



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, April 9, 2025 - 7:00PM via ZOOM

ATTENDING:

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| P. Schaer | Sherman |
| D. Cushnie | Sherman |
| M. O'Connor | Sherman |
| | |
| B. Licht | New Fairfield |
| | |
| J. Main | New Fairfield |
| | |
| W. Meikle | Brookfield |
| B. Lohan | Brookfield |
| | |
| S. McColgan | Danbury |
| | |
| S. Kluge | New Milford |
| M. Toussaint | New Milford |
| J. Wodarski | New Milford |

ABSENT:

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| J. Archer | New Fairfield |
| | |
| M. Gaffey | Brookfield |
| | |
| E. Siergiej | Danbury |
| J. Laughinghouse | Danbury |

M. Howarth, Executive Director
 N. Mellas, Chief
 N. Stalter, Director of Ecology
 M. Gasperino, Operations Manager
 D. Wright, Administrative Coordinator

Recorder: D. Wright

Guests: 1

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 Bill Licht, all voting in favor.

TREASURER (Will Meikle)

Will discussed that last month we were back to operating on budget after unexpected expenses and now we are ahead of budget. We are doing well on the income side thanks to donations, as well as the interest and we continue to be in good shape for the year.

PUBLIC SAFETY (Bill Licht)

Bill mentioned that we have two potential officers going through training. Once training is complete, they will need to be appointed by DEEP. The policy & procedure manual is almost completed and we are working with our lawyers to review portions of it and should be ready for the start of the season. Bill mentioned that Nick would like to recognize a few officers for their hard work with plaques.

EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES (Mark Howarth)

Mark discussed that Mike has been planning for the start of the season and we will have the first buoys in by the end of next week. The Ark and docks went in today. Will discussed the need for two capital reviews. One is the purchase of a new industrial winch for the Ark as a backup.

*Will Meikle made a motion to authorize the purchase of a new backup industrial hoist for the Ark for a not to exceed price of \$2,000, seconded by **Steve Kluge**, all voting in favor.*

Will also discussed the need for a replacement truck for towing, including towing the future new Science vessel. A Chevrolet 2500 was found to be a match for our needs which is a newer version of the truck we currently have which has reached its end of life. The purchase of this vehicle is in our capital plan.

*Will Meikle made a motion to authorize the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD for a not to exceed price of \$48,000 including all options, and registration fees, seconded by **Steve Kluge**, all voting in favor.*

PUBLIC AWARENESS (Mark Howarth)

Mark discussed that Clean Up day will be May 17th and we are hoping delegates will attend and help. The business partnership letter is in the final stages, and it should be ready by the end of the week to help with fundraising efforts. If any delegate would like a copy of the letter to take to any businesses, just let Mark know. CLA will attend the Sherman Community Expo on May 3rd on the green in Sherman. Shaun mentioned that Clean City Danbury day is also on May 17th.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT (Steve Kluge, Neil Stalter)

Steve K. mentioned the new field work that will be happening this summer regarding the Nutrient Budget project and preparation has begun for that. Neil discussed the Lake Steward program and that we have nine confirmed stewards, including a supervisor, and that recruiting will continue. Neil mentioned there have been community concerns regarding zebra mussels and he encourages delegates to refer people to the webinar on the CLA website for more information on the subject. Neil discussed we are in the initial invasion spike but that will continue to change. An interesting fact is that there are no zebra mussels in Squantz Pond at this point.

Neil discussed his comments on FirstLight's Nuisance Aquatic Species Monitoring Plan. Neil would like to submit his comments advocating for a more significant survey of Candlewood Lake, especially looking for Hydrilla.

*Steve Kluge made a motion that Neil be given approval to send comments regarding the Nuisance Aquatic Species Monitoring plan following discussion and approval at the Watershed meeting next week, seconded by **Mark Toussaint**, all voting in favor.*

Martin mentioned the Ad-hoc HR committee and his request for a volunteer to make the committee diverse. Phyllis volunteered to join the committee.

