

LELAND DAM AUTHORITY
Organizational Meeting – Wednesday, April 26, 2023
Approved 5/31/2023

Proceedings of the meeting are being recorded (audio and video). The video of the meeting can be found at the following link:
<http://leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2508>

Call to Order:

Meeting called to Order by Chief Deputy County Clerk Jennifer L. Zywicki at 10:01 a.m. Today's meeting is being held at the Government Center, 8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suttons Bay, Michigan.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited, followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Drain Commissioner Steve Christensen	PRESENT
Road Commissioner Garth Greenan	PRESENT
District #5 Commissioner Kama Ross	PRESENT
Richard Thompson (Engineer Category)	PRESENT
Drew Warner (Riparian Category)	PRESENT

Staff members present: Maintenance Director Jerry Culman II, Emergency Management/9-1-1 Director Matt Ansoerge.

Audience members present.

Approval of Agenda / Late Additions or Deletions:

MOTION BY GREENAN TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY ROSS.
Discussion – Christensen would like to add Items of Interest under Discussion, on the agenda today.

MOTION AMENDED BY GREENAN TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ADDING ITEMS OF INTEREST UNDER DISCUSSION. SECONDED BY ROSS.

AYES – 5 (Greenan, Ross, Thompson, Warner, Christensen)

NO – 0

MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment:

The following individuals addressed Dam Authority Members in person:
Dawn Lund; John Popa.

Written comments can be seen at the following link:

<http://leelanau.gov/meetingdetails.asp?MAId=2508#handouts>

Action Items –

Election of Officers – Chairman:

Chief Deputy County Clerk Jennifer L. Zywicki opened nominations for Chairman and stated all nominations will require a second. If there is more than one nomination then each member will indicate their vote. An election for Chairman will require 3 votes in order to be elected.

Greenan nominated Christensen. Seconded by Ross.

Hearing no additional nominations for Chairman, Chief Deputy Zywicki closed nominations and called for a vote.

AYES – 5 (Greenan, Ross, Thompson, Warner, Christensen)

NO – 0

Zywicki declared Steve Christensen Chairman of the Leland Dam Authority.

Vice-Chairman:

Zywicki opened nominations for Vice-Chairman.

Chairman Christensen nominated Greenan. Seconded by Ross.

Hearing no further nominations, Zywicki closed nominations for Vice-Chairman and called for a vote.

AYES – 5 (Christensen, Greenan, Ross, Thompson, Warner)

NO – 0

Zywicki declared Greenan as Vice-Chairman.

Secretary:

Zywicki opened nominations for Secretary of the Leland Dam Authority, and clarified that this position is required for items such as agreements that would need to be signed, etc. as an Authority. The Clerk's office handles items such as meeting minutes as the role of Secretary to the Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Christensen nominates Ross. Seconded by Greenan.

Hearing no additional comments, Zywicki then closed nominations, and asked members to vote.

AYES – 5 (Christensen, Greenan, Ross, Thompson, Warner)

NO – 0

Zywicki stated that Ross was the elected Secretary, and turned the rest of the meeting over to Chairman Christensen.

Leland Dam Authority (LDA) Structure Discussion:

Chairman Christensen opened discussion and said this agenda item is about how the Leland Dam Authority (LDA) operates and what the responsibilities are. Christensen asked for questions from members.

Member Richard Thompson asked about a maintenance schedule for equipment relating to the Dam.

Christensen responded that every three years there is a State mandated inspection. Spicer Group, Inc. has handled the last three of them, with the last one performed in 2022. Christensen added additional comments, also noting that the report for that inspection was provided to each member in a binder (item #6) by Executive Assistant Laurel Evans today (binder and provided information can be found on file in the Clerk's office). There was also an estimated replacement cost provided by Spicer which was also a new mandate by the State. The 2019 inspection included an underwater inspection and they recommended another underwater inspection at the time of the next inspection in 2025. Christensen added details about the Dam noting the exceedingly high structure level, elegance, and hydraulically controlled crest gate.

The 2022 inspection report link is available at the following link:
http://leelanau.gov/downloads/2022_leland_dam_inspection_report.pdf

Commissioner Ross asked about viewing the Dam together as Authority Members, and Chairman Christensen suggested at the next meeting to do a field trip where the meeting would start here at the Government Center, recess to the field trip, and come back to finish the meeting. Discussion between members continued regarding the field trip.

