

Members present: David Damaske, Ann Borgstrom, Bill Travis, Jeff Martin, Claudia Walsh,
Jim Wieboldt, Chauncey Young

Others: Glenn Cooke

President David Damaske called the special meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

MEETING PURPOSE

Mr. Damaske opened discussion by explaining that the purpose of the meeting was solely to address options available to reduce costs for dam improvements at Boughton Park and the need to reduce the associated hazards and potential liabilities posed by the dams. He noted that after a flurry of recent meetings, a conclusion has been reached that if the Park dams need modification, we should modify them to give the three sponsoring towns the lowest level of hazard, lowest level of future engineering studies and the lowest level of future expense.

Mr. Damaske called upon Jeff Martin and Bill Travis to review options available to the Park. Mr. Martin noted that a meeting had been held with the Supervisors of the three sponsoring towns and explained the options that had been discussed for dealing with dam issues in both the short and long term. He then distributed a handout that outlined potential steps to reduce dam costs. This handout is included as **Attachment A**.

As shown in Attachment A, the Park can reduce dam costs by getting various involved parties to agree to targets/goals and projects that would result in a change of hazard classification for the dams. The targets/goals for dam classification include:

- a) C (High Hazard) – None or minor change in in pond elevation
- b) B (Intermediate Hazard) Some change in elevation
- c) A (Low Hazard) – Significant change in elevation
- d) D (No Hazard) – Dam has been breached or removed.

Mr. Martin noted that the recommended target is the A (Low Hazard) classification. Achieving this target would require the lowering of the water levels to allow the dams to function as ponds and storm retention areas. To begin the process for reaching this target, the following actions would be needed:

1. Meet with Dam Regulator in Albany to:
 - Advise NYSDEC of our concerns and intent to repurpose the dams
 - Advise DEC of our schedule
 - Seek guidance and input on the approach and the timing for submission of an Emergency Action Plan

2. Revise Budget and Work Plans for 2020 as follows:

- Probable maximum flood and spillway alternative studies would not be done and instead, Gomez and Sullivan Engineers (G&S) would use their models to compute dam elevations necessary to reach hazard classification targets.
- Budget estimates for the alternative dam modifications would be provided by G&S.
- The revised work plan will take about 6 months and cost about \$95,000.

Mr. Martin explained various Hazard Classification Requirements and distributed a handout addressing them. This is included as **Attachment B**. Mr. Martin also distributed a Boughton Park Dam Timetable which outlines past and current efforts involving the Park dams which is included as **Attachment C**.

Bill Travis reviewed the multitude of problems with the existing drains and pipes at the dams and explained that these facilities are 90 years old and will have to be upgraded to meet current standards. For example, current standards require concrete reinforced piping while the existing pipes are steel. Mr. Travis and Mr. Martin also explained the need for the engineers to look at the water levels that would need to be reached to repurpose the dams and change the hazard classifications.

There was some discussion regarding complete removal of the dams, but this would significantly increase the possibility of downstream flooding. There was also discussion of the dam stability analysis which is still in progress.

The discussion turned to the immediate need to meet with DEC and begin to work through the process of reclassification. Messrs. Damaske, Travis and Martin will arrange a meeting in Albany. There was also discussion of how to work with the Three towns on budget appropriations for needed engineering and associated costs. It appears that the three Supervisors endorse the reclassification effort.

APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATION FOR ENGINEERING

The Board discussed the present need to engage the engineers in the reclassification effort.

On motion of David Damaske, seconded by Jim Weiboldt

RESOLVED that the Board approve the plan to re-certify the dams to Class A Low Hazard flood control dams. Further consult with the NYSEDC and Gomez and Sullivan Engineering to perform the studies required by the NYSDEC and provide cost estimates of renovations required at a cost not to exceed \$95,000. Resolution approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF COST REIMBURSEMENT FOR BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL TO ALBANY

On motion of Chauncey Young, seconded by Ann Borgstrom

RESOLVED that real and hard expenses incurred by Board members be reimbursed by the Park. Resolution approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Bill Travis, seconded by Jim Weiboldt.

RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned. Resolution approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Submitted by Glenn Cooke