ADJOURN

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Archer^{DW}

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 W. O'Connor, Chair
Candlewood Lake Authority**

April 9, 2025

Municipalities

Continue to follow up with the Municipalities regarding the Islands, as the season is fast approaching.

We attended a catch-up meeting with Mayor Bass in New Milford. We discussed the current state of operations, the Islands, access to Vaughn's Neck, and the future state of the CLA. Mayor Bass extended an invitation to join his fall education program presenting information on the Lake, the environment, and how we protect this important asset to the State of CT. We confirmed our excitement to join this initiative.

Committees:

All committees continue to meet regularly with no major concerns noted. The annual "Clean Up Day" date has been announced, which is May 17th. The refreshing of our Human Resource (HR) Committee is behind schedule. Again, this team will focus on updating our HR policies and guidelines and assist with any HR concerns or issues raised to the Board.

Financials

Overall financial position remains strong with no major concerns noted.

**Martin W. O'Connor –
April 9, 2025**

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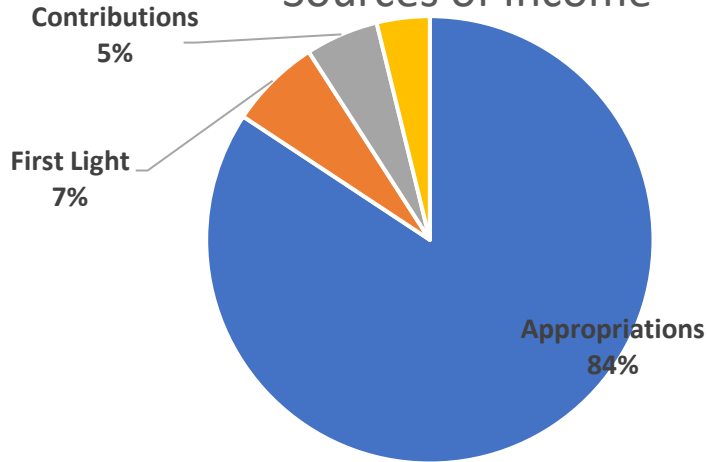
Finance Committee Financial Results March 2025



