



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, October 11, 2023 - 7:00PM via ZOOM

ATTENDING:

P. Schaer
D. Cushnie
M. O'Connor

Sherman
Sherman
Sherman

B. Licht
J. Archer
J. Main

New Fairfield
New Fairfield
New Fairfield (joined 7:07pm)

M. Gaffey
W. Meikle
B. Lohan

Brookfield
Brookfield
Brookfield

C. Robinson
D. Rosemark

Danbury (joined 7:05pm)
Danbury

E. Siergiej

Danbury

S. Kluge
M. Toussaint
J. Wodarski

New Milford
New Milford
New Milford

M. Howarth, Executive Director
N. Stalter, Director of Ecology and Environmental Science
D. Wright, Administrative Coordinator
M. Gasperino, Operations Manager (joined at 7:04pm)
N. Mellas, Chief

Recorder: D. Wright

Guests: 3

Chairman, Marianne Gaffey, called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

CONSENT AGENDA

Marianne Gaffey made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Steve Kluge, all voting in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Bill Lohan)

Bill discussed that the annual audit is underway. The first quarter of the fiscal year has been completed and between higher income and lower expenses, we are about 4% under budget.

Bill Lohan made a motion to approve a total of \$82.64 in expenses for Mr. Kluge for water quality and mileage, seconded by Will Meikle, all voting in favor.

(Michael G. joined)

Martin provided an update on the office move. Currently, the proposed lease is being reviewed. The office space is ready, and the team will take a look at it next week.

(Chris R. joined)

PUBLIC SAFETY (Bill Licht)

Bill Licht mentioned that the PS committee is working on the budget and will present it to the Executive Board in November. He stated that we are working with a software company find a program that works best for CLA and the Marine Patrol and we are looking at potential funding sources. As the season winds down, EnCon will patrol the lake, providing coverage. We are working with DEEP regarding training classes for officers as we are starting the Marine Patrol hiring process for next season.

(Jeff M. joined)

Chief - Nick M. provided an update. He mentioned at their last meeting with EnCon, they stated they would have an officer on the lake five days a week. The weather is getting colder and the days are getting shorter, but we are still seeing a fair amount of activity on the lake, especially on the nicer days. It's been a good season for the Marine Patrol. Nick is working with Mark and Dee on the hiring process for Marine Patrol officers for next season. An ad has been posted on Social Media. We are working with DEEP regarding training. An update on training should be ready in mid-October.

EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES (Doug Cushnie)

Doug stated that we are preparing to take buoys out and the Ark is ready for the job. The Robalo is out of the water, all other boats are still in.

Doug mentioned it was a good season and Mike has done a great job and Mike has completed staining and painting the Sherman base.

Mark T. asked about the new Silver Ships boat and how it performed over the summer and Nick mentioned the boat performed very well.

Marianne asked if New Fairfield took back their boat. Mark will reach out again and follow up with New Fairfield.

PUBLIC AWARENESS (Joan Archer)

Joan stated that the budget and the annual appeal are being worked on. The CLA website has been updated and we will continue to work on that. Dee has been posting regularly on social media which has been well received. Cathy D. had an intern take inventory on past posts to help us work more efficiently.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT (Neil Stalter)

Neil mentioned there are two remaining water quality samplings left for the year. We've been monitoring the plants both in and out of the enclosures. Three of the five enclosures had plant growth, one having abundant low-growing plant growth and two others had less abundant growth. We are getting reports from fisherman and DEEP that milfoil beds have

shown signs of more late-season growth, which is a similar pattern to last year. There were 219 carp removed by DEEP which was around the number expected. We will see what the regrowth looks like at the beginning of next season as a result of these efforts. The CLA plant guide is available on the website and has more detail.

Neil noted that we received the first disbursement from DEEP for the Lake Steward program. The Stewards are done for the season and he is working on year-end report. The program is funded through next year and we will apply for the project to continue.

Mark, Neil and Steve had a productive visit to see the Rutgers University research vessel which is similar to what the CLA is looking to purchase. Rutgers was very enthusiastic about the manufacturer and the quality of the boat. Neil stated they have completed a draft watershed budget and the committee will vote on it. The nutrient budget project, which is important to the Lake Management Plan, is funded through next summer and we will send out for bids on that job.

Mark, Neil and Steve will be attending NALMS, which is in Erie PA, at the end of October.

Steve mentioned the growth of the zebra mussels. Neil stated that it's a growing population and we will continue to monitor the population. We will leverage social media to spread messages about zebra mussels and we will update the CLA website with additional information on the zebra mussels.

Mark provided an update on plans for a 2026 Purpose-built research & Operations Vessel. The vessel will perform a wide range of environmental research and provide additional functionality for operations and public safety.

Marianne mentioned the board elections will happen in December.

