



# CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

Member Municipalities: Brookfield • Danbury • New Fairfield • New Milford • Sherman

PO BOX 37 • SHERMAN, CT 06784 • P (860) 354-6928 • F (860) 350-5611

## Minutes of CLA Regular Meeting Wednesday, June 12, 2024 - 7:00PM via ZOOM

### ATTENDING:

P. Schaer	Sherman
D. Cushnie	Sherman
M. O'Connor	Sherman
B. Licht	New Fairfield
J. Main	New Fairfield
M. Gaffey	Brookfield
W. Meikle	Brookfield
B. Lohan	Brookfield
E. Siergiej	Danbury
C. Robinson	Danbury
D. Rosemark	Danbury
S. Kluge	New Milford
M. Toussaint	New Milford
J. Wodarski	New Milford

### ABSENT:

J. Archer	New Fairfield
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M. Howarth, Executive Director  
D. Wright, Administrative Coordinator  
M. Gasperino, Operations Manager  
N. Mellas, Chief

### CHECK ON BILL LOHAN

Recorder: D. Wright

Guests: 2

*Chairman, **Martin O'Connor**, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.*

### PUBLIC COMMENT

none

### CONSENT AGENDA

***Martin O'Connor** made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by **Steve Kluge**, all voting in favor.*

## **TREASURER (Will Meikle)**

Will noted that we remain in a solid financial position. This has been driven by interest income, higher than budgeted donations as well as an underrun in our operating expenses. We're finalizing our year-end activities and year-end closing which will happen over the next few weeks.

Will discussed four out of the five towns have approved budgets for fiscal year 25 and as it's stated in the statutes, our budget is now approved. Will stated that he has four capital expenditures to present to the Board for approval.

The engine on the Ark has reached the end of its life unexpectedly. A series of engines have been under review; a Suzuki 140, a Yamaha 150, and a Suzuki 150. We agreed the Suzuki 140 would be best for our use. We have an initial quote from Echo Bay and will seek more quotes from other vendors. Since the Ark is unique and it's not easy to pull out of the lake and tow we are looking at suppliers on the lake.

*Will Meikle made a motion to approve the pull ahead acquisition of one Suzuki 140 horsepower outboard engine for a price of \$15,600. Seconded by Mark Toussaint. All voting in favor.*

Will asked if there were any questions or need for discussion. Mark T. asked if the quote included all other costs which Will M. responded that it did. Will noted we will be seeking two more quotes as per our bylaws. It was asked if a warranty is offered and Mark H. mentioned that since we are considered commercial use, warranties do not apply.

Will stated the second item for discussion was a grant we received from First Light that we had applied for earlier this year to purchase a portable marine patrol communications radio. That radio costs \$5,715. This would be our 5th radio, and would allow us to have those radios on all vessels as well as the two personal watercraft when they are deployed. First Light awarded us a sustainability grant in May of this year for \$4,526. We previously had a grant from First Light that we hadn't fully used the full amount for \$1,189. So we are fully funded for this grant purchase.

*Will Meikle made a motion to approve the acquisition of one Motorola APX6000 radio for a not to exceed price of \$5,715. Seconded by Steve Kluge. All voting in favor.*

Will discussed the third item which is a marine patrol lightbar. It's difficult to see the Silver Ships 1 blue lights during the day and we would like to acquire a new light bar for that vessel that's equivalent to what we have on Silver Ships 2 and the Silver Ships 3 that is on order to improve visibility and help ensure that the public understands that this is a marine enforcement vessel. We are going through the final quotes and vendor selection but we're working through the Silver Ships organization who acquired that for our Silver Ships 2 and 3 to see if they can get us a better price.

*Will Meikle made a motion to approve the acquisition of a Whelen Mini Liberty Light Bar, for not to exceed price of \$2,500. Seconded by Jeff Main. All voting in favor.*

Will discussed we need to purchase three Gilman buoys to put into our inventory or to replace existing buoys. We will buy them through Gilman Corporation, which utilizes GSA Pricing and is the vendor we use for all our buoys

*Will Meikle made a motion to approve the acquisition of 3 congested area buoys for a not to exceed price of \$2,000. Seconded by Marianne Gaffey. All voting in favor.*

## **PUBLIC SAFETY (Bill Licht)**

Bill L. discussed the MOA which had expired on December 31, 2023, and has been extended until July 1st, and that we continue to work with DEEP to complete the MOA, with constant correspondence. Bill mentioned we are working with

homeowners on swim area permit requests and working with DEEP and First Light on an expanded policy which will be talked about at the next PS meeting.

