

# Board Meeting

### Wednesday, October 16, 2024

### 6:30 PM – 7:45 PM

Via Zoom: [hyperlink](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85150837916?pwd=PQBRZ6bA3nWRHdBakNCwkuMT8lcMoY.1) to join meeting

## AGENDA



1. Opening & Consider Agenda (10 min.)

* Approve [8/7/24 Meeting Minutes](https://docs.google.com/document/d/10zPwBT8qJ0gHeHjlwaWZk9d3uQVlR21r/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 (25 min.)

* Starry Trek 2024 Results
* [MN COLA Meeting Summary 9/17/24](https://docs.google.com/document/d/141BI50iR8p9ijZUlJFNX-JI-Xf-rAtUV/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117415464370246852042&rtpof=true&sd=true)
* [Rum River](https://www.millelacsswcd.org/rum-river-watershed-2/) & [Mississippi](https://www.millelacsswcd.org/mississippi-river-st-cloud-watershed/) Watershed Comprehensive Plan (1W1P)
* 2025-2029 Sherburne County AIS Prevention Plan

1. 2024 – 2025 Initiative Next Steps (35 min.)

* Sherburne County Partnerships
  + Galerucella Beetles for Purple Loosestrife Control
  + Rain Barrel Water Conservation Program
  + [Adopt-a-Stormdrain](https://adopt-a-drain-sherburnegis.hub.arcgis.com/)” (AAS) Project Status
  + [SWCD Podcast Series](https://www.sherburneswcd.org/podcasts--webinars.html)
* Additional Special Event and/or Project Planning
  + [Keep It Clean Program](https://keepitcleanmn.org/) ([24’-25’ geofencing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/10sFSmDLHfjyNWls2pL1Qv_gcA2bC7ZgX/view?usp=sharing) and [promotional items](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-inTupx-5o3g_sZsIKs2foJ96wjRM9zz/view?usp=sharing))
  + Other event/project(s) that we want to pursue (e.g. [MAISRC Lab](https://maisrc.umn.edu/lab) Tour)
  + Promote [MLR Lake Steward Program](https://mnlakesandrivers.org/mlr-lake-steward-program/) Participation
* 2025 Legislative Session Monitoring and Advocacy

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

SC COLA Board Upcoming Meeting Dates:12/4, 2/5, 4/2, 6/4

MINUTES



Attendees: Shelly Alger-Peyton (voted remotely), Nate Bunce, Mike Donnelly, Cindi Edwards-Plant, Sharon Fischer, Steve Mockenhaupt, Patrick Plant and Chris Weber (voted remotely).

1. Opening & Consider Agenda (10 min.)

* A motion was made Steve M. and a second from Sharon F. to approve the agenda. All were in favor; agenda approved.
* Approve [8/7/24 Meeting Minutes](https://docs.google.com/document/d/10zPwBT8qJ0gHeHjlwaWZk9d3uQVlR21r/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117415464370246852042&rtpof=true&sd=true)
* A motion was made by Steve M. and second from Sharon F. to approve the 8/7/24 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 Mike D. and second from Steve M. to approve the Treasurer’s Report. All were in favor; report approved.