Mark T. suggested having guest speakers at the CLA meetings as had been done pre-Covid.

ADJOURN

Mark Toussaint made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Phyllis Schaer, with all voting in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin O'Connor^{DW}

Martin O'Connor, 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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Marianne Gaffey, Chair
Candlewood Lake Authority
October 2023 Monthly Report

Meetings with Municipal Leaders

Mark, Ed S., Chris R. and I met with Mayor Esposito and Jack Knapp last week to review our 2023 In-Season Update. This meeting completes our meetings with municipal leaders, thank you to all the delegates who were able to attend. All the meetings were very positive.

Technology Update for Tablets

We continue to work on obtaining advanced technology to assist the Patrol while on the water.

2024/2025 Budgets

Will, Mark and I are meeting with each Committee to work with them on their budgets for the next fiscal year. Thank you to all the committees for their focus on strategic goals for the next few years and realistic funding requirements. All final committee budgets are due at the end of this month and will be consolidated and presented to the BOD at the November BOD meeting (on Nov 15th).

CLA Appreciation Dinner

This year's dinner is scheduled for Saturday, Nov 4, at the Sail Harbour Club to begin at 5:30PM. All municipal leaders have been invited to join us. Please make sure you sign up for what you would like to bring and if you can help with set-up and/or clean-up. Thank you to Chief Mellas for arranging for the Sail Harbour Club and thank you to Dee for organizing the sign-up.

CLA Vessels

Silver Ships #3 has been ordered with anticipated delivery in Spring of 2025.

Mark and Neil have been researching builders of the proposed Science/Research and Education vessel and made an onsite visit to learn more about the vessel they are considering. Mark and Neil will provide more information at the BOD meeting.

CLAMP Ends the 2024 Summer Season

The Patrol has had a very successful season, many thanks to Chief Mellas and all the officers for a job well done!

Marianne Gaffey
October 11, 2023

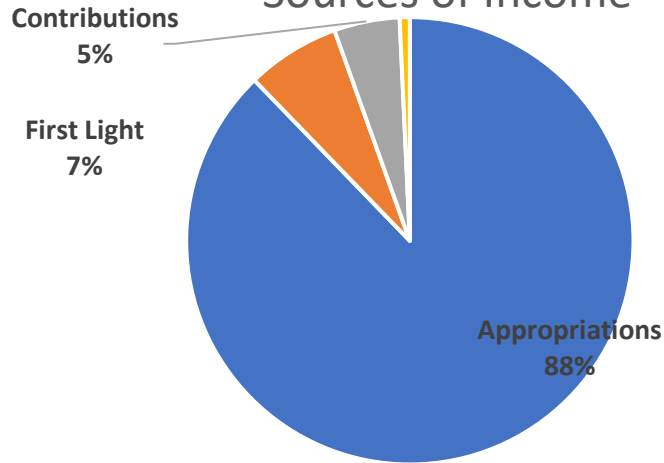
Finance Committee Financial Reporting September 2023