Nick stated we've had five rainouts, but otherwise, it's been busy on the nice days. We have moved a patrol boat to the EMS dock in Danbury with their fireboat, SS2 has been moved to the New Fairfield office, and SS1 remains in Sherman. Nick discussed a meeting that took place for the fireworks and the plan will be the same as it was last year with a June 29<sup>th</sup> date and a rain date of June 30. All shifts have been filled and so far everything is running smoothly.

#### **EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES (Doug Cushnie)**

Mike mentioned the vessels are being maintained on schedule and hopefully the Ark will be back up and running soon. There are two more enclosures that need to be built and installed. Boats have been relocated, and Patrol PWCs will follow soon. Mark mentioned Mike has been spending time in New Fairfield getting everything ready for the marine patrol.

#### **PUBLIC AWARENESS (Joan Archer)**

Mark discussed public awareness in Joan's absence. He mentioned filming will start soon for the ecology videos for Social Media and our website. The clean-up was successful, and it was a beautiful day. We are in the process of website updates which Neil will mention. Business partner letters have been sent and we have had a positive response.

#### **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT (Neil Stalter)**

Neil mentioned the video filming is set for Monday weather permitting. Issues with the Ark have caused a delay to enclosure deployment. Neil has a potential alternative option if the Ark does not get fixed and on the water soon. He is working with a student at Westcon with the enclosures too. Lake Stewards had training this past weekend and the priority is keeping an eye out for hydrilla and educating boaters that Candlewood has zebra mussels so after leaving Candlewood it's important to clean, drain and dry. Stewards will begin regular shifts on Sunday. Water quality is going well - despite it's been the most samples we have ever taken, it's been the smoothest process ever as the relationship with UConn as our lab has been great. E coli and blue-green algae samplings will be starting up soon. Ramps have new signs that provide information about zebra mussels with a QR code that takes people to a Spanish translation on our website. Neil mentioned he's been spending time at Danbury High School working with students which has been excellent so if you have any connections with other schools, let Neil know.

#### **ADJOURN**

*Martin O'Connor made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Steve Kluge, all voting in favor.*

The meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Joan Archer, Secretary  
Dee Wright, Administrative Coordinator

*These minutes are not considered official until they have been approved at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Candlewood Lake Authority.*



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**Martin O'Connor, Chair  
Candlewood Lake Authority**

**June 12, 2024**

## **DEEP - MOA**

Continue to support the team by providing input and feedback on the latest draft of the new MOA as the extension has been executed.

## **Delegate Initiative**

The Expectation Document is now approved by the municipalities and an open question and answer meeting was held with the delegates to clarify any questions. The document will now be incorporated into the organization's operations. Next focus will be to rebalance the committee members to ensure proper coverage and mid-year appraisals for the staff.

## **New Fairfield**

Provided support to the well-attended and successful Lake Clean-Up Day. Pleased to say we had nine delegates on site that day to support the event. Also attending was the First Selectman from New Fairfield Melissa Lindsey and our State Representative Pat Callahan. Thank you to all who attended and provided support.

## **Sherman**

The CLA was invited to participate in the Sherman Town Memorial Day Parade. We marched along towing our latest Silver Ship in the parade while handing out the 2024 CLA magnets to the attendees. A big thank you to Marianne, Doug, and Chief Nick for all their help and support in participating in the parade.

## **Financials**

Pleased to say we remain in a positive position as we approach year-end. Will Meikle is reviewing / updating the Capital plan as we may need to bring funds forward to support a new engine for the Ark.