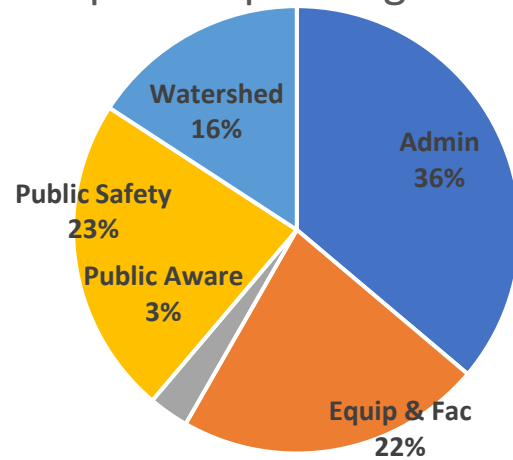
Income & Expense Overview

Financial Results thru March 2025

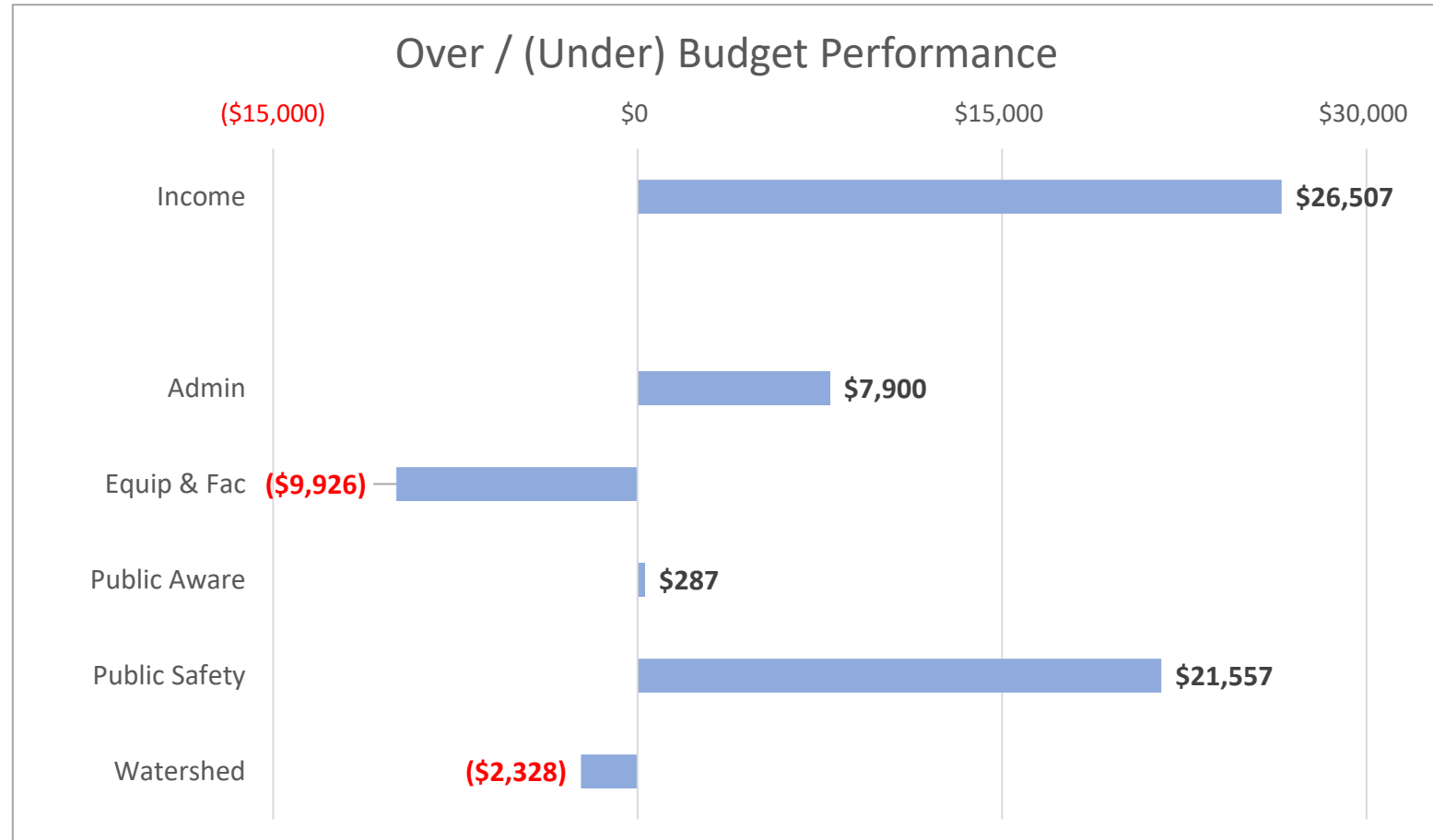
Sources of Income



Expense Spending Profile



Over / (Under) Budget Performance



Operational Income & Expense Summary

Financial Results thru March 2025

| March 2025 Results | YTD Budget | YTD Actual | O / (U) YTD Budget | % of YTD Budget | FY Budget | FY Forecast | O / (U) FY Budget | % of FY Budget |
|------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Income | \$743,000 | \$769,507 | \$26,507 | 104% | \$757,500 | \$784,007 | \$26,507 | 103% |
| Expenses | | | | | | | | |
| Administration | \$211,353 | \$219,253 | \$7,900 | 104% | \$273,855 | \$281,755 | \$7,900 | 103% |
| Equipment & Facilities | \$149,693 | \$139,767 | (\$9,926) | 93% | \$167,590 | \$157,664 | (\$9,926) | 94% |
| Public Awareness | \$12,000 | \$12,287 | \$287 | 102% | \$22,000 | \$22,287 | \$287 | 101% |
| Public Safety | \$131,663 | \$153,220 | \$21,557 | 116% | \$174,280 | \$195,837 | \$21,557 | 112% |
| Watershed Management | \$86,431 | \$84,103 | (\$2,328) | 97% | \$119,775 | \$117,447 | (\$2,328) | 98% |
| Total Expense | \$591,139 | \$608,630 | \$17,491 | 103% | \$757,500 | \$774,991 | \$17,491 | 102% |
| Other Income/(Expense) | \$4,500 | \$2,509 | (\$1,992) | | \$0 | (\$1,992) | (\$1,992) | |
| Operating Surplus/(Deficit) | \$156,361 | \$163,385 | \$7,024 | 104% | \$0 | \$7,024 | \$7,024 | - |
| <i>* Accrual Basis Accounting</i> | | | | | | | | |

