

LELAND DAM AUTHORITY

Special Session Meeting – Tuesday, October 11, 2022

Approved 11/1/2022

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=2403#video>

Call to Order:

Meeting called to Order by Chairman Steve Christensen at 10:04 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.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Road Commissioner James Calhoun	ABSENT (with prior notice)
	Drain Commissioner Steve Christensen	PRESENT
	Road Commissioner Garth Greenan	PRESENT
	Road Commissioner Bob Joyce	PRESENT
	Road Commissioner Greg Mikowski	PRESENT
	Road Commissioner John Popa	PRESENT

Maintenance Director Jerry Culman II was present.

Approval of Agenda / Late Additions or Deletions:

Road Commissioner Popa stated he would like to add updates on the access ladder, budget, and walkway. Christensen stated these can all be covered under the updates portion of the agenda already.

MOTION BY GREENAN TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY JOYCE.

Discussion – none.

AYES – 5 (Greenan, Joyce, Mikowski, Popa, Christensen)

NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Calhoun)

MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Minutes – Tuesday April 5, 2022, and Tuesday July 5, 2022:

MOTION BY JOYCE TO ACCEPT THE MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 5, 2022, AND JULY 5, 2022, AS WRITTEN. SECONDED BY POPA.

Discussion – Road Commissioner Popa commented on meeting minutes of the April 26, 2022, Special Session.

AYES – 5 (Joyce, Mikowski, Popa, Christensen, Greenan)

NO – 0 ABSENT – 1 (Calhoun)

MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment:

The following individuals spoke in person:

Dawn Lund, Chris Lund, and Cal Killen (TIA Software).

Written public comment can be viewed at the following link:
http://leelanau.gov/downloads/lund_lda_10112022.pdf

Communication Items:

Chairman Christensen stated he has supplied copies of two court documents and can be seen at the links below:

http://leelanau.gov/downloads/copy_of_court_order_10161978.pdf
http://leelanau.gov/downloads/copy_of_court_decision_10021978.pdf

Sensor Calibration:

Chairman Christensen stated that Road Commissioner Popa had put together the different measurements and calibrations done over time regarding the many different sensors.

Cal Killen responded that unless someone has moved a sensor or changed it, the sensor is still calibrated in his opinion.

Road Commissioner Popa stated that they don't set the lake level by sensors, that they are just a tool. The handout he provided can be seen at the following link:

http://leelanau.gov/downloads/j_2.pdf

Maintenance Director Jerry Culman has a different measurement at the Dam to measure lake level. Sensors are close in some areas due to flow, it varies, but is a good tool. In 2017 they hired a surveyor and checked the top of the staff gauge at the Dam and verified it to be good within ½ inch.

Discussion continued regarding sensors and measurements.

Road Commissioner Joyce asked how long have we known the sensors are off to which Popa replied several years. Popa addressed Joyce's comment about how long have they known the sensors needed attention to which he replied it's a tracking tool, and not setting the lake level, because Culman does that at the Dam.

Cal Killen of TIA Software said the sensors and software equipment are very accurate certainly within 1/10 or 1/100 of an inch. Unless they have been moved, whatever it was set and calibrated at he believes it is still the same.

Road Commissioner Greenan said he has worked with those sensors over 40-years with his engineering background and generally these do not go out of calibration they are very accurate. He said he sees only one location to measure the lake level and that is at the dam in the court order. The decision only makes recommendations and one is dredging the narrows section but he didn't see dredging the river from lake to the dam. Greenan said he thinks the data shows the level at the dam is lower than what the court order indicates and this could be additional head loss. They need to stay in compliance which means raising the level of the dam and may put the water up at the river and narrows higher than they desired in the court order.

Chairman Christensen stated they do need to do something at the river. Discussion continued between the Dam Authority members.

MOTION BY JOYCE TO RECOMMEND PERFORMING A SURVEY OF ALL LAKE SENSORS AND STAFF GAUGES. SECONDED BY GREENAN.

Discussion/comments – continued between Authority Members, Killen, Maintenance Director Jerry Culman, and audience members regarding staff gauges, measurements and calibration.

Chairman Christensen stated he will check with Administrator Janik and possibly get a legal counsel opinion regarding the staff gauges as those are what Culman uses to manipulate the lake level to be in compliance with the court order.

Christensen clarified that this motion would need to be a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners only if is not in the budget.

AYES – 4 (Joyce, Mikowski, Christensen, Greenan)
NO – 1 (Popa) ABSENT – 1 (Calhoun)

MOTION CARRIED.

Staff Gauge at Narrows:

This topic item was covered in the previous discussion.

Any Other Updates:

Maintenance Director Jerry Culman gave an update on the installation of the safety ladder saying it could possibly be installed on Monday. Weather could end up being a factor.

Chairman Christensen gave a brief update on the budget and what was put in for the walkway and roof work of the control room. The budget has not been approved yet and has been pushed farther towards the end of the year.

Discussion between members and Killen continued regarding possible dredging options, calibration and measurements, as well as lake levels and the court order.

Chairman Christensen stated the next scheduled meeting is on November 1, 2022. Discussion ensued and it was decided to keep the meeting as scheduled but due to a Road Commission meeting conflict the meeting should be reposted to 10:30 a.m. on November 1, 2022. The meeting should be reposted to reflect that change.

Public Comment:

The following individuals spoke in person:

Dawn Lund, Chris Lund, Maintenance Director Jerry Culman II, and Gene Mapes.

Authority Member Comments:

- Road Commissioner Joyce thanked the public for their comments.
- Road Commissioner Popa Culman has done a good job and that the sensors are just another tool.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Joyce. Seconded by Greenan.

Chairman Christensen adjourned the meeting at 11:56 a.m.

Steve Christensen, Chairman
Leland Dam Authority

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