Martin O'Connor  
June 12, 2024

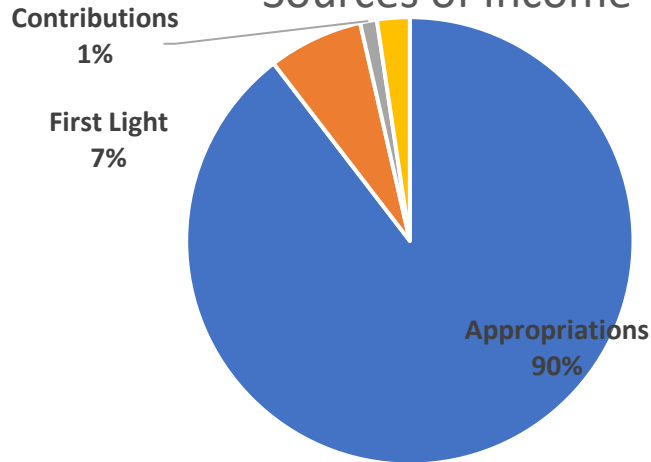
# Finance Committee Financial Results May 2024



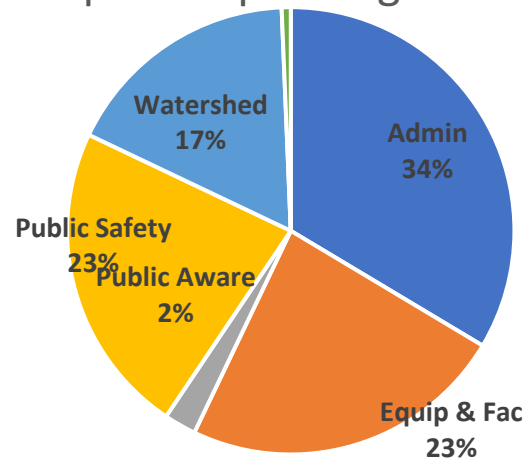
# Income & Expense Overview

Results thru May 2024

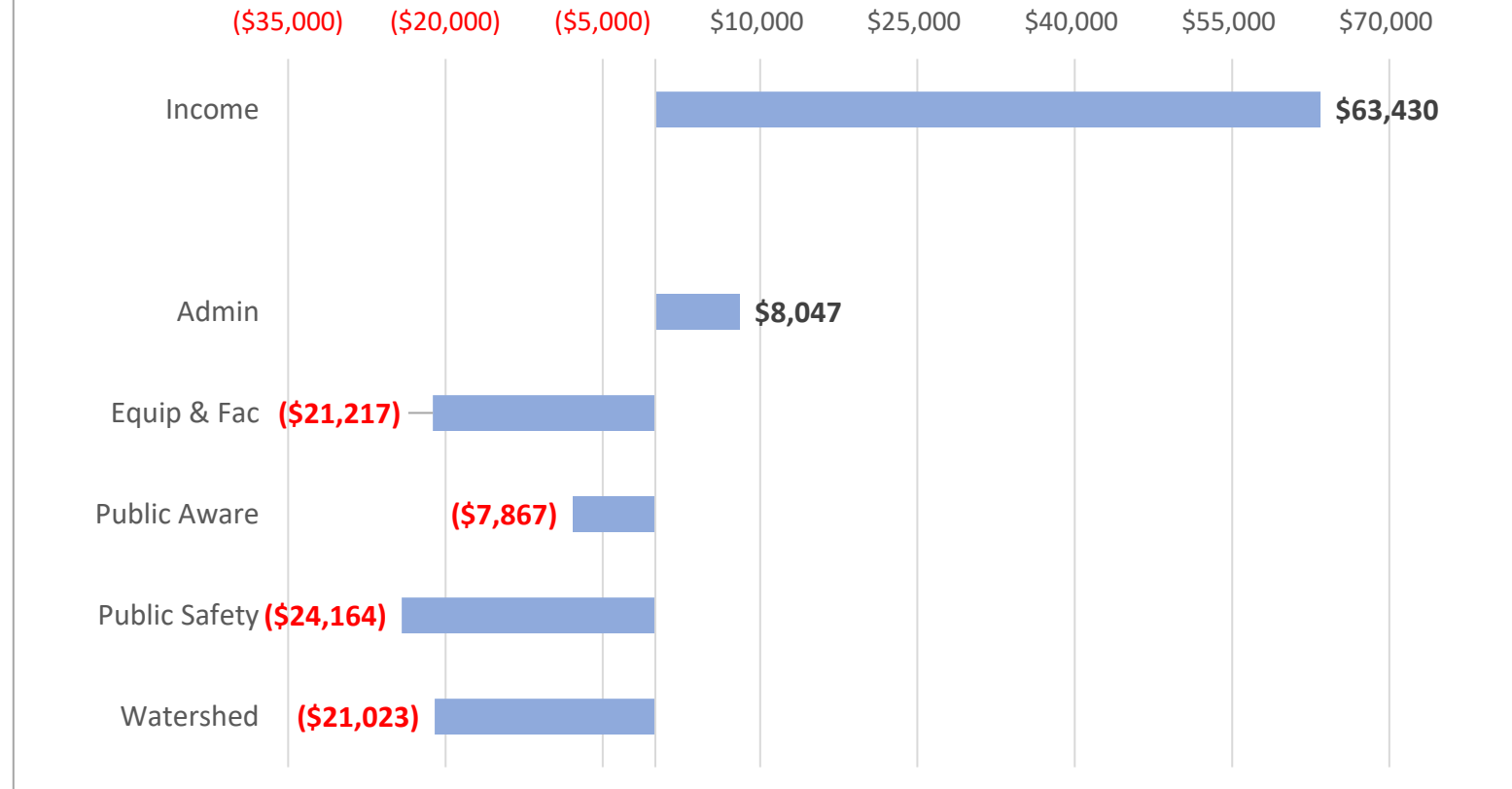
Sources of Income



Expense Spending Profile



Over / (Under) Budget Performance





# Operational Income & Expense Summary

## Results thru May 2024

YTD May 2024	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	O / (U) YTD Budget	% of YTD Budget		FY Budget	FY Forecast	O / (U) FY Budget	% of FY Budget
<b>Income</b>	\$746,065	\$809,496	\$63,430	109%		\$754,595	\$818,025	\$63,430	108%
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>									
Administration	\$236,957	\$245,004	\$8,047	103%		\$256,773	\$264,820	\$8,047	103%
Equipment & Facilities	\$172,830	\$151,613	(\$21,217)	88%		\$179,782	\$158,565	(\$21,217)	88%
Public Awareness	\$16,467	\$8,599	(\$7,867)	52%		\$17,750	\$9,883	(\$7,867)	56%
Public Safety	\$153,694	\$129,530	(\$24,164)	84%		\$173,134	\$148,970	(\$24,164)	86%
Watershed Management	\$118,118	\$97,095	(\$21,023)	82%		\$132,156	\$111,133	(\$21,023)	84%
<b>Total Expense</b>	\$698,066	\$631,842	(\$66,224)	91%		\$759,595	\$693,371	(\$66,224)	91%
<b>Other Income/(Expense)</b>	\$3,750	(\$11,667)	(\$15,417)			\$5,000	(\$10,417)	(\$15,417)	
<b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	\$51,750	\$165,987	\$114,238	321%		\$0	\$114,238	\$114,238	-

\* Accrual Basis Accounting