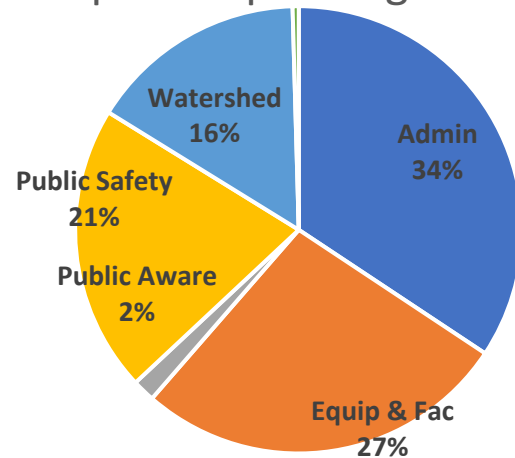
Income & Expense Overview

Results thru September 2023

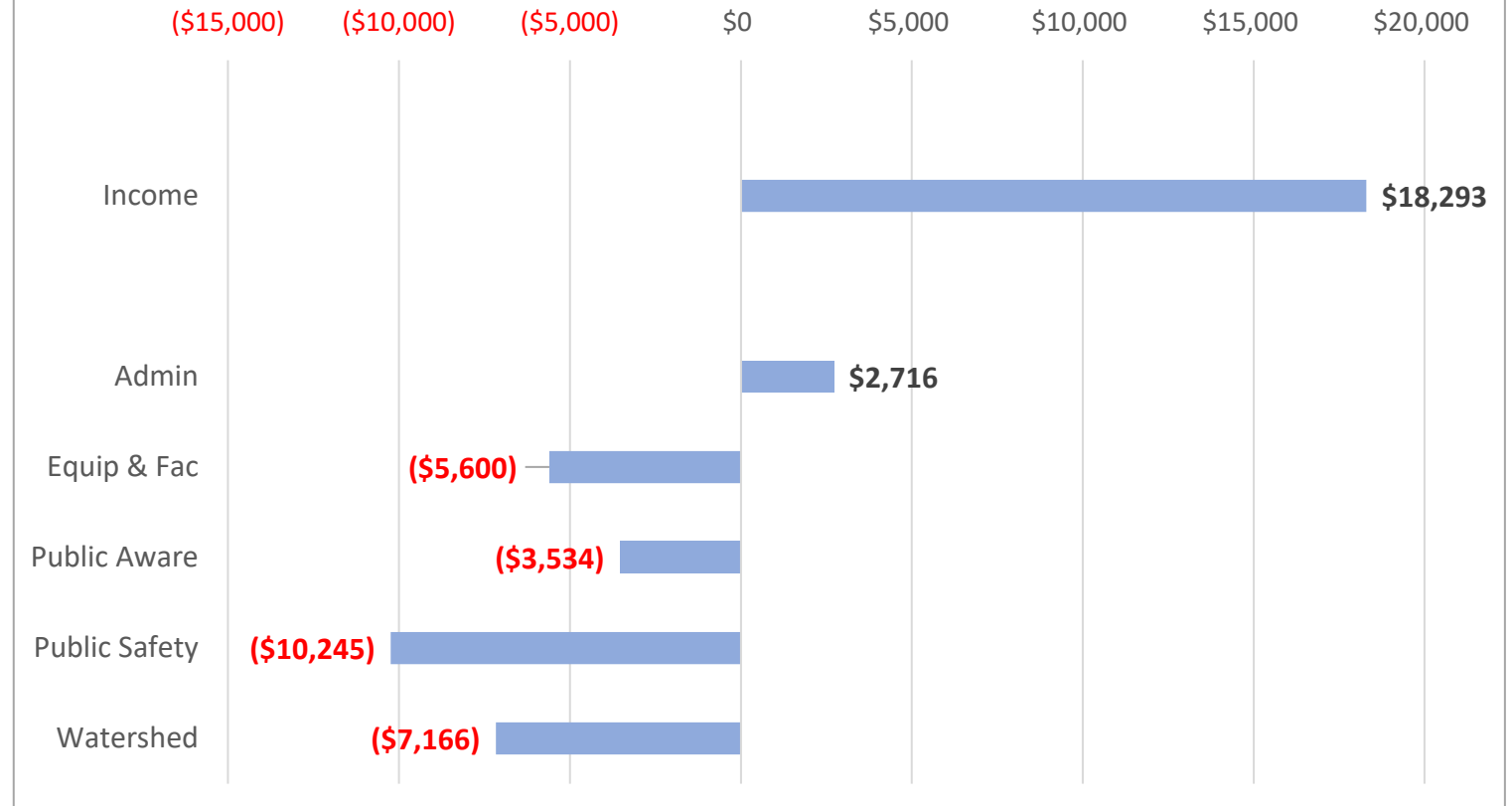
Sources of Income



Expense Spending Profile



Over / (Under) Budget Performance



Operational Income & Expense Summary

Results thru September 2023

YTD September 2023	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	O / (U) YTD Budget	% of YTD Budget	FY Budget	FY Forecast	O / (U) FY Budget	% of FY Budget
Income	\$705,051	\$723,344	\$18,293	103%	\$754,595	\$772,888	\$18,293	102%
Expenses								
Administration	\$62,405	\$65,120	\$2,716	104%	\$256,773	\$259,489	\$2,716	101%
Equipment & Facilities	\$120,055	\$114,455	(\$5,600)	95%	\$179,782	\$174,182	(\$5,600)	97%
Public Awareness	\$3,850	\$315	(\$3,534)	8%	\$17,750	\$14,216	(\$3,534)	80%
Public Safety	\$79,225	\$68,979	(\$10,245)	87%	\$173,134	\$162,889	(\$10,245)	94%
Watershed Management	\$33,399	\$26,233	(\$7,166)	79%	\$132,156	\$124,990	(\$7,166)	95%
Total Expense	\$298,933	\$275,103	(\$23,829)	92%	\$759,595	\$735,766	(\$23,829)	97%
Other Income/Expense (net)	\$1,250	(\$13,166)	(\$14,416)		\$5,000	(\$9,416)	(\$14,416)	
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	\$407,368	\$435,074	\$27,706	-	\$0	\$27,706	\$27,706	-

* Accrual Basis Accounting

Key Drivers of the deltas to Budget



INCOME: Over Budget as Donations and Interest Income are above Budget.



EXPENSES: With the exception of Administration which was a hair over Budget, all other Committees are under Budget YTD. Overall Expenses are below Budget YTD.