Key Drivers of the deltas to Budget



Income: Exceeded budget driven by Interest Income and Donations from the community.



Administration: Over budget driven by higher Professional Services, Technology Services and Bank Fees, offset by Rent cost.



Equipment & Facilities: Under Budget driven by Utilities, Wages and Buoy Expenses.



Public Awareness: On budget overall



Public Safety: Over budget due to Lake Patrol Wages, Boat Maintenance and Fuel costs.



Watershed: Over budget due to Lake Testing, offset by Professional Development costs.

Committee Details



Income Details

| | <u>Mar 25</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>YTD Budget</u> | <u>Delta</u> | <u>FY Budget</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Income | | | | | | |
| 901 · Appropriations | 0.00 | | 638,500.00 | 638,500.00 | 0.00 | 638,500.00 |
| 902 · Contribution from FirstLight | 0.00 | | 50,000.00 | 50,000.00 | 0.00 | 50,000.00 |
| 903 · Interest | 3,577.66 | 2,000.00 | 35,768.68 | 22,000.00 | 13,768.68 | 25,000.00 |
| 911 · Miscellaneous Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 568.63 | 0.00 | 568.63 | 0.00 |
| 912 · Contributions and Donations | 1,243.52 | 1,000.00 | 41,169.22 | 28,500.00 | 12,669.22 | 30,000.00 |
| 915 · Sponsorship -programs/activitie | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 2,500.00 | 3,000.00 | -500.00 | 10,000.00 |
| 916 · Lake Patrol Services | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 917 · Buoy Contract | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Total Income | 4,821.18 | 4,000.00 | 769,506.53 | 743,000.00 | 26,506.53 | 757,500.00 |



Administration Expense Details

| | <u>Mar 25</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>YTD Budget</u> | <u>Delta</u> | <u>FY Budget</u> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Administration | | | | | | |
| 100 · Executive Director - Wages | 8,033.34 | 8,033.34 | 72,300.06 | 72,300.00 | 0.06 | 96,400.00 |
| 101 · SS/Medi/CTUC | 2,146.08 | 2,566.25 | 23,087.91 | 23,096.25 | -8.34 | 30,795.00 |
| 101A · Workers Comp Insurance | 0.00 | 0.00 | 4,217.00 | 4,635.00 | -418.00 | 4,635.00 |
| 102 · Exec Dir - Fringe Benefits | -184.92 | 1,258.34 | 10,318.02 | 11,325.00 | -1,006.98 | 15,100.00 |
| 110 · Admin. Coordinator - Wages | 2,818.08 | 2,987.09 | 27,636.96 | 26,883.75 | 753.21 | 35,845.00 |
| 112 · Admin Cor - Fringe Benefits | -193.47 | 1,109.16 | 8,783.49 | 9,982.50 | -1,199.01 | 13,310.00 |
| 113 · Insurance | 3,085.56 | 2,927.50 | 12,397.86 | 11,710.00 | 687.86 | 11,710.00 |
| 114 · Telephone | 250.00 | 300.00 | 2,375.00 | 2,700.00 | -325.00 | 3,600.00 |
| 115 · Office Supplies | 289.18 | 491.66 | 4,662.03 | 4,425.00 | 237.03 | 5,900.00 |
| 116 · Postage | 0.00 | 62.50 | 375.40 | 562.50 | -187.10 | 750.00 |
| 117 · Audit | 0.00 | | 15,000.00* | 7,500.00 | 7,500.00 | 7,500.00 |
| 118 · Professional Services | 220.80 | 1,320.84 | 17,815.97 | 11,887.50 | 5,928.47 | 15,850.00 |
| 119 · Bank and Service Fees | 189.93 | 100.00 | 2,329.60 | 900.00 | 1,429.60 | 1,200.00 |
| 121 · Expenses | 0.00 | 83.34 | 172.25 | 750.00 | -577.75 | 1,000.00 |
| 122 · Internet Access | 0.00 | 100.00 | 911.65 | 900.00 | 11.65 | 1,200.00 |
| 124 · Technology Hardware & Services | 643.65 | 666.66 | 6,969.68 | 6,000.00 | 969.68 | 8,000.00 |
| 161 · Office Rent | 1,100.00 | 1,755.00 | 9,900.00 | 15,795.00 | -5,895.00 | 21,060.00 |
| Total Administration | 18,398.23 | 23,761.68 | 219,252.88 | 211,352.50 | 7,900.38 | 273,855.00 |