# Key Drivers of the deltas to Budget



**Income:** Continues to exceed budget as Donations and Interest Income are tracking well ahead



**Administration:** Over budget driven by higher Exec Director Wages, Technology and Professional Services, offset by payroll taxes, phone & rent.



**Equipment & Facilities:** Below budget driven by lower Personnel Wages, Fringe Benefits and Vehicle Expenses.



**Public Awareness:** All line items well below budget YTD.



**Public Safety:** Below budget due to lower Lake Patrol Wages, Training, and Uniforms, offset by Boat Maintenance



**Watershed:** Well below budget due to lower Engineering Consulting, Professional Development cost, offset by higher lab testing.



# Committee Details



## Income Details

	<u>May 24</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD May Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Delta</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
<b>Income</b>						
901 • Appropriations	0.00	0.00	653,095.00	653,095.00	0.00	653,095.00
902 • Contribution from FirstLight	0.00	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	50,000.00
903 • Interest	3,672.18	0.00	43,532.96	0.00	43,532.96	0.00
911 • Miscellaneous Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
912 • Contributions and Donations	2,444.65	6,184.01	53,663.22	30,188.62	23,474.60	35,000.00
915 • Sponsorship -programs/activitie	0.00	2,208.58	6,000.00	10,781.65	-4,781.65	12,500.00
916 • Lake Patrol Services	0.00	0.00	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00	2,000.00
917 • Buoy Contract	-1,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
931 • Merchandise Sales	4.50		4.50		4.50	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,121.33</b>	<b>8,392.59</b>	<b>809,495.68</b>	<b>746,065.27</b>	<b>63,430.41</b>	<b>754,595.00</b>