ADMINISTRATION: Just over Budget with higher Insurance, Exec Director Wages and Workers Comp. Admin Fringe and Professional Services were under Budget.

EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES: Lower Personnel Wages and Op Manager Fringe Benefits account for the below Budget results.



PUBLIC AWARENESS: All line items well below Budget.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Above Budget Insurance and Boat Maintenance more than offset by lower Lake Patrol Wages and Gas & Oil.



WATERSHED MANAGEMENT: Well below Budget based on Lake & Stream Monitoring.

OTHER INCOME AND EXPENSE: Received DEEP payment for Lake Stewart Program which offsets these expenses.





Governmental Budgetary Summary

Results thru September 2023

	<u>Jul - Sep 23</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense					
Total Income	723,343.86	754,595.00	705,050.64	18,293.22	102.6%
Gross Profit	723,343.86	754,595.00	705,050.64	18,293.22	102.6%
Expense				0.00	0.0%
Total Administration	65,120.05	256,773.00	62,404.53	2,715.52	104.35%
Total Equipment and Facilities	114,455.33	179,782.00	120,055.00	-5,599.67	95.34%
Total Public Awareness	315.47	17,750.00	3,849.67	-3,534.20	8.2%
Total Public Safety	68,979.38	173,134.00	79,224.61	-10,245.23	87.07%
Total Watershed Management	26,233.20	132,156.00	33,399.00	-7,165.80	78.55%
Total Expense	275,103.43	759,595.00	298,932.81	-23,829.38	92.03%
Net Ordinary Income	448,240.43	-5,000.00	406,117.83	42,122.60	110.37%
Other Income/Expense				0.00	0.0%
Other Income				0.00	0.0%
Other Expense				0.00	0.0%
Net Other Income	-13,166.16	5,000.00	1,250.00	-14,416.16	-1,053.29%
Net Income	435,074.27	0.00	407,367.83	27,706.44	106.8%

Committee Details



Income Details

	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Jul - Sep 23</u>	<u>O/U YTD Budget</u>	<u>% of YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>FY Forecast</u>	<u>O/U FY Budget</u>	<u>% of FY Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense								
Income								
901 · Appropriations	653,095.00	653,095.00	0.00	100.0%	653,095.00	653,095.00	0.00	100.00%
902 · Contribution from FirstLight	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	100.0%	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	100.0%
903 · Interest	0.00	11,324.91	-11,324.91	0.0%	0.00	11,324.91	11,324.91	100.0%
912 · Contributions and Donations	1,441.00	7,723.95	-6,282.95	18.66%	35,000.00	41,282.95	6,282.95	117.95%
915 · Sponsorship -programs/activitie	514.64	0.00	514.64	100.0%	12,500.00	11,985.36	-514.64	95.88%
916 · Lake Patrol Services	0.00	1,200.00	-1,200.00	0.0%	2,000.00	3,200.00	1,200.00	160.0%
917 · Buoy Contract	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
Total Income	<u>705,050.64</u>	<u>723,343.86</u>	<u>-18,293.22</u>	<u>97.47%</u>	<u>754,595.00</u>	<u>772,888.22</u>	<u>18,293.22</u>	<u>102.42%</u>
Gross Profit	705,050.64	723,343.86	-18,293.22	97.47%	754,595.00	772,888.22	18,293.22	102.42%



Administration Expense Details

Expense	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Jul - Sep 23</u>	<u>O/U YTD Budget</u>	<u>% of YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>FY Forecast</u>	<u>O/U FY Budget</u>	<u>% of FY Budget</u>
Administration								
100 · Executive Director - Wages	21,491.25	23,400.00	-1,908.75	91.84%	85,965.00	87,873.75	1,908.75	102.22%
101 · SS/Medi/CTUC	8,622.47	9,388.42	-765.95	91.84%	34,490.00	35,255.95	765.95	102.22%
101A · Workers Comp Insurance	1,125.00	2,214.00	-1,089.00	50.81%	4,500.00	5,589.00	1,089.00	124.2%
102 · Exec Dir - Fringe Benefits	3,385.50	1,957.83	1,427.67	172.92%	13,542.00	12,114.33	-1,427.67	89.46%
110 · Admin. Coordinator - Wages	9,757.50	9,960.00	-202.50	97.97%	39,030.00	39,232.50	202.50	100.52%
112 · Admin Cor - Fringe Benefits	3,017.25	3,046.05	-28.80	99.06%	12,069.00	12,097.80	28.80	100.24%
113 · Insurance	2,842.00	5,614.92	-2,772.92	50.62%	11,368.00	14,140.92	2,772.92	124.39%
114 · Telephone	1,125.00	892.71	232.29	126.02%	4,500.00	4,267.71	-232.29	94.84%
115 · Office Supplies	1,474.97	1,226.95	248.02	120.21%	5,900.00	5,651.98	-248.02	95.8%
116 · Postage	250.03	45.03	205.00	555.25%	1,000.00	795.00	-205.00	79.5%
117 · Audit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%	7,500.00	7,500.00	0.00	100.0%
118 · Professional Services	2,665.00	748.05	1,916.95	356.26%	10,315.00	8,398.05	-1,916.95	81.42%
119 · Bank and Service Fees	300.00	99.00	201.00	303.03%	1,200.00	999.00	-201.00	83.25%
121 · Expenses	250.03	82.02	168.01	304.84%	1,000.00	831.99	-168.01	83.2%
122 · Internet Access	300.00	179.96	120.04	166.7%	1,200.00	1,079.96	-120.04	90.0%
124 · Technology Hardware & Services	1,500.00	1,966.61	-466.61	76.27%	6,000.00	6,466.61	466.61	107.78%
161 · Office Rent	4,298.53	4,298.50	0.03	100.0%	17,194.00	17,193.97	-0.03	100.0%
Total Administration	62,404.53	65,120.05	-2,715.52	95.83%	256,773.00	259,488.52	2,715.52	101.06%