* Line item 117 – Audit accrual entry to be reversed for \$7,500



Equipment & Facilities Expense Details

| | <u>Mar 25</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>YTD Budget</u> | <u>Delta</u> | <u>FY Budget</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Equipment and Facilities | | | | | | |
| 200 · Personnel - Wages | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | -1,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 210 · Operations Manager - Wages | 2,717.54 | 3,700.00 | 29,865.21 | 33,300.00 | -3,434.79 | 44,400.00 |
| 212 · Ops Mgr - Fringe Benefits | 0.00 | 100.00 | 500.00 | 900.00 | -400.00 | 1,200.00 |
| 221 · Sherman Base - Repairs/Maint | 0.00 | 250.00 | 1,017.46 | 2,250.00 | -1,232.54 | 3,000.00 |
| 222 · Utilities - eletric | 248.49 | 520.00 | 1,963.52 | 4,680.00 | -2,716.48 | 6,240.00 |
| 223 · Internet and Security Systems | 0.00 | 20.84 | 1,161.00 | 187.50 | 973.50 | 250.00 |
| 226 · Work Boats | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3,793.82 | 4,500.00 | -706.18 | 6,000.00 |
| 227 · Vehicle | 93.80 | 166.66 | 2,145.95 | 1,500.00 | 645.95 | 2,000.00 |
| 228 · Dock and Trash Pick Up | 0.00 | 41.66 | 0.00 | 375.00 | -375.00 | 500.00 |
| 231 · Buoy Maintenance | 0.00 | 0.00 | -680.00 | 1,000.00 | -1,680.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 261 · Capital Replacement Fund | 0.00 | 0.00 | 100,000.00 | 100,000.00 | 0.00 | 100,000.00 |
| Total Equipment and Facilities | 3,059.83 | 4,799.16 | 139,766.96 | 149,692.50 | -9,925.54 | 167,590.00 |



Public Awareness Expense Details

| | <u>Mar 25</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>YTD Budget</u> | <u>Delta</u> | <u>FY Budget</u> |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Public Awareness | | | | | | |
| 413 · School Programs | 0.00 | 250.00 | 0.00 | 2,250.00 | -2,250.00 | 3,000.00 |
| 414 · Subscription services | 0.00 | 416.66 | 3,636.88 | 3,750.00 | -113.12 | 5,000.00 |
| 415 · Events and Displays | 0.00 | 333.34 | 692.68 | 3,000.00 | -2,307.32 | 4,000.00 |
| 417 · Fundraising | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6,861.80 | 3,000.00 | 3,861.80 | 6,000.00 |
| 421 · Shoreline Cleanup | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,095.93 | 0.00 | 1,095.93 | 4,000.00 |
| Total Public Awareness | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 12,287.29 | 12,000.00 | 287.29 | 22,000.00 |



