



Summary of Secord Lake Association Meeting – May 16, 2026

This recaps the key points of our in-person Member meeting. We appreciate all who attended and as a reminder our meetings are open to all. You do not need to be a Member to participate. We realize this summary will not capture the energy that filled Secord Township Hall on this Saturday morning.

Lake Improvement Investments



- **\$3,550** West River Drive, Park Road DNR Boat Launch, Mobile Park, Szuch Sandbar.
- **Targeted Areas:** West Branch Bay and point across from Secord Marina.
- **\$7,000** contribution to Clement Township Boat Launch Repair Project.
- **\$10,065** contribution to Bourret Township Boat Launch Repair Project.
- **\$1,500** last summer to Secord Township Fire / Rescue team.

Funded Lake Related Initiatives

\$5,000 Goose Management

\$5,000 Secord Dam Site Land Use Enhancements

\$8,351 Fireworks on the Dam

As a Lake Association focused on making improvements to Secord, we appreciate the efforts of our Members, Sponsors, and supporters as we raised funds over the years. We are proud of the investments we have made and look forward to more in the future. Thank you to all for making this possible.



Membership - Marti



Membership is SLA Fiscal Year (Sept – Aug)

Individual Membership - - \$25 / year (1 vote per membership for the person)

Family Membership - - \$35 / year (2 votes allowed by adults) Family membership includes immediate family members, 2 votes by separate adult members of the Family

Business Membership - - \$50 / year (1 vote per membership for the business)

2025 Memberships are grandfathered until September 2026.

Our MEMBERS Make A Difference!

Our Sponsors Make A Difference - - THANK YOU for Your Continued Support!



Golf Event - Kim

2025 SLA Golf Outing raised \$13,231

Thank You Brent for your past leadership



- Congratulations to our 1st place team of Chris Szpara, LeeAnn Campbell-Clayton, Brian Harnos, and Mia Harnos.
- 2nd place went to Brian Gellings, Dan Oguin, Bryan Deiner, and Pat Madden.
- 10th place went to Craig Whipple, Adam Schroth, Alex Wells, and Larry Schroth.
- Closest to the pin went to Paula Arnold and Tom Irving.
- Longest drive went to Korrin Fry and Glenn Belcher.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
September 19, 2026

Chili Cook Off - Paul

2025 SLA Chili Cook Off raised \$10,011



MARK YOUR CALENDARS
October 17, 2026
Secord Eagles Club



- 2025 Winners!**
- 1st Place – Courtney Friedle
 - 2nd Place – Jim Braidwood
 - 3rd Place – Christopher Ochab

FLTF Update



SECORD DAM		KPIs		
Dam	Cost Performance Indicator (CPI)	Schedule Performance Indicator (SPI)	Quality Performance Indicator (QPI)	
Secord	●	●	●	
Smallwood	●	●	●	
Edenville	●	●	●	
Sanford	●	●	●	

KEY	CPI	SPI	QPI
Green ●	Costs are on target or lower than estimated	Work is on or ahead of schedule	No significant quality issues or concerns
Yellow ●	Costs are anticipated to exceed the estimate by LT 10% (are recoverable)	Work is projected to go past the estimate (is recoverable)	Minor quality issues or concerns
Red ●	Costs are anticipated to be significantly over the estimate (requires intervention)	Work is significantly behind schedule (requires intervention)	Major issues or concerns (requires intervention)

Progress on-site has continued steadily throughout the month despite challenges with increased headwater elevations. All upstream piers were completed at the end of April. In the primary spillway, crews are continuing work on the final weir steps. Following completion of the weir steps, crews can begin installing the spillway gates. Within the low level outlet, we made progress on installation of the heated beam plate and the control gate wall. The heated beam plate will prevent the formation of ice, or melt existing ice, on the dam gates.

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FLTF Update



- Substantial Completion Date remains Sept 2026. EGLE permit required to fill.

Secord currently about 4-1/2 feet below normal summer fill.
 Winter lake level will be 3 feet lower than normal summer.
Meaning Secord is currently about 1-1/2 feet lower than normal winter lake fill.

FLTF goal is to have Secord at normal summer fill by October 1, 2026.
 > Lake will be drawn down to normal winter level in Dec 2026.

If Secord cannot be filled to normal summer level by October 1, 2026, FLTF will delay lake fill until Spring 2027 to reduce likelihood of ice damage to lifts, hoists and piers.

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Stranded Boat Lifts, Hoists and Piers

Secord Hoist Service
 Mike and Sharon Byler, Members
 989-426-5003
SecordHoistService@gmail.com

The Plan →

Assuming full lake level by Oct 1 and they can launch their barge.

Mike and his team believe they can remove the stranded equipment as this is a "remove and place" with no adjustments required as with an install.

Call learn more and to get on their customer list **989-426-5003**

Mike suggests repairs be made this summer ahead of next year. Cables, bunks, pulleys, electrical components, etc.

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As of May 2026, FLTF indicates the substantial completion date for Secord is September 2026. FLTF understands there are hundreds of pieces of property owner equipment (hoists, lifts, piers) stranded on the lakebed.

Our lake association continues to be in close contact with FLTF engineers as they are aware of this issue. To address this specific question, as of today FLTF has two scenarios:

- 1) The FLTF **Secord Primary Plan** is to get the lake up to normal summer level no later than October 1, 2026. Secord will then need to be lowered to normal winter level in December 2026.