Chairman Christensen said that at the Narrows the staff gauge there is actually 2" lower than at the Dam, set at the same time, and is not sure why the one is that much lower. It is the check at the Narrows when doing the lake level. Culman is trying to capture water to raise the level right now. Manipulation to get the lake to summer level and the level is not coming up quickly because there is so little water in the system. When dumping water after big events the gauge at Dam will go way down, river will go down, and the marina upstream from Dam then doesn't have enough water to move boats around. The court order says maintain the level at the Dam and they plan to carry 2" to 2-1/2" more water in the system this year. Christensen said Culman has the ability to pull up camera views at the Dam to see interior and what's going over the Dam, and showed members the view on his iPad.

Commissioner Ross asked about ice leaving the lake and if it is a recorded event by LDA. Christensen responded it is not recorded; however, Culman watches it (north end is a problematic spot). Culman responded from the audience with comments.

Items of Interest:

Chairman Christensen explained that Cal Killen (TIA Software) is the designer and manufacturer of the sensors we are using and gave background on Killen and his experience of placing sensors on Glen Lake. The group there does sensor as well as physical staff gauge monitoring of the lake level. Several years ago Killen presented to the Leland Dam Authority and this group decided to do electronic sensors with placing one at the South end, one at the Narrows, and one at the Dam. Road Commissioner and former LDA Member John Popa had done level testing with staff gauge at the North end and it did correspond closely with the Narrows gauge, so the Lake Association decided to not pay for a North end sensor, but the other three. It is our responsibility to do the maintenance of them. Killen's company is who we have contracted with to keep the software and hardware up to speed at the cost of \$2,000.00/year.

Christensen updated members on proposed budget items of the walkway across top of Dam that connects the Lodge to downtown and allows access to the manual gate controller. The structure is metal with wood planking and is getting old and worn. The control room roof leaks and had requested money in the budget for that, but appears it did not make it through. They need to talk about budget process for 2024, what to have in budget and timing for meetings as well as how and who will put it together. Brief discussion continued between members.

Commissioner Ross questioned the physical staff gauge at the Narrows being off, if that money is in the budget to fix it. Christensen said it looks like we have \$10k, so the process of going about physically changing that to the correct level is going to be an interesting discussion. Suggested putting it on the agenda for end of the next meeting.

Greenan asked about the sensor at the Narrows, and Christensen responded that they did a calibration on it last fall with Vickie Brown (Owner, Leelanau Land Surveying), and that sensor at the time was accurate.

Chairman Christensen gave a brief explanation to members in regards to the control room at the Dam. Items covered included controlled conditions for the computer systems, possibility of remote access, and the internal and external cameras there.

Commissioner Ross questioned how much sooner would that put us at summer levels if we closed off the little bit flowing over the Dam currently, and she would not be opposed to doing that. Ross added comments regarding spending time touring the Crystal River system, and had also watched Killen's system online which was fascinating.

Set Next Meeting Date/Future Subjects:

Chairman Christensen opened discussion to members regarding scheduling for the next meeting dates and topics. Christensen requested a brief break at 10:51 a.m. in order for the Clerk's Office staff to confirm possible dates and availability of the meeting room.

Meeting resumed at 10:55 a.m.

The next meeting dates and times were proposed:

- Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. (meeting at the Government Center to start the meeting; recess for field trip portion seeing the Leland Dam/operations, the Narrows, and South Lake sensor; reconvene at Government Center).
- Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

The subjects to note for upcoming meetings were mentioned to be: staff gauge at the Narrows; walkway; control room roof; 2024 budget; South Lake sensor.

Public Comment:

The following individuals spoke:

Director of Emergency Management 9-1-1 Matt Ansorge; Dawn Lund; and John Popa.

Written comments/handouts provided can be seen at the following link:
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Authority Member Comments:
None.

Adjournment:
Motion to adjourn by Ross. Seconded by Thompson.

Chairman Christensen adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

Steve Christensen, Chairman
Leland Dam Authority

Alison Middleton, Admin. Deputy Clerk for
Michelle L. Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk