



March 12, 2022

### **Congressman John Moolenaar Announces \$750,000 Grant for Secord and Smallwood Dams**

Congressman Moolenaar announced a federal grant of \$750,000 to install the required safety booms on the Secord and Smallwood dam projects. This grant will help complete the stabilization projects for both dams. To learn more about the need for safety booms at all 5 spillways → [Feds grant \\$750K for Secord, Smallwood booms \(mailerlite.com\)](https://www.mailerlite.com)

The FLTF shared an investment of \$2 Million has already been made to stabilize the two northern dams. This brings the investment to stabilize and install safety booms on these two dams to around \$2.75 Million. Grant and donations have provided these funds. There has been no money provided directly by property owners or the county to date.

The photo below is from this past June. A group of Secord Lake Association members, with 2 Gladwin County Commissioners met with Congressman Moolenaar to express support for the FLTF efforts and to seek assistance to restore all 4 Lakes. The initial phase of the RestoreTheLakes letter writing campaign helped build awareness. We appreciate all that participated in letter writing.



**Note: This is a federal grant. We are still waiting to hear from the State of Michigan about the appropriation.**

**From left to right** - - Joel Vernier, Secord Township Supervisor; Phil Dast, SLA President, Jeff Sorensen, SLA member; Karen Moore, Chair Gladwin County Commissioners; Chuck Sikora, SLA VP; **Congressman John Moolenaar**; Mike Szuch, Gladwin County Commissioner / SLA Board and Ken Wells, SLA member.

**FUNDING NEWS** -- At the end of 2021, the State Senate passed Senate Bill 565. This \$3.3 Billion water infrastructure bill **allocates \$250 million** from the Dam Risk Reduction Revolving Loan Fund to the delegated authority of the Four Lakes Task Force. **This appropriation is designated to restore the 4 Lakes - - Secord, Smallwood, Wixom, and Sanford.**

This bill is now in the MI House. There is optimism this will pass the House in some semblance of the Senate bill and then approved by the Governor. While it's not over, until it's over - there is confidence the combined efforts of the community, FLTF and elected officials will help reduce the financial burden for property owners.

**Shared in the plan last year, the FLTF plan indicates the need for \$10 Million in 2022 to keep the projects moving forward while we await news of the state appropriation. Part of this funding will support final engineering and permitting for the Secord and Smallwood projects.**

Earlier this week, the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners approved a plan that allows the projects to continue pending the passage of Senate Bill 565. The Midland County Commissioners will review / discuss the same plan on March 15<sup>th</sup>. [cd86dd\\_e8670bbc86421885f38f65a31469f3.pdf \(secordlakeassociation.org\)](https://www.secordlakeassociation.org)

For updates and more information [FOUR LAKES TASK FORCE - Four Lakes Task Force \(four-lakes-taskforce-mi.com\)](https://www.four-lakes-taskforce-mi.com) Please visit Secord Lake Association at [www.secordlakeassociation.org](https://www.secordlakeassociation.org) for more on the efforts to restore Secord. You can sign up for email updates as they become available. **We welcome our members to help focus our collective energy to restore Secord Lake.**

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