# Administration Expense Details

	<u>May 24</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD May Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Delta</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
<b>Administration</b>						
100 • Executive Director - Wages	7,800.00	7,163.75	85,800.00	78,801.25	6,998.75	85,965.00
101 • SS/Medi/CTUC	2,176.27	2,874.17	25,953.81	31,615.83	-5,662.02	34,490.00
101A • Workers Comp Insurance	0.00	375.00	4,428.00	4,125.00	303.00	4,500.00
102 • Exec Dir - Fringe Benefits	1,140.90	1,128.50	12,072.93	12,413.50	-340.57	13,542.00
110 • Admin. Coordinator - Wages	3,180.00	3,252.50	33,888.00	35,777.50	-1,889.50	39,030.00
112 • Admin Cor - Fringe Benefits	1,015.35	1,005.75	11,337.75	11,063.25	274.50	12,069.00
113 • Insurance	0.00	0.00	11,229.84	11,368.00	-138.16	11,368.00
114 • Telephone	275.00	375.00	2,942.71	4,125.00	-1,182.29	4,500.00
115 • Office Supplies	199.26	491.67	5,397.40	5,408.33	-10.93	5,900.00
116 • Postage	0.00	83.33	237.05	916.67	-679.62	1,000.00
117 • Audit	0.00	0.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	0.00	7,500.00
118 • Professional Services	776.47	850.00	15,752.57	9,465.00	6,287.57	10,315.00
119 • Bank and Service Fees	188.21	100.00	1,102.57	1,100.00	2.57	1,200.00
121 • Expenses	0.00	83.33	766.56	916.67	-150.11	1,000.00
122 • Internet Access	-221.98	100.00	1,144.64	1,100.00	44.64	1,200.00
124 • Technology Hardware & Service	0.00	500.00	11,183.61	5,500.00	5,683.61	6,000.00
161 • Office Rent	1,100.00	1,432.83	14,266.53	15,761.17	-1,494.64	17,194.00
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>17,629.48</b>	<b>19,815.83</b>	<b>245,003.97</b>	<b>236,957.17</b>	<b>8,046.80</b>	<b>256,773.00</b>



## Equipment & Facilities Expense Details

	<u>May 24</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD May Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Delta</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
<b>Equipment and Facilities</b>						
200 • Personnel - Wages	0.00	500.00	0.00	2,500.00	-2,500.00	3,000.00
210 • Operations Manager - Wages	4,011.08	3,600.00	36,934.24	39,465.00	-2,530.76	43,065.00
212 • Ops Mgr - Fringe Benefits	50.00	1,000.00	1,050.00	11,000.00	-9,950.00	12,217.00
221 • Sherman Base - Repairs/Maint	0.00	250.00	3,631.40	2,750.00	881.40	3,000.00
222 • Utilities - eletric	0.00	375.00	3,202.84	4,125.00	-922.16	4,500.00
223 • Internet and Security Systems	0.00	125.00	586.54	1,375.00	-788.46	1,500.00
226 • Work Boats	0.00	500.00	4,704.87	5,500.00	-795.13	6,000.00
227 • Vehicle	178.15	300.00	1,244.95	3,200.00	-1,955.05	3,500.00
228 • Dock and Trash Pick Up	0.00	85.00	0.00	915.00	-915.00	1,000.00
231 • Buoy Maintenance	0.00	0.00	258.00	2,000.00	-1,742.00	2,000.00
261 • Capital Replacement Fund	0.00	0.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00	100,000.00
<b>Total Equipment and Facilities</b>	<b>4,239.23</b>	<b>6,735.00</b>	<b>151,612.84</b>	<b>172,830.00</b>	<b>-21,217.16</b>	<b>179,782.00</b>



## Public Awareness Expense Details

	<u>May 24</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD May Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Delta</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
<b>Public Awareness</b>						
413 · School Programs	0.00	150.00	0.00	850.00	-850.00	1,000.00
414 · Subscription services	0.00	333.37	1,913.84	3,666.63	-1,752.79	4,000.00
415 · Events and Displays	0.00	800.00	1,431.73	3,200.00	-1,768.27	4,000.00
417 · Fundraising	0.00	0.00	5,253.83	5,000.00	253.83	5,000.00
421 · Shoreline Cleanup	0.00	3,750.00	0.00	3,750.00	-3,750.00	3,750.00
<b>Total Public Awareness</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,033.37</b>	<b>8,599.40</b>	<b>16,466.63</b>	<b>-7,867.23</b>	<b>17,750.00</b>



