

CMAS Minutes for February 18, 2026 Board Meeting

Present: Dan, Hank, Jim, Jean, Nicki (remote), Ellen, Doris

The minutes from January 21, 2026 were approved.

Financial report: CMAS checking account has been moved from Wells Fargo to Magnifi. 2 CD's will be transferred from WF to Magnifi at their maturity dates.

\$50.00 was approved for our contribution for the joint meeting in April at SJU.

Nicki will donate decorative bird plates to be door prizes at the event.

Chapter annual report has been submitted and approved. Baseline payment (~\$1355) is expected within 4 weeks.

Mailchimp Subscription Essentials plan is \$13/month with a 15% discount. The proposed users are Dan, Nicki and Annette. Newsletter and events reminder was sent to 293 subscribers.

Audubon BOX March 2026 roster shows 433 members, with 10 new members.

Kestrel box building with Tom Poser of Stearns County Parks will be held on Saturday February 21 at Warner Park from 10-11 am. Dan, Brian & Joe Chovan are volunteering at the event. CMAS donated \$100 to the event.

Local Communities and Bird Habitat Conservation Act postcards campaign is being sponsored by NAS. Signatures will be collected at both February and March events. Deadline for return of cards is April 15, but we will return when 100 cards are signed.

Outings schedules and proposed: AHFS - beginning birding walks scheduled for 4/25 and 5/16, 5/23 and 5/30 from 7-9 am – Jim will lead. Woodcock outing on 4/17 at Sand Prairie WMA – Brian will lead. Swift sits at Lastaedian Manor in Brainerd June-August, Jim will coordinate. Albany WTP – late April and/or 8 or 9 May – Brian will lead. Tentative field trips: Grebes on Lake Osakis – Jean is checking. Loons on Cross Lake – Tess is checking. Tess is also checking on optional outing on paved/handicapped trails. SJU – Spring Birding Day is May 9 (SJU is asking for volunteers to lead groups.)

Kids to Park Stearns County event is scheduled for May 16, 2026 at Quarry Park at 9:30 am?. Jackie Fallon will be there again.

Other business: Possibility of helping Girl Scouts with bird outings or bird badges. Ellen will call Becky Reynolds to see what their needs/wants are and how we could help.

Possibility of giving honorary CMAS membership to young people who work on bird-related projects. Need to develop criteria for this.

Jean noticed people cutting down a tree in River Bluffs Regional Park, talked to them and took photos. She reported it to Chris Zabinski, the City of St Cloud Parks Operations Manager who is going to follow through on it.

Also discussed – possible signs for Heritage Park.

Tonight's speaker – Mike Lee – Minnesota DNR – Botanist, Minnesota Biological Survey – Southeastern Minnesota Blufflands

Upcoming speaker scheduled: Dick Dols – Purple Martins - March 18

March newsletter cut off to Nicki is February 27.

Ellen will bring refreshments for March.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by Ellen Heneghan