Public Safety Expense Details

| | <u>Mar 25</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>YTD Budget</u> | <u>Delta</u> | <u>FY Budget</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Public Safety | | | | | | |
| 300 · Lake Patrol Wages | 108.64 | 588.00 | 57,153.27 | 52,952.30 | 4,200.97 | 66,803.00 |
| 301 · CLAMP Chief Salary | 3,433.34 | 3,433.34 | 30,900.06 | 30,900.00 | 0.06 | 41,200.00 |
| 311 · Boat Maintenance and Reimburs | 172.50 | 200.00 | 25,313.13 | 11,950.00 | 13,363.13 | 13,250.00 |
| 312 · Gas and Oil | 0.00 | 0.00 | 27,363.76 | 19,790.70 | 7,573.06 | 26,117.00 |
| 313 · Insurance | 2,628.44 | 2,656.25 | 10,515.14 | 10,625.00 | -109.86 | 10,625.00 |
| 314 · Training | 0.00 | 1,545.00 | 0.00 | 1,545.00 | -1,545.00 | 6,475.00 |
| 318 · Miscellaneous | 0.00 | 100.00 | 456.98 | 700.00 | -243.02 | 1,000.00 |
| 321 · Radio & Equipment | 0.00 | 0.00 | -72.46 | 100.00 | -172.46 | 1,810.00 |
| 322 · Uniforms | 0.00 | 2,460.00 | 1,590.00 | 3,100.00 | -1,510.00 | 5,000.00 |
| 324 · CLAMP Services - Fireworks | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Total Public Safety | 6,342.92 | 10,982.59 | 153,219.88 | 131,663.00 | 21,556.88 | 174,280.00 |



Watershed Management Expense Details

| | <u>Mar 25</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>YTD Budget</u> | <u>Delta</u> | <u>FY Budget</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Watershed Management | | | | | | |
| 500A · Director of Ecology Wage | 5,934.58 | 5,934.59 | 53,411.22 | 53,411.25 | -0.03 | 71,215.00 |
| 502 · Dir. Ecology - Fringe | -184.92 | 1,196.66 | 9,845.46 | 10,770.00 | -924.54 | 14,360.00 |
| 511 · Lake and Stream Monitoring | -3,236.31 | 0.00 | 11,392.69 | 7,600.00 | 3,792.69 | 15,200.00 |
| 512 · E-Coli Bacteria Testing | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3,716.40 | 1,500.00 | 2,216.40 | 3,000.00 |
| 513 · Cynobacteria testing (BG Algae) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 153.23 | 1,000.00 | -846.77 | 2,000.00 |
| 514 · Travel | 0.00 | 250.00 | 1,080.12 | 2,250.00 | -1,169.88 | 3,000.00 |
| 515 · Equipment and Supplies | 0.00 | 200.00 | 1,607.03 | 1,800.00 | -192.97 | 2,500.00 |
| 531 · Professional Development | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2,897.12 | 7,000.00 | -4,102.88 | 7,000.00 |
| 532 · Engineering and Consulting | 0.00 | 83.34 | 0.00 | 750.00 | -750.00 | 1,000.00 |
| 599 · Miscellaneous | 0.00 | 40.00 | 0.00 | 350.00 | -350.00 | 500.00 |
| Total Watershed Management | 2,513.35 | 7,704.59 | 84,103.27 | 86,431.25 | -2,327.98 | 119,775.00 |

Other Income/Expense Details

| | <u>Mar 25</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>YTD Budget</u> | <u>Delta</u> | <u>FY Budget</u> |
|---|---------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Other Income/Expense | | | | | | |
| Other Income | | | | | | |
| 900-21B · DEEP AIS (Lake Steward) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 17,594.00 | 18,000.00 | -406.00 | 18,000.00 |
| Total Other Income | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>17,594.00</u> | <u>18,000.00</u> | <u>-406.00</u> | <u>18,000.00</u> |
| Other Expense | | | | | | |
| 800-21B · DEEP AIS (Lake Steward) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 14,777.00 | 13,500.00 | 1,277.00 | 18,000.00 |
| 80000 · Ask My Accountant | 0.00 | | 49.00 | | 49.00 | |
| Total Other Expense | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>14,826.00</u> | <u>13,500.00</u> | <u>1,326.00</u> | <u>18,000.00</u> |
| Net Other Income / (Other Expense) | <u>0.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> | <u>2,768.00</u> | <u>4,500.00</u> | <u>-1,732.00</u> | <u>0.00</u> |