## Public Safety Expense Details

	<u>May 24</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD May Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Delta</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
<b>Public Safety</b>						
300 • Lake Patrol Wages	1,584.39	4,777.90	45,494.63	56,113.00	-10,618.37	64,608.00
300B • Lake Patrol Wages - Admin	1,666.67	0.00	1,666.67	0.00	1,666.67	0.00
301 • CLAMP Chief Salary	1,666.67	3,333.33	35,000.07	36,666.67	-1,666.60	40,000.00
311 • Boat Maintenance and Reimbur	0.00	730.00	14,265.92	12,520.00	1,745.92	13,250.00
312 • Gas and Oil	0.00	2,442.74	19,768.26	24,378.13	-4,609.87	29,160.00
313 • Insurance	0.00	2,457.75	10,080.16	9,831.00	249.16	9,831.00
314 • Training	0.00	960.00	2,026.98	6,475.00	-4,448.02	6,475.00
318 • Miscellaneous	0.00	100.00	519.76	900.00	-380.24	1,000.00
321 • Radio & Equipment	0.00	800.00	180.66	1,810.00	-1,629.34	1,810.00
322 • Uniforms	0.00	0.00	88.00	5,000.00	-4,912.00	5,000.00
324 • CLAMP Services - Fireworks	0.00	0.00	438.84	0.00	438.84	2,000.00
<b>Total Public Safety</b>	<b>4,917.73</b>	<b>15,601.72</b>	<b>129,529.95</b>	<b>153,693.80</b>	<b>-24,163.85</b>	<b>173,134.00</b>



# Watershed Management Expense Details

	<u>May 24</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD May Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Delta</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
<b>Watershed Managment</b>						
500A • Director of Ecology Wage	5,761.66	5,761.67	63,378.26	63,378.33	-0.07	69,140.00
502 • Dir. Ecology - Fringe	1,110.32	1,076.33	11,641.35	11,839.67	-198.32	12,916.00
511 • Lake and Stream Monitoring	0.00	3,100.00	11,201.70	15,500.00	-4,298.30	18,600.00
512 • E-Coli Bacteria Testing	0.00	300.00	3,000.00	1,700.00	1,300.00	2,000.00
513 • Cynobacteria testing (BG Algae)	0.00	300.00	238.67	1,700.00	-1,461.33	2,000.00
514 • Travel	259.37	250.00	2,093.55	2,750.00	-656.45	3,000.00
515 • Equipment and Supplies	0.00	200.00	1,456.57	2,300.00	-843.43	2,500.00
531 • Professional Development	0.00	0.00	4,085.26	5,500.00	-1,414.74	5,500.00
532 • Engineering and Consulting	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	13,000.00	-13,000.00	16,000.00
599 • Miscellaneous	0.00	50.00	0.00	450.00	-450.00	500.00
<b>Total Watershed Managment</b>	<b>7,131.35</b>	<b>14,038.00</b>	<b>97,095.36</b>	<b>118,118.00</b>	<b>-21,022.64</b>	<b>132,156.00</b>



## Other (Restricted Grants) Income/Expense Details

	<u>May 24</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD May Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Delta</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>						
<b>Other Income</b>						
900-14A · CLERC _ Education	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,750.00	-3,750.00	5,000.00
9000 · Contributions - Restrict/Unbug	0.00		25,000.00		25,000.00	
900-21B · DEEP AIS (Lake Steward)	0.00	0.00	18,350.40	13,500.00	4,850.40	18,000.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>43,350.40</b>	<b>17,250.00</b>	<b>26,100.40</b>	<b>23,000.00</b>
<b>Other Expense</b>						
<b>Expense Restricted/Grants</b>						
800-21B · DEEP AIS (Lake Steward)	0.00	0.00	16,137.80	13,500.00	2,637.80	18,000.00
8200 · Grants Expense - Other	0.00		1,940.04		1,940.04	
800-20A · HMS Foundation Trust	0.00	0.00	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00	0.00
80000 · Ask My Accountant	9,161.67		9,161.67		9,161.67	
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>9,161.67</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>52,239.51</b>	<b>13,500.00</b>	<b>38,739.51</b>	<b>18,000.00</b>
<b>Net Other Income/Other Expense</b>	<b>-9,161.67</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-8,889.11</b>	<b>3,750.00</b>	<b>-12,639.11</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>

