

BELGRADE AREA DAMS COMMITTEE
March 11th, 2024 @ 4:00 PM, Belgrade Town Office

In attendance: Craig Alexander (Chair), Dick Greenan, Tom Bennett, Blaine Horrocks, Matthew Zeh, Cameron McCafferty, Boyd Snowden, Don Borman, Garrett Luszczyki (Secretary)

Guests: Gordon Woods (East Pond), Edie & Ed Cornwall (East Pond), Hans Rasmussen (Code Enf.)

- **Meeting Commencement:**
 - Meeting called to order by Craig at 4:05pm.
- **Previous Meeting Minutes:**
 - Dick made a motion to accept the February minutes, Tom second. All in favor.
- **Current Dams Levels:**
 - Craig stated Great Pond was 247.9' (approx. 3" above full, G@20" open)
 - Tom stated Long Pond was 238.9' (approx. 10.5" above full, G1@7'5" & G2@7' open)
 - Cam stated Salmon Lake was 277.9' (approx. 1.5" below full, G@ min flow)
 - Dick stated Snow Pond was 235.1' (approx. 3.3" below full pond)
- **Lake Levels Strategy Discussion:**
 - The last 10 days has produced 5.71" of rain.
 - Long Pond has peeked from the most recent storm.
 - Great Pond will continue to hold water until Long Pond drops. Ideally end of week.
 - Salmon is still rising but will wait to open and coordinate with Great Pond when it opens
 - We have lost nearly all snowpack for spring runoff. Will maintain current water levels as practical looking ahead to spring.
- **New Maintenance:**
 - Craig confirmed both the Village and Wing's Mill dams have generator hookups located on the back of the service box. Hookup cables are located at the Belgrade town maintenance building and have been labeled.
 - The Salmon Lake Dam datalogger has come free from its mount again. Dick will coordinate with Steve Liberty to get this remounted.
- **Old Business:**
 - 2024 Budget Request Update:
 - The Rome meeting stalled and will reconvene 5/18 at 10am.
 - Schedule Dams walk-throughs with new members – Lorna, Boyd, Mike and Edie:
 - Craig will attempt to coordinate with team as weather improves.
 - Wing's Mill gate 1 repair:

- Tabled until Spring. This will be a warm weather issue to repair.

- **New Business:**

- The Dams Committee reviewed attendees for upcoming town meetings and coordinated for town meetings support.
- Scott Davis and Jason Seiders from Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife came to discuss water levels:
 - They have noticed our recent rise and fall of water levels, managing and trying to maintain control while ensuring we can achieve spring targets without flooding.
 - Scott and Jason discussed the transition of stocked salmon to stocked rainbow trout in Long Pond several years back. Salmon spawn in fall, rainbow trout in spring.
 - The ideal target is maintaining steady flow to attract the fish in the spring. This is difficult to balance in the spring when holding back Great Pond and Salmon Lake to help keep Long Pond from flooding, but the committee can aim to achieve as feasible.
 - The dams committee offered to add Scott and Jason to the daily water levels email. Dick will add them.
 - Edie asked about any recommendations for the white perch at the East Pond Dam. Scott and Jason indicated there isn't much concern with white perch given how prolific they are in the lakes.
 - Edie raised concern about runoff with high sediment in recent rains on the East Pond road near the East Pond boat launch. Unfortunately, this is outside their area of influence.
 - Edie asked if they have any recommendations in regard to the Curly Leaf Pond Weed net and a removable mount at the dam. Scott and Jason recommended DEP as the best option for insight and assistance with this.

- **Report from East Pond Guest(s):**

- Gordon reported water levels are high at the East Pond dam. Water is 18" over the dam, 6" over the fixed concrete of the dam. Significant flow with recent rains.

- **Next Meeting:**

- Scheduled for Monday, April 8th, 4pm at the Belgrade Town Office.

- **Meeting Adjournment & Post-Meeting Discussion**

- Dick made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Tom. All in favor. Adjourned 5:00pm.