Capital Summary Status

| Capital Summary for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 | | Available |
|--|------------|-----------|
| Opening Balance as of July 1, 2024 | \$491,824 | \$265,030 |
| Appropriations | | |
| Annual Capital Appropriation | \$100,000 | \$100,000 |
| Capital Planned Expenditures | | |
| Ark Engine (\$15,600 - Jun 2024) | (\$15,600) | |
| Silver Ship Propeller (\$1,750 - Aug 2024) | (\$1,762) | (\$1,762) |
| Modem/Antennaes (\$6,000 - Dec 2024) | | (\$6,000) |
| SS1 Light Bar | (\$1,200) | |
| Total Expenditures | | |
| Closing Balance as of March 31, 2025 | \$573,262 | \$357,268 |

Items in () show amount & when CLA Board approved the expenditure

Balance Sheet Summary & Details

| | Mar 31 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| 1120 · USB Checking -0212 | 963,700.02 |
| 11000 · Accounts Receivable | 49,519.00 |
| Total Current Assets | 1,013,219.02 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 1,013,219.02 |

| | Mar 31 |
|---|-------------------|
| Liabilities | |
| Accounts Payable | |
| 2000 · Accounts Payable | 0.00 |
| Elan Financial Services | |
| 24000 · Payroll Liabilities | 2,606.15 |
| 2500 · Accrued Expenses | 9,820.00 |
| 2700 · Deferred Grant Income | |
| 2700A · DEEP CO2 Grant | 13,418.06 |
| 2700B · Grass Carp | 4,981.00 |
| Total 2700 · Deferred Grant Income | 18,399.06 |
| 700 · Due to/from CapitalProject Fund | 573,261.60 |
| Total Liabilities | 604,086.81 |

| | Mar 31 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Equity | |
| 3200B · Restricted | |
| 3200B 1 · Education Programs | 18,027.19 |
| 3200B 2 · Zebra Mussels | 6,276.00 |
| Total 3200B · Restricted | 24,303.19 |
| 3200D · Assigned | |
| 3200D 1 · HMS Initiatives | 4,883.56 |
| 3200D 2 · Lake Incentives | 17,745.36 |
| 3200D 3 · Buffer Garden | 1,983.77 |
| Total 3200D · Assigned | 24,612.69 |
| 3200E · Unassigned | 196,831.58 |
| Net Income | 163,384.75 |
| Total Equity | 409,132.21 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | 1,013,219.02 |

| Accounts Receivable | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------|--------------------|
| Danbury Appropriation | Inv# 2223 | July | \$31,925.00 |
| DEEP Lake Stewards | Inv# 2227 | Jan | \$17,594.00 |
| Total Accounts Receivable | | | \$49,519.00 |

| Payroll Liabilities | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-----|-------------------|
| Simple IRA | | Feb | \$2,606.15 |
| Total Payroll Liabilities | | | \$2,606.15 |

| Accrued Expenses | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Sinnamon & Associates | \$7,500.00 |
| Website Refresh | \$2,320.00 |
| Total Accrued Expenses | \$9,820.00 |

* *Sinnamon & Associates Audit accrual entry to be reversed for \$7,500*



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

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April 9, 2025
Executive Director
Mark Howarth

Monthly Report

- Neil and I had a conversation with Munson Boats about the science boat that we are planning to have them build for a 2026 launch. We reviewed the current specs and discussed possible changes with them in preparation for the forthcoming design phase, which will likely begin this fall. We are especially looking forward to that phase of the process.
- We applied for several small grants, both for the environmental and public safety sides of our mission and look forward to seeing if we were awarded any of them.
- We have been reviewing and updating a number of forms related to the hiring process for new and returning officers of the Marine Patrol and have asked for attorney input as needed.
- We continue to make progress towards improving the processes we use with regards to our Marine Patrol by utilizing technology to increase efficiency and enhance their ability to operate effectively. We look forward to the anticipated benefits this will bring.
- Neil and I went to the new DEEP Western District Headquarters in Black Rock State Park to meet with employees of the Fisheries Department and learn about the tournament fishing process and invasive species prevention among other related topics. It was a productive conversation and we both learned a lot and shared information and thoughts with them as well. We appreciated the collaborative environment that morning and we look forward to continuing to work with them on behalf of the lake.
- We are preparing for the Annual Candlewood Lake Clean Up again. Thanks to Mark R for taking on the job of organizing this great annual event! We're looking forward to what we hope is some warm, sunny weather on May 17th to reward our many volunteers who are going to be out working hard that day cleaning up trash on the lake.

