

# LAKE WYOLA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## *Draft Minutes*

April 19, 2025, at 9:00 AM  
Via Zoom and at the Town Hall

Members present: Catherine Hilton, Howard Kinder, John Gorey, David Green, Art Keene, Eric Stocker, Walter Tibbetts, and Mark Rivers. Guests: Tom Siefert, Frank McGinn, and John Kinder

1. The minutes from the March 15, 2025, meeting were reviewed, edited, and approved.

### 2. **Wildfire Prevention**

Mark attended the March 31 Emergency Management Team meeting where Phil Gilmore, DCR District 9 Fire Warden, reviewed the Fire Wise program with members of the EMT and Selectboard. Phil noted that prior to the meeting he drove around the lake area and reiterated his concerns about a lack of access and egress and note that an evacuation plan is needed. According to Phil, DCR's Alex Belote will be providing the classroom training via zoom and should be in contact with the LWA to schedule dates. Select Board members voted to encourage the entire town to participate in the training program. Art will contact Phil if see if a date has been scheduled.

A motion was made and approved to contact the Emergency Management Team and request that the Lake Wyola Dam Emergency Action Plan be updated to include evacuation plans for the lake region in the event of a forest fire. The 2016 version of the EAP includes a map (appendix B-4) of the evacuation plan in the event of a dam breach, but multiple evacuation routes will need to be developed depending on the location and direction of a fire. Catherine recommended that the plan be communicated to the potentially affected residents and available on the town website. Also, residents who need special evacuation assistance should be encouraged voluntarily identify themselves to the Emergency Management Team. Mark agreed to discuss this at the first annual LWA meeting.

### 3. **Lake Wyola Stormwater Erosion Task Force**

The TF is applying for a rural development grant to partially pay for the engineer evaluations and infrastructure design. The grant application is due June 4, 2025. GZA updated their proposal to include Fiske Brook, which the Select Board favors. The total cost is now expected to be \$80,700 of which the Town would contribute 5% and the Lake Wyola Association (LWA) also would contribute 5%.

FRCOG will be conducting several public education sessions on stormwater erosion dangers and mitigation.

#### 4. Update on Dam Permitting and Repairs Activities

GZA has completed the Dam and Seawall grant application which is due by April 25, 2025. The grant awards will be announced around May 31, 2025. If approved, funds should be available around July 1, 2025.

Phase I inspection is planned for the first half of May, with the actual date being weather dependent. GZA will coordinate with Howard as we get a little closer to the inspection day. Mark will notify the members of the EMT.

The tables below contain the project schedule and costs.

##### *Project Schedule*

Action	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26
Notice to Proceed									
Project Management									
Field Evaluation of Dam Seepage									
Wetland Delineation									
Development of 60% Plans									
Dam Repairs Permitting									
Construction Documents									

##### *Project Cost Estimate*

Design, Permitting, and Construction Planning	Estimated Budget	EEA Request	Community Preservation Act Matching Funds
Project Management and Coordination	\$2,600	\$1,950	\$650
Wetland Delineation	\$3,500	\$2,625	\$875
Field Investigation of Dam Seepage	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$1,000
Development of 60% Plans	\$15,000	\$11,250	\$3,750
Dam Repairs Permitting	\$16,800	\$12,600	\$4,200
Construction Documents	\$13,200	\$9,900	\$3,300
<b><i>Design and Permitting Costs Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$55,100</i></b>	<b><i>\$41,325</i></b>	<b><i>\$13,775</i></b>

#### 5. Beaver Dam Activity at the Lakeview Road culvert

The presence of a beaver dam at the Lakeview Road culvert is causing substantive damage to the culvert's wing walls and threatening its structural integrity. Catherine met with the new town administrator, Haley Bolton, plus Beth Willson and Dave Grenier regarding options to remove the beaver dam that is blocking the Lakeview Road culvert. The meeting's conclusion was that the town should hire Beaver Solutions to breach the dam and provide an evaluation of the possibilities for continuing beaver control at the culvert. The Town Administrator is also going to reach out to Camp Anderson to see if they are willing to contribute. Catherine noted that the Board of Health agreed to provide \$1,000 to help pay for Beaver Solutions. She also suggested that LWAC has about \$1,000 in our water quality line item for this year that we could potentially use to help defray the additional

costs. The committee unanimously approved a motion to contribute up to \$1,000 to help manage the culvert's beaver dam removal.

Since the dam is threatening the culvert and vehicle traffic on Lakeview Road, a second motion, requesting that the Select Board review the issue with the Highway Department, was unanimously approved.

#### **6. Dam Access Road Purchase**

The Select Board asked the Town Administrator to pursue either a land purchase or Right of Way. This is a time-sensitive issue because receiving grants for the actual dam repairs is dependent on having access to the dam to perform the work. While Howard has an informal agreement, a more permanent agreement is needed. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2026.

#### **7. Randall Road Boat Ramp**

Howard noted that the boat ramp needs road/ramp maintenance, and the adjacent brush needs to be trimmed. Since this is becoming a liability, corrective measures need to be taken. Also, the Clivus Toilet needs maintenance. A question raised is "who is currently responsible for the ramp and toilet?"

Mark will include this item in the next meeting agenda

The meeting ended at 9:50 AM  
Next meeting is on May 17, 2025