



**SC COLA**

Sherburne County  
Coalition Of  
Lake Associations

## Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

6:30 PM – 7:45 PM

Hybrid: SWCD Office & Zoom

## AGENDA

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

- Introductions
- Approve [8/11/21 Meeting Minutes](#)
- Treasurer's Report [Monthly Financial Report](#) and [Bank Statements](#)

### 2. Updates (20 min.)

- Inspect and Clean Equipment Campaign (Fall 2021)
- Sherburne County AIS Semi-Annual Task Force Open Meeting
- 2021 Starry Trek Results
- 2021 MAISRC Research and Management Showcase

### 3. 2021 – 2022 Initiative Next Steps (40 min.)

- Sherburne County “Adopt-a-Stormdrain” (AAS) Project
- AIS Early Detection and Rapid Response Task Force
- Business Sponsorship Campaign and Project Fund Use (e.g., education, AIS prevention, soil erosion, well sealing, or agricultural projects)

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

SC COLA Board Upcoming Meeting Dates: 12/8, 2/9, 4/13, 6/8

# MINUTES

Attendees: Ken Andreen, Scot Chapman, Dan Cibulka, Cindi Edwards-Plant, Sharon Fischer, Mike Donnelly, Patrick Plant, Scott Ruiter and Leslie Waterhouse.

Guests: Franny Gerde and Jenna Walz.

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

- Introductions

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

- Approve [8/11/21 Meeting Minutes](#)

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

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

Chris Weber (Treasurer) was unable to attend due to a conflict in her schedule. Patrick shared a summary report of the financial position. Income has grown with membership dues and business sponsorships while expenses have been minimal due to the absence of events and in-person meetings caused by the pandemic.

A motion was made by Scot and second from Mike to approve the Treasurer's Report. All were in favor; report approved.

## 2. Updates (20 min.)

- Inspect and Clean Equipment Campaign (Fall 2021)

Dan shared a recap of the water equipment flyer document outreach. The document was sent to AIS volunteers, SC COLA board members, and submitted for a County Environmental Educator newsletter.

- Sherburne County AIS Semi-Annual Task Force Open Meeting

The fall AIS Task Force meeting will occur sometime in November / December. Megan Weber from the University of Minnesota will be a guest speaker to talk about the Briggs Chain golden clam monitoring project. Dan will email out meeting details when they are finalized.

- 2021 Starry Trek Results

The University of Minnesota shared results of Starry Trek with all attendees and Dan provided a local summary. 206 volunteers participated across the state, 16 of which were from Sherburne County (8% of the total participation). 12 waterbodies were visited in Sherburne County. A live specimen of a golden clam was found on Big Lake, and SWCD and UofM staff have followed up with additional surveys for this clam. A dead half-shell zebra mussel was found in Eagle Lake, wrapped up in some aquatic plants. This finding does not necessarily mean zebra mussels are in Eagle Lake – more diligent monitoring is needed. Eagle Lake residents, SWCD staff, and DNR have conducted follow up assessment and have not yet found a live specimen.

Though not as a part of Starry Trek, starry stonewort was found in Leech Lake and in a small section of the Mississippi River in Beltrami County, between Wolf Lake and Andrusia Lake, this late summer. Starry stonewort was known to previously exist in Wolf Lake.

- 2021 MAISRC Research and Management Showcase

The showcase was held virtually again this year due to the pandemic. Dan recapped the sessions he attended during the showcase and reported that approximately 400 people had signed up this year. One interesting fact mentioned in a presentation is that research indicates that property values on lakes with Eurasian watermilfoil took between a \$12,000 and \$19,000 hit when sold relative to homes sold on lakes without Eurasian watermilfoil.

### 3. 2021 – 2022 Initiative Next Steps (40 min.)

- Sherburne County “Adopt-a-Stormdrain” (AAS) Project

Jenna Walz, Sherburne County GIS Specialist, presented the AAS website to the group. She went through the sign-up process, safety guides, cleaning process, waiver, reporting process, and other website elements. Livonia Township has signed an agreement/release for the program and other municipalities are considering this and will join soon. Franny discussed the 5-gallon bucket collection method and that more municipalities are evaluating the agreement and looking to join the program. The program will go “live” soon with the county drains and more drains will be added as municipalities join.

- AIS Early Detection and Rapid Response Task Force

Patrick shared an update on the EDRR template, including the three-tiered response documents. The documents are useable “as-is” to guide an average lake user and lake teams through the stages of addressing an AIS infestation. There is also a version which has links included to take a deeper dive into web pages and resources.

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

Activity on business sponsorship will be a primary topic on the December meeting agenda, with a new campaign being launched in early January. Patrick will email related documents out in advance to prepare for that discussion. Also, projects are being evaluated by SWCD for potential SC COLA involvement.

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

Patrick will email the three-tiered EDRR response documents out in follow-up. Please see additional meeting follow-up action items underlined above within the minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. with a motion to adjourn by Scot.

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