This will allow property owners with equipment on the lakebed the opportunity to have it removed before winter ice.

FLTF **cannot** fill between October 1 and April 15. MI DNR will not deviate on these dates.

- 2) As FLTF gets closer to the substantial completion date, if it does not look like Secord can make normal summer lake level by October 1, then FLTF recommends leaving the lake at the current level, even if it could get to the winter level, to avoid the risk of ice damage of private property on the lake bottom. **Meaning the lake will not be raised to winter level.**

In this scenario Secord Lake will fill to normal summer legal lake level beginning April 2027.

FLTF will continue to keep the Secord Lake community updated on their progress as they strive toward the goal to meet the substantial completion date of September 2026. You can read more on this topic in the [**FLTF MARCH INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR UPDATE.**](#)

Retake Our Lake - Ken



- Retake Our Lake Plan -- **WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW**
- Sense of Urgency / Optimism
- Manage Your Lake Front
- Help Your Neighbor
- Sand Bars / Public Gathering Spots
- We will be spot checking all areas we cut in the past 4 years.



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What? A volunteer team helping neighbors unable to clear debris such as floating stumps, trees, and logs from their Secord Lake shoreline and immediate waterway.

When?
We are targeting **Saturday June 27th, July 25th and August 29th**.

How can I volunteer to help?
Volunteer to "help your neighbor", please email SecordLakeAssociation@gmail.com

If I need some assistance?
Please email SecordLakeAssociation@gmail.com with details regarding the location and clean up required; we will reach out to you.

We are in the final months to maintain and clean shorelines. The [SLA Restoration Plan](#) is a resource to explain what property owners can do to help TODAY. Please be sure to pick up and remove anything that will float.

The Helping Hands program is available to help those that may need assistance. Let us know if you can volunteer to help your neighbor, or if you (or someone you know) need a hand please reach out to us.

DNR Secord Lake Survey



A team from DNR Fisheries Southern Lake Huron Management Unit (SLHMU) began conducting a survey of Secord Lake in May. The team captured, categorized, measured, and in some cases took scale / fin samples to determine the age of the fish. **Fish were released.** The Secord Lake Fishery Advisory Committee was invited to join the team. The purpose of this committee is to partner with DNR Fisheries to champion and communicate responsible management of the Secord Lake fishery for generations to come. To learn more about this initiative and how you can help with an Anglers Diary, [Click Here](#).



The lake has come up slightly, for those with boats in the water, please **SLOW ROLL** until the water reaches its full level:

There are still stumps beneath the surface that will cause damage to your engine, or your passengers if you hit them hard.

In some areas boat wake may cause erosion.

*A relaxing **NO WAKE** boat ride will be safer while reducing expensive shoreline erosion caused by boat wake.*

The lake association does not regulate, this is a suggestion. We look out for the greater good of the Secord Lake community. We want to keep our friends and neighbors safe while not causing further erosion due to wakes.



Questions from the Q&A Session:

Q: There was a question regarding what is covered by the Operations & Maintenance Assessment and the specific cost breakdown.

A: FLTF has communicated this information several times in the past years. This link will guide the reader to a FLTF Memo Dated December 21, 2023. [Memo: Operations and Maintenance Assessment for the Four Lakes Special Assessment District](#)

Q: What is the activity on either side of the dam site?

A: As with any construction project, there is work being done to prepare the County owned property on the west and east side of the dam for when construction is completed. The area requires a security fence and the staging, trailer, construction site returned to green space with an appropriately sized parking area. There is proper drainage being installed to help protect the dam and embankment from erosion. Site restoration is part of the overall scope of the current construction project.

As we approach Secord dam restoration, planning for potential land use of excess property is being considered. Midland and Gladwin Counties own all property at each of the 4 dams. At the Secord Lake Dam Site, two areas of land have been identified which are outside of the critical areas for Operations/Safety. At this time, these two areas of land have only been identified as "excess property" with future land use to be determined.

In 2023, Secord Township applied for and was denied a Sparks Grant that would have funded the creation of a family friendly public park setting. As the grant was denied, the township is not moving the project forward.

While there are people on our lake with the vision of a family-friendly county park on the property adjacent to the dam, we are aware of no active work being pursued.

Q: There was a question about West River Drive.

A: At the April meeting, during a discussion about ORV trails in the Secord Lake area, it was stated the DNR does not support an ORV trail or forestry road connecting West River Drive and Secord Dam Road.

At the May meeting, a question regarding extending West River Drive south to connect with Secord Dam Road was asked during the Question & Answer portion of the meeting.

Roads are not in scope of the Secord Lake Association, rather under the authority of Gladwin County or the State.

The Secord Township Supervisor in attendance did explain the County has long sought to extend West River Drive receiving both opposition and support for the road extension to Secord Dam Road. There is a process that will need to be followed and interested parties can contact either their Gladwin County Commissioner or the Gladwin County Road Commission to learn more.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 20th at 10 AM – Secord Township Hall.

Saturday, June 20	Saturday, Aug 15	
Saturday, July 18	Saturday, Sept 12	SLA Golf Outing – Saturday, Sept 19
	Saturday, Oct 10	SLA Chili Cook Off – Saturday, Oct 17

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