# Capital Summary Status

## Capital Summary for Fiscal Year 2023/2024

Opening Balance as of July 1, 2023	\$387,714
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### Appropriations

Annual Capital Appropriation	Aug	\$100,000
Donation - HMS Foundation	Nov	\$25,000
Donation - KFF Foundation	Jan	\$8,000
Software Accrual Transfer	Apr	\$6,995

### Capital Planned Expenditures

Silver Ships 2 Final Payment	Aug	(\$31,223)
Silver Ships 3 (\$250,000 - Sep 2023)	Nov	(\$45,722)
Science Vessel (\$25,000 - Nov 2023)	Nov	(\$25,000)
FLIR (\$15,000 - Feb 2023)	Aug	(\$14,041)
Handheld Radio (\$5,200 - Mar 2021)	May	(\$5,179)
Patrol Tablets (\$7,250 - Mar 2023)	Oct	(\$4,559)
Sherman Base (\$3,500 - Apr)	Mar	(\$1,851)
Total Expenditures		(\$127,575)

Closing Balance as of May 31, 2024	\$400,134
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Items is ( ) show amount & when CLA Board approved the expenditure

# Balance Sheet Summary

	May 31, 24
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
1120 • USB Checking -0212	810,815.03
11000 • Accounts Receivable	19,400.40
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>830,215.43</b>

	May 31, 24
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
2000 • Accounts Payable	179.90
24000 • Payroll Liabilities	
2700 • Deferred Grant Income	
2700 • Deferred Grant Income - Other	1,000.00
2700A • DEEP CO2 Grant	13,418.06
2700B • Grass Carp	4,981.00
2700C • CLAMP Radios	1,189.00
2700D • Lake Steward	
Total 2700 • Deferred Grant Income	20,588.06
700 • Due to/from CapitalProject Fund	400,133.77
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>420,901.73</b>

	May 31, 24
<b>Equity</b>	
3200 • Retained Earnings	30,090.07
3200B • Restricted	
3200B 1 • Education Programs	21,592.57
3200B 2 • Zebra Mussell	6,276.00
3200B 3 • Watershed Products	0.00
Total 3200B • Restricted	27,868.57
3200D • Assigned	
3200D 1 • HMS Initiatives	5,245.06
3200D 2 • Lake Incentives	15,000.00
3200D 3 • Buffer Garden	1,983.77
Total 3200D • Assigned	22,228.83
3200E • Unassigned	163,138.79
Net Income	165,987.44
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>409,313.70</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>830,215.43</b>



# CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

*Member Municipalities: Brookfield • Danbury • New Fairfield • New Milford • Sherman*

PO BOX 37 • SHERMAN, CT 06784 • P (860) 354-6928 • F (860) 350-5611

**June 12, 2024**  
**Executive Director**  
**Mark Howarth**

## **Monthly Report**

- We had another successful Candlewood Lake Clean Up this year and it gave everyone who participated the opportunity to feel good about helping get the lake off to a good start this season. As in the past, our volunteers filled another big dumpster with trash and debris from the lake. Thank you to all of those volunteers, the Town of New Fairfield Public Works Department for helping unload the trash from the incoming vessels with their bucket loader and everyone who donated or contributed to the event.



- We were excited to hear that our submission to FirstLight for their FirstLight Sustains grant program was accepted and we were awarded funding from them for a hand-held communications radio for our Marine Patrol. We appreciate FirstLight for recognizing the need and value of improved on-water communication for our Maine Patrol Officers.
- Work continues with the CT DEEP to finalize language on the new MOA and we hope to have a finished document soon.
- We sent out our business partner letter and have received a very positive response so far from our business partners. Thank you to all who have joined the CLA as business partners so far this season.

