16tXg?usp=sharing) (5 min.)
2. 2023 – 2024 Initiative Next Steps (35 min.)

* Sherburne County Partnerships
  + County-wide water monitoring program
  + “[Adopt-a-Stormdrain](https://adopt-a-drain-sherburnegis.hub.arcgis.com/)” (AAS) Project Status
  + Galerucella Beetles for Purple Loosestrife Control
* Additional Special Event and/or Project Planning
  + Steve McComas the “Lake Detective” and PLM event to discuss algae blooms, ice out, AIS spraying, etc. – Saturday, April 13, 2024
  + [Keep It Clean Coalition](https://keepitcleanmn.org/) and/or BLCA Developed Approach
  + Other event or project that we want to consider pursuing?
  + Rain Barrel Water Conservation Program
  + Grayson Smith, Fish & Wildlife (lawn restoration to native landscape)
* 2024 Legislative Session Monitoring and Advocacy
  + [MN COLA/MLR Legislative Agenda](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LrI1lvngvtHWmU1Th7ZGtBvzwSHIJIsC/view)

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

SC COLA Board Upcoming Meeting Dates: 6/5

MINUTES



Attendees: Shelly Alger-Peyton, Ken Andreen, Dan Cibulka, Mike Donnelly (voted remotely), Cindi Edwards-Plant, Sharon Fischer, Steve Mockenhaupt, Patrick Plant, Scott Ruiter and Chris Weber.

1. Opening & Consider Agenda (10 min.)

* A motion was made Scott R. and a second from Chris W. to approve the agenda. All were in favor; agenda approved.
* Approve [2/7/24 Meeting Minutes](https://docs.google.com/document/d/18CkTIsAHLh3r4XrlrhvZyz-f7TMrHyLB/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117415464370246852042&rtpof=true&sd=true)
* A motion was made by Ken A. and second from Chris W. to approve the 2/7/24 board meeting minutes. All were in favor; minutes approved.
* Treasurer’s Report [Monthly Financial Report](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1u3Od1VXx0JvamoN6bCNmLkTWDYx37C3c) and [Bank Statements](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MOPGplZ0rMIst2UfC3W4FvwmPBJ1Gp6E)
* A motion was made by Patrick P. and second from Steve M. to approve the Treasurer’s Report. All were in favor; report approved.

1. Updates (20 min.)

* 2024 Sherburne SWCD and MN DNR AIS Grant Programs

- Dan C. & Patrick P. stated that nothing has been released about grant approvals in Sherburne Co. as of today.

- Scott R. commented that Rush Lake received a $3200 grant for control.

- Dan C. said that 17 grants will be recommended the week of March 11, 2024 at the SWCD Board meeting.

- More grants were applied for than funds available this year, however SWCD was able to move around some grant money to cover a couple more grants this year.

* 2025-2029 Sherburne County AIS Prevention Plan

- Dan C. stated that an online survey will start off the new plan the end of March 2024 and be open for 2-3 weeks on the SWCD website and Facebook page.

- Dan C. will send out the survey to the COLA members so the association members can promote getting a lot of feedback data so the AIS task force can create a new 10yr plan by Fall 2024 for a SWCD review.

* [Rum River](https://www.millelacsswcd.org/1w1p/rum-river-one-watershed-one-plan/) & [Mississippi](https://www.millelacsswcd.org/1w1p/mississippi-river-st-cloud-watershed-plan/) Watershed Comprehensive Plan (1W1P)

- Dan C. stated that a Rum River outreach event is planned for 3/7/24 it is a Conservation Happy Hour in Princeton from 5:00-7:30pm.

- Dan C. is working on a Rum River 2023 accomplishments report spreadsheet for the 9 different Rum River watershed districts by the end of March.

- A draft Mississippi Watershed report will be completed by the 2nd week of April, then a 30 day review period, also the citizens advisory committee with reconnect to review the plan as well then in July, then the policy will go out for a 60 day review approval by the state.