Equipment & Facilities Expense Details

	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Jul - Sep 23</u>	<u>O/U YTD Budget</u>	<u>% of YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>FY Forecast</u>	<u>O/U FY Budget</u>	<u>% of FY Budget</u>
Equipment and Facilities								
200 · Personnel - Wages	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	100.0%	3,000.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00	50.0%
210 · Operations Manager - Wages	10,665.00	11,602.52	-937.52	91.92%	43,065.00	44,002.52	937.52	102.18%
212 · Ops Mgr - Fringe Benefits	3,000.00	300.00	2,700.00	1,000.0%	12,217.00	9,517.00	-2,700.00	77.9%
221 · Sherman Base - Repairs/Maint	750.00	571.84	178.16	131.16%	3,000.00	2,821.84	-178.16	94.06%
222 · Utilities - electric	1,125.00	373.27	751.73	301.39%	4,500.00	3,748.27	-751.73	83.3%
223 · Internet and Security Systems	375.00	41.43	333.57	905.14%	1,500.00	1,166.43	-333.57	77.76%
226 · Work Boats	1,500.00	971.02	528.98	154.48%	6,000.00	5,471.02	-528.98	91.18%
227 · Vehicle	900.00	51.25	848.75	1,756.1%	3,500.00	2,651.25	-848.75	75.75%
228 · Dock and Trash Pick Up	240.00	0.00	240.00	100.0%	1,000.00	760.00	-240.00	76.0%
231 · Buoy Maintenance	0.00	544.00	-544.00	0.0%	2,000.00	2,544.00	544.00	127.2%
261 · Capital Replacement Fund	<u>100,000.00</u>	<u>100,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100,000.00</u>	<u>100,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
Total Equipment and Facilities	120,055.00	114,455.33	5,599.67	104.89%	179,782.00	174,182.33	-5,599.67	96.89%



Public Awareness Expense Details

	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Jul - Sep 23</u>	<u>O/U YTD Budget</u>	<u>% of YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>FY Forecast</u>	<u>O/U FY Budget</u>	<u>% of FY Budget</u>
Public Awareness								
413 · School Programs	450.00	0.00	450.00	100.0%	1,000.00	550.00	-450.00	55.0%
414 · Subscription services	999.67	315.47	684.20	316.88%	4,000.00	3,315.80	-684.20	82.9%
415 · Events and Displays	2,400.00	0.00	2,400.00	100.0%	4,000.00	1,600.00	-2,400.00	40.0%
417 · Fundraising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	100.0%
421 · Shoreline Cleanup	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%	3,750.00	3,750.00	0.00	100.0%
Total Public Awareness	<u>3,849.67</u>	<u>315.47</u>	<u>3,534.20</u>	<u>1,220.3%</u>	<u>17,750.00</u>	<u>14,215.80</u>	<u>-3,534.20</u>	<u>80.09%</u>