1. Updates (25 min.)

* Starry Trek 2024 Results
* Dan C. reported that the event was held on Saturday, August 17 and Starry Stonewort was found in three new MN lakes this year (but not in our county). In Sherburne County one new finding was a live Golden Claim in Big Eagle Lake. Griffin from SWCD did follow up and nothing in addition was found. Save the date for next year August 9, 2025! Additional information can be found at: <https://maisrc.umn.edu/starrytrek>
* .[MN COLA Meeting Summary 9/17/24](https://docs.google.com/document/d/141BI50iR8p9ijZUlJFNX-JI-Xf-rAtUV/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=117415464370246852042&rtpof=true&sd=true)
* Patrick P. commented on some of the highlights from the link (above) to the member meeting summary that Sharon F. put together. Included were a statewide poll on significant issues (e.g. wakes, AIS prevention, shoreline rules, 2nd tier development), Vacation Home Rental Ordinances and Septic System & Water Quality.
* Dan C. stated that vacation rental properties came up as a topic in the AIS Task Force meeting, both in impacts (e.g. numerous parked cars, septic system) and an opportunity to post flyers for AIS prevention awareness. Mike D. and Steve M. reported that there have been a couple vacation rental properties on their lakes with thus far no significant issues. Regarding septic system inspections, Mike D. commented that one was triggered when he was doing some work on his home, which he felt to be a good thing.
* Patrick will include links to the recorded meeting presentations in the minutes:
  + [Otter Tail County's new vacation rental ordinance](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ObK3An5hXDg)
  + [Dr Sara Hager Septic Systems & Water Quality](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XlknzkZ7NQ8)
* [Rum River](https://www.millelacsswcd.org/rum-river-watershed-2/) & [Mississippi](https://www.millelacsswcd.org/mississippi-river-st-cloud-watershed/) Watershed Comprehensive Plan (1W1P)
* Patrick P. has updated the links (above) in the agenda and minutes to the current website for plan tracking. Dan C. stated that an updated priority in Rum River plan this year is forestry concerns as the pattern of more droughts and occasional heavy rain are causing conservation issues. In the Mississippi plan the 50- day comment period is ending. There will be a revised plan in December (which we hope to have for our board meeting) and the 10-year plan will be submitted to county boards for approval in April.
* 2025-2029 Sherburne County AIS Prevention Plan
* Sharon F., SC COLA representative stated that she is getting a lot out of the meetings, particularly due to the wide range of stakeholder groups that are represented. The groups represented include: lake associations, MN DNR, boating and fishing retailers, townships and the county. There are a wide range of programs being discussed including outreach to volunteers, lake user education (e.g. farmer’s markets, festivals, billboards), flyers and new grants for AIS prevention (e.g. boat cleaning tools). She. stated that there are varying perspectives on the cleaning tools and perhaps training would be tied to the grant program. Geofencing use for AIS prevention also came up in the task force discussion as an appropriate new tool to consider.
* Dan C. mentioned the need for perhaps prioritizing AIS treatment grants due to the growth of Eurasian watermilfoil infestation in Sherburne County. The target date to complete the new 5-year plan is December and then bring it to the county in January.

1. 2024 – 2025 Initiative Next Steps (35 min.)

* Sherburne County Partnerships
  + Galerucella Beetles for Purple Loosestrife Control

Program will continue next year.

* + Rain Barrel Water Conservation Program

The plan is still to implement this next year.

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

The City of Elk River has now signed on and work is being done with them to get all of their storm drains loaded into the system.

* + [SWCD Podcast Series](https://www.sherburneswcd.org/podcasts--webinars.html)

Dan C. stated that a new podcasts on shoreline work, ground water wells, stormwater and septic systems are planned to be added.

* Additional Special Event and/or Project Planning
  + [Keep It Clean Program](https://keepitcleanmn.org/) ([24’-25’ geofencing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/10sFSmDLHfjyNWls2pL1Qv_gcA2bC7ZgX/view?usp=sharing) and [promotional items](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-inTupx-5o3g_sZsIKs2foJ96wjRM9zz/view?usp=sharing))

Patrick P. reported a meeting of the Keep It Clean (KIC) board that he sat in on where a StarTribune staff member presented on the geofencing program for this season (see links above). The KIC program has a matching grant program available of up to $1,000 that would pay for half of a 280,000 impression digital ad campaign. The SC COLA is offering to pay half a member organization’s match. The program runs from November 15, 2024 to March 31, 2024. The deadline for sign-up is November 15, 2024. Patrick asked members to contact him if there is interest by November 1, 2024 and he will help work out participation details with KIC and the StarTribune.

Mike D. asked if it is an annual cost (which it is) and stated that he will contact the BELIA Board to inquire about interest. Sharon F. said that she would bring it up to the Sandy Lake Board but didn’t believe that it is a significant concern. Steve M. stated that was the case with Ann Lake as well, as there is little ice fishing that occurs which Cindi and Patrick confirmed to be true of Lake Orono too. However, all on the called stated that their lake would have great interest is a geofencing program was available for AIS prevention and lake stewardship advocacy.

* + Other event/project(s) that we want to pursue (e.g. [MAISRC Lab](https://maisrc.umn.edu/lab) Tour)

Patrick P. will contact them to find out available dates/times and send a Doodle poll to members to find at date that works for a tour of the lab.

* + Promote [MLR Lake Steward Program](https://mnlakesandrivers.org/mlr-lake-steward-program/) Participation

Patrick P. reported BLCA uses the MLR program and also has its own for a quite a while under its Healthy Lakes Committee. We’ll pursue this topic further at our next meeting.

* 2025 Legislative Session Monitoring and Advocacy
* The only update at this time is that the KIC program is intending to go after grant funding again. As odd years are when two-year budgeting and policy changes are considered it will likely be a very active session.

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 7:45 p.m. with a motion to adjourn by Sharon F.

Meeting minutes submitted by Cindi Edwards-Plant and Patrick Plant.