1. 2024 [Business Sponsorship Campaign](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PAuxC9qxIeI3Gq-rZ6g5w0-G6ZL16tXg?usp=sharing) (5 min.)

- A few sponsorship forms have come been submitted, however some businesses are going to bring our request to management business meetings for discussion/approval.

- Currently Bronze sponsorship has a 1/8 page ad, Gold sponsorship has a 1/2 page ad, Silver sponsorship has a 1/4 page ad, Patrick proposed for 2025 to have only 2 ad sponsorship levels Gold level for $200 ½ page ad and Bronze level for $100 for a ¼ page ad. The proposal was approved by the board and will change for 2025 sponsorship mailing.

1. 2023 – 2024 Initiative Next Steps (35 min.)

* Sherburne County Partnerships
  + County-wide water monitoring program

- Dan C. said that Sharon put the spreadsheet together, only a little feedback has been received, so Dan C. will send out the spreadsheet again to see if we can get feedback about the spreadsheet setup, columns, etc.

- Get any feedback into Dan by March 15th to get spreadsheet updated.

* + “[Adopt-a-Stormdrain](https://adopt-a-drain-sherburnegis.hub.arcgis.com/)” (AAS) Project Status

- Dan C. met with the Elk River public works and City of Big Lake and they are working on having a meeting to continue the program, but no updates have been received.

* + Galerucella Beetles for Purple Loosestrife Control

- Beetles that feed on Purple Loosestrife mainly, the FDA has used them for approximately 10yr. and they don’t feed on corn crops, trees, etc. and are not an invasive insect, they typically stay in one area and humans will move them around or the beetles will move ½ -1 mile when the purple loosestrife food source runs out. Sherburne Co. parks department, located in Becker, will be setting up kiddie pools with the beetles and purple loosestrife plants to multiple them and then release them in areas that have the AIS purple loosestrife issues.

- Looking for volunteers to collect beetles from various sites and bring them to Sherburne Co. to get ready for setup in pools. Franny from SWCD is spearheading this project.

* Additional Special Event and/or Project Planning
  + Steve McComas the “Lake Detective” and PLM event to discuss algae blooms, ice out, AIS spraying, etc. – Saturday, April 13, 2024 at Palmer Township Hall near Briggs Lake Chain.

- COLA to donate funds and not to exceed $200 to the Steve McComas & PLM presentation, motion made by Chris and seconded by Sharon.

- Shelly, Patrick and Cindi will work on advertisement materials to send out via email, websites, meetings, etc. to be sent out by the end of March.

* + [Keep It Clean Coalition](https://keepitcleanmn.org/) and/or BLCA Developed Approach

- Shelly will create a list of materials from the KICC website and the BLCA as to options for Spring/Summer materials available for purchase.

* + Other event or project that we want to consider pursuing?

Rain Barrel Water Conservation Program

Dan C. said that Franny will reach out with details when the project is up and running and how to order a rain barrel.

Grayson Smith, Fish & Wildlife (lawn restoration to native landscape) event April 9, 2024 from 5-7pm Becker City Park building. Spring Yard Care workshop for pollinators.

* 2024 Legislative Session Monitoring and Advocacy
  + [MN COLA/MLR Legislative Agenda](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LrI1lvngvtHWmU1Th7ZGtBvzwSHIJIsC/view)

If you aren’t signed up for Legislative updates on the DNR website, you can go on the website and sign up. The updates are very well done and informative and you can decide what you want subjects you want updates on.

- This year is a bonding year, for larger bonding bills/projects. Only a few weeks left to get information heard by Legislative committees.

- A new pending Keep it Clean program has been introduced by Senator Putnam to provide assistance to government and non-government organizations (TLID’s, lake associations, etc.) to help with educational tools, funding etc. this will be determined by the end of this session.

- MN COLA meeting on March 19th that will also have a Legislative update that Patrick and Sharon will report back on as needed.

1. 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 7:51p.m. with a motion to adjourn by Sharon.

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