Public Safety Expense Details

	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Jul - Sep 23</u>	<u>O/U YTD Budget</u>	<u>% of YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>FY Forecast</u>	<u>O/U FY Budget</u>	<u>% of FY Budget</u>
Public Safety								
300 · Lake Patrol Wages	44,092.15	36,345.39	7,746.76	121.31%	64,608.00	56,861.24	-7,746.76	88.01%
301 · CLAMP Chief Salary	10,000.03	10,000.02	0.01	100.0%	40,000.00	39,999.99	-0.01	100.0%
311 · Boat Maintenance and Reimburse	2,190.00	4,385.42	-2,195.42	49.94%	13,250.00	15,445.42	2,195.42	116.57%
312 · Gas and Oil	19,544.68	12,507.58	7,037.10	156.26%	29,160.00	22,122.90	-7,037.10	75.87%
313 · Insurance	2,457.75	4,783.08	-2,325.33	51.38%	9,831.00	12,156.33	2,325.33	123.65%
314 · Training	0.00	140.28	-140.28	0.0%	6,475.00	6,615.28	140.28	102.17%
318 · Miscellaneous	300.00	198.11	101.89	151.43%	1,000.00	898.11	-101.89	89.81%
321 · Radio & Equipment	100.00	180.66	-80.66	55.35%	1,810.00	1,890.66	80.66	104.46%
322 · Uniforms	540.00	0.00	540.00	100.0%	5,000.00	4,460.00	-540.00	89.2%
324 · CLAMP Services - Fireworks	0.00	438.84	-438.84	0.0%	2,000.00	2,438.84	438.84	121.94%
Total Public Safety	79,224.61	68,979.38	10,245.23	114.85%	173,134.00	162,888.77	-10,245.23	94.08%



Watershed Management Expense Details

	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Jul - Sep 23</u>	<u>O/U YTD Budget</u>	<u>% of YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>FY Forecast</u>	<u>O/U FY Budget</u>	<u>% of FY Budget</u>
Watershed Management								
500 · WM - Personnel Wages								
500A · Director of Ecology Wage	17,284.97	17,284.98	-0.01	100.0%	69,140.00	69,140.01	0.01	100.0%
Total 500 · WM - Personnel Wages	17,284.97	17,284.98	-0.01	100.0%	69,140.00	69,140.01	0.01	100.0%
502 · Dir. Ecology - Fringe	3,229.03	1,774.14	1,454.89	182.01%	12,916.00	11,461.11	-1,454.89	88.74%
511 · Lake and Stream Monitoring	9,300.00	3,038.66	6,261.34	306.06%	18,600.00	12,338.66	-6,261.34	66.34%
512 · E-Coli Bacteria Testing	900.00	3,000.00	-2,100.00	30.0%	2,000.00	4,100.00	2,100.00	205.0%
513 · Cynobacteria testing (BG Algae)	900.00	0.00	900.00	100.0%	2,000.00	1,100.00	-900.00	55.0%
514 · Travel	750.00	640.43	109.57	117.11%	3,000.00	2,890.43	-109.57	96.35%
515 · Equipment and Supplies	600.00	494.99	105.01	121.22%	2,500.00	2,394.99	-105.01	95.8%
531 · Professional Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%	5,500.00	5,500.00	0.00	100.0%
532 · Engineering and Consulting	300.00	0.00	300.00	100.0%	16,000.00	15,700.00	-300.00	98.13%
599 · Miscellaneous	135.00	0.00	135.00	100.0%	500.00	365.00	-135.00	73.0%
Total Watershed Management	33,399.00	26,233.20	7,165.80	127.32%	132,156.00	124,990.20	-7,165.80	94.58%



Other (Restricted Grants) Income/Expense Details

	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Jul - Sep 23</u>	<u>O/U YTD Budget</u>	<u>% of YTD Budget</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>FY Forecast</u>	<u>O/U FY Budget</u>	<u>% of FY Budget</u>
Other Income/Expense								
Other Income								
Income Restricted/Grants								
9000 · Contributions - Restrict/Unbugt								
900-14A · CLERC _ Education	1,250.00	0.00	1,250.00	100.0%	5,000.00	3,750.00	-1,250.00	75.0%
Total 9000 · Contributions - Restrict/Unbugt	1,250.00	0.00	1,250.00	100.0%	5,000.00	3,750.00	-1,250.00	75.0%
9200 · Grant Income - Unbudgeted								
900-21B · DEEP AIS (Lake Steward)	13,500.00	8,601.40	4,898.60	156.95%	18,000.00	13,101.40	-4,898.60	72.79%
Total 9200 · Grant Income - Unbudgeted	13,500.00	8,601.40	4,898.60	156.95%	18,000.00	13,101.40	-4,898.60	72.79%
Total Income Restricted/Grants	14,750.00	8,601.40	6,148.60	171.48%	23,000.00	16,851.40	-6,148.60	73.27%
Total Other Income	14,750.00	8,601.40	6,148.60	171.48%	23,000.00	16,851.40	-6,148.60	73.27%
Other Expense								
Expense Restricted/Grants								
8200 · Grants Expense								
800-21B · DEEP AIS (Lake Steward)	13,500.00	14,223.40	-723.40	94.91%	18,000.00	18,723.40	723.40	104.02%
8200 · Grants Expense - Other		6,872.22	-6,872.22	0.0%		6,872.22	6,872.22	100.0%
Total 8200 · Grants Expense	13,500.00	21,095.62	-7,595.62	63.99%	18,000.00	25,595.62	7,595.62	142.2%
8400 · Assigned Expense								
800-20A · HMS Foundation Trust	0.00	671.94	-671.94	0.0%	0.00	671.94	671.94	100.0%
Total 8400 · Assigned Expense	0.00	671.94	-671.94	0.0%	0.00	671.94	671.94	100.0%
Total Expense Restricted/Grants	13,500.00	21,767.56	-8,267.56	62.02%	18,000.00	26,267.56	8,267.56	145.93%
Total Other Expense	13,500.00	21,767.56	-8,267.56	62.02%	18,000.00	26,267.56	8,267.56	145.93%
Net Other Income	1,250.00	-13,166.16	14,416.16	-9.49%	5,000.00	-9,416.16	-14,416.16	-188.32%
Net Income	407,367.83	435,074.27	-27,706.44	93.63%	0.00	27,706.44	27,706.44	100.0%