- We are looking forward to participating in the Sherman Community Expo on May 3rd from 11-3...come by to see us at our booth to talk about the lake!
- We are getting ready for the season and equipping our current patrol vessels for what should be another busy summer on the water. Thanks to Mike for all of his help in getting our boats ready.
- We have done a detailed review and update to our Marine Patrol Policies and Procedures manual. We are currently seeking review for portions of the document from our attorney, prior to its release.
- Neil and I met with the staff of Danbury Park and Rec to discuss their desire to expand their lakeside vegetative buffer. We had a great meeting and covered other topics including the Lake Steward program and their upcoming season plans for the Danbury town park and also what we'll be doing here at the CLA this boating season.



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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

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J. Neil Stalter

Director of Ecology and Environmental Education

Candlewood Lake Authority

Re: April Monthly Report

Date: 4/9/2025

- FirstLight submitted a proposed change to the Nuisance Plant Monitoring plan that involves continuing low-scale monitoring of Candlewood until plants return to instead do yearly monitoring on both Zoar and Lillinonah.
 - While we generally support monitoring Zoar and Lillinonah as much as we can, the way the change is written was concerning, and we still want reasonable monitoring of Candlewood to help catch a potential hydrilla invasion as early as possible and monitor the plants as more grass carp are removed.
 - I've attached my comments in that regard for approval at the board meeting.
- Mark and I traveled to the new DEEP Western District HQ to have a meeting with Fisheries about fishing tournaments on the lake, how they're managed, the sustainability of tournaments for the fishery in Candlewood, and invasive species prevention. It was a very productive conversation, and we appreciate the good relationship we have with them. We'll continue to work with them to make progress in protecting the lake from invasives and supporting sustainable lake management.
- We have signed the bid for the nutrient budget project with GEI and have already had an initial planning and logistics meeting with them to plan the sampling for this year! We're going to get some really interesting and exciting data, and I'm so far very happy with our choice of contractor. I'll be in touch with delegates soon on some potential opportunities to help support the project!
- I've submitted an abstract to NALMS to present again this year, this time on the data trends and lessons learned from the Lake Steward Program over the years!

- The draft Shoreline Management Plan was submitted to FERC by FirstLight with all of their responses to comments from all stakeholders. Nothing too surprising in the submission, and none of their responses warrant continued discussion via FERC from us. The timeline of FERC's probable order modifying and approving the update is unknown, but I suspect it to come later this summer/fall.
- Mark and I had a productive discussion with Munson about the science boat, and possible upgrades/additions/alterations we could make. We're getting very excited about the design process later this year!
- The Lake Steward job postings have been put online, and we have gotten some interest from both old and new stewards. We fortunately have a returning steward interested in the supervisor role, and I'm confident he will do a good job!
 - Let me know if you have any potential folks who might be interested in joining as a steward!
- I have begun the application to have a codified rapid response plan for hydrilla, should it ever be discovered in the lake. DEEP is currently taking a look, and we will work together with them to have it organized and ready to go for this year.
- Mark and I have been discussing the possibility of an Intern this year to help with the nutrient budget project, as well as our normal monitoring and an independent research project. We're currently in the process of developing that position out.
- We have applied for a number of small grant opportunities to help support our project this year, including the nutrient budget project, and hope to get good news for those!
- We met with Danbury Parks & Rec and Brookfield Parks & Rec before the season in preparation, as well as assisted Danbury P&R to help get approval for the improved buffer garden project at the town beach.