- If you haven't gotten your 2024 Candlewood Lake magnet, they are in the community! We have distributed them to many area businesses and municipal locations and are continuing to get more out for the public to take and put on their cars to show their support for the lake and direct people to information on the CLA website.
- Progress continues on the customization of the onboard software system for the Marine Patrol, and we anticipate starting to utilize that system, and seeing the efficiency and other benefits associated with it, this season.
- We participated in the Sherman Memorial Day parade again and towed our Silver Ships II boat down the parade route. It was a perfect day for the parade and it was nice to see all of the residents along the route. Thanks to Martin, Marianne, Doug and Nick for participating that day.
- We have set our first filming date for the video series with our video company. We are beginning with some lake ecology educational videos and plan to soon begin the public safety videos.
- I'm happy to report that the CLA now has boats stationed at various locations on the lake. We continue to have boats in Sherman and have expanded where we dock patrol vessels to the Danbury EMS dock last week and now also to the New Fairfield office location this week. We also moved our science vessel to our New Fairfield location where our staff is at the new office.

In addition to other benefits, having Marine Patrol assets spread around the lake gives us more options to respond to calls from various locations on the lake should they arise when we are not already on the water. Having the science vessel at the New Fairfield office eliminates unnecessary staff drive time to and from Sherman where the boat had been.

Speaking of the new office, all is going well there. With summer beginning, we are starting to truly realize the benefits of being back on the water, with direct access to the lake. We have also been spending time getting our new space ready for summer use and having vessels there, while developing new systems and procedures to ensure things run smoothly.







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**J. Neil Stalter**

**Director of Ecology and Environmental Education**

**Candlewood Lake Authority**

**Re:** June Monthly Report

**Date:** 6/12/2024

- We have completed 4 samplings of the normal water quality, including one profile sampling and one additional site in Echo Bay very successfully! This represents the year with the most water quality monitoring the CLA has ever done in the interest of creating a nutrient budget to inform the Lake Management Plan.
  - In general, the water quality looks good this year, with slightly higher than average clarity and generally low blue-green algae counts. There have been a few reports of small local blue-green algae blooms though which is not surprising.
- We have recruited a group of 10 Lake Stewards this year, including a new supervisor. It seems like another great group! They have been trained and have begun their work at the launches around the lake. Stop by on weekend days from 8-4 to see the stewards doing their inspections!
- Unfortunately, due to the ARK engine issues, the exclosure deployment into Candlewood has been delayed. However, we hope to have the ARK up and running again soon and will get the exclosures in by the end of the month. Thanks to Mike for all the help building the new exclosure designs that will make the work much easier.
  - We are also working with a professor and student at WestConn who will be doing some work hopefully monitoring the lake for carp feeding behavior and will be using the exclosures as “hotspots” to hopefully spot some carp at work.
- We are looking forward to the new CLA video series, and I have finalized the scripts for the 3 ecology focused videos we’ll be doing this year. The first day of filming is scheduled for next Monday June 17<sup>th</sup> (weather permitting).

- Weekly E. Coli sampling done by the New Fairfield Senior Center volunteers has been arranged and will begin later this month every Tuesday through Labor Day Weekend. Those results will be reported weekly to the town Parks & Rec. and health departments.
- I am working with an intern this year who is working on a project researching salt pollution in the lake, the best ways to begin mitigating it in Candlewood, and the stakeholders to engage to begin educating them on preventing salt pollution into the lake. He plans to present his findings at the August board meeting.
- The Science boat has moved to its new home at the New Fairfield office! I'm very excited to be able to do all my in-office and on-lake work from one location.
- I am continuing to visit Danbury High School when possible to talk to the students about the lake, and recently attended a student capstone presentation about environmental protection, and helped add some context about how protecting the environment is a locally issue.
  - I also had the pleasure of going to DHS as a "judge" for the green infrastructure projects I helped advise students groups about earlier in the spring. I was very impressed with the work of the students and loved learning about their projects!
- We're working on updating the homepage of the website, as well as repairing some backend analytics that haven't been working.
- I was sorry to have missed the Clean Up this year because of a wedding I had to attend, but I'm glad it was another successful day helping keep Candlewood Beautiful! We're continuing to work to improve the event every year.
- I am continuing work on a procedure to monitor for Hydrilla, and present options for possible rapid response should any be discovered in the lake.
  - FirstLight's plant monitoring will likely look a little different this year as they provide more resources to searching lakes Lillinonah and Zoar for the spread of Hydrilla – so we want to ensure that Candlewood is still checked as thoroughly as possible.