Capital Summary for Fiscal Year 2023/2024

Capital Summary for Fiscal Year 2023/2024	
Opening Balance as of July 1, 2023	\$387,714
Appropriations	
Appropriations approved by Board - 8/23	\$ 100,000
Appropriations approved by Board - 9/23 - Silver Ships	\$ 250,000
Total Appropriations	\$ 350,000
Capital Approved Expenditures	
Silver Ships	\$ (45,264)
PLACEHOLDER - SILVER SHIPS APP 9.23.23	\$ (250,000)
Total Expenditures	\$ (295,264)
Closing Balance as of June 30, 2024	\$442,450

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



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

October 11, 2023
Executive Director
Mark Howarth

Monthly Report

- Chris, Ed, Marianne and I met with Mayor Esposito and Jack Knapp to discuss the lake. We have now met with all five of our municipal chief elected officials to go over our 2023 in-season update and get input from them. We appreciated being able to meet with everyone this season.
- Neil, Steve and I did a site visit to see the Rutgers University research vessel to learn about their vessel and what they do. It was a very informative meeting and a valuable learning experience.
- We have placed the order for our final purpose-built patrol boat, through Silver Ships. We anticipate delivery in the spring of 2025.
- I am working with the various committees, Will and Marianne to develop FY 24/25 committee budgets this month to be presented next month at the board meeting.
- Neil, Steve and I will be heading to the annual symposium of the North American Lake Management Society. Each year this conference gives us the opportunity to learn the latest lake science from some of the best in the field in North America. We look forward to sharing some of the highlights of what we learn when we return.
- Our Annual Report for FY22/23 as requested by the Town of Sherman is attached at the end of my report. We submitted the report to all five of our municipalities.

- New Milford Fire Prevention Day on Sat 10/7 that we had planned to attend with the Patrol and one of our patrol boats unfortunately it was rained out. We hope to attend next year.
- We are continuing to work with a software company to find a solution for our patrol to be able to more efficiently and effectively work on the water and are going to explore grant opportunities for this project.



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

Preserving and Protecting Candlewood Lake Since 1972

Annual Report

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

During the 2022/2023 fiscal year the CLA focused on addressing public safety challenges on the lake, problem areas and after dark recreational issues. We have worked to understand any environmental changes and impacts on the lake due to the lack of vegetation and the increasing zebra mussel population. We continue to dedicate ourselves to protecting the environmental values of Candlewood Lake and providing a safe recreational environment for all users. The lake is in constant change, both environmentally and recreationally and the CLA is the only agency dedicated to understanding and addressing those changes so that this invaluable natural resource will remain so to the lake municipalities and region, for generations to come.

The CLA has a 15 member board of delegates, an office staff and a Marine Patrol of seasonal officers. The below report contains some highlights from the 2022/2023 fiscal year of the CLA.

Sincerely,
Candlewood Lake Authority

Public Safety and Marine Patrol

The Candlewood Lake Authority Marine Patrol can be found patrolling the waters of Candlewood Lake 7 days a week during the boating season. Over the past year we have been implementing our plan to redirect some of our patrol hours away from less busy times and shift them to peak times during the weekends and especially later into the night to address issues occurring during those periods.

2023 Season Start and Incidents: The weather in 2023 was very different than 2022. While 2022 had been a warm and dry season, 2023 saw less predictable nice weather which impacted some of our shifts as well as activity on the water during the rainy days. Weather-impacted shifts were able to be moved to other peak days and times, to provide an increased presence during those high-volume periods. During the 2023 season, the lake has seen a decline from the unusually high number of serious incidents seen during the 2022 season.



Interactions with the Public: The CLA continued to focus on boater education. This was done via contacts the officers make while on duty. The vast majority of contacts the officers made were educational and did not result in infractions being issued. The Patrol Officers understand that in some cases the only exposure people may have to the Candlewood Lake Authority happens through their interactions. To this end, Patrol Officers often engaged with recreational boaters as stewards of the organization and not in a law enforcement capacity. Officers were often seen distributing safety whistles with emergency contact numbers and Marine Patrol floating key chains to lake users in the interest of good public relations.

Most times, when a stop was made on the water, boaters were educated about the laws and boating safety and a verbal warning may have been issued to the party. There were times, however, that the seriousness of the situation called for an infraction to be issued.

Second Purpose-Built Patrol Boat: The second new patrol vessel from Silver Ships seen in the image on the previous page, which had been delayed a year due to supply chain problems, was nearly complete at the conclusion of this report period, and delivered shortly thereafter. This boat, like the first, provides us with an unmistakable public safety presence that can be seen from a distance. We believe an increased presence helps change behaviors on the lake and improves public safety.

Additionally, this boat was ordered with a Forward Looking InfraRed (FLIR) system that was paid for in bulk by a grant we received. The FLIR will not only aid the CLA Marine Patrol in search and rescue operations, but importantly it will allow our officers to navigate the water in the dark more safely while on night patrols. It will also allow the officers to see boats at night and each person on the vessel with clarity.

Vessel Tows: The CLA Marine Patrol is the main resource vessel operators have in the event of an emergency and is often called upon to tow vessels to safety. While this is not their primary function, the patrol assists operators with vessels having mechanical problems to get to the nearest safe point on shore.

[Water Quality and Ecology](#)

The Candlewood Lake Authority has 40 years of experience and data, researching and understanding the dynamic environment here on the lake. We work to not only understand what is happening with the lake's ecosystem this year, but we want to understand how it is changing over many years and decades to be able to make better management recommendations for the long-term health and future of the lake.

Plant Life:

We have written and posted a document about the plant life in the lake through social media and it can be found on our website. It goes through the details of the history of the plant community on the lake, the current plant loss we're experiencing, and the ultimate goals with management of the plants. There are 5 exclosures (plant protection areas) we installed in 2023 that we are actively monitoring and we are finding evidence of plant growth in some of those areas, as well as in some other unprotected areas in the lake.

Invasive Species:

The CLA Lake Stewards are working on peak boating days to offer voluntary inspections for invasive species to boaters



launching in Candlewood Lake. The Lake Stewards have inspected over 400 boats this summer so far and stopped 5 different invasive species from entering the lake. The program is funded through at least next year from a state DEEP grant.

We are continuing to monitor the change in zebra mussel population in the lake and are finding more adults, but still not enough to constitute a “Nuisance Species”.

We have developed new invasive species signage for the municipal and state boat launches around the lake. This signage was created now that Candlewood has a zebra mussel population. The signage was designed with messaging that we believe is simpler and more effective.

Water Quality:

The CLA has conducted its normal water chemistry monitoring program and has made some equipment upgrades to the probe and sampling apparatus to allow us to do the work more efficiently, and do additional work in-house. During the summer of 2023 the water quality was on the better side of average, with higher clarity and lower blue-green algae numbers. We will be able to compare to past years when the final report is completed at the end of 2023.

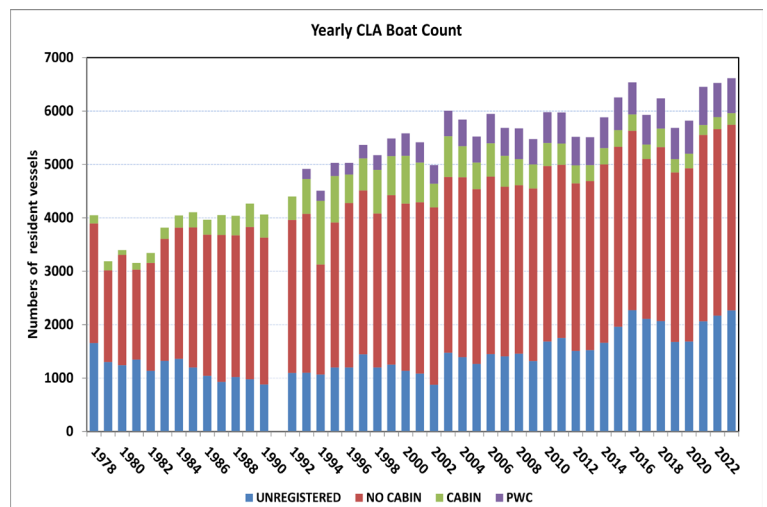
We have a new lab relationship with UCONN doing our lab analysis for 2023, allowing us more flexibility in sample preservation, as well as lower costs.

Beach Testing: The CLA continued working with Western Connecticut State University to help disseminate the results of the weekly blue-green algae testing through our social media channels. We have also continued our relationship with the New Fairfield Senior Center, who for nearly 20 years has been taking water samples at various locations around the lake to be analyzed by the lab for E. coli.

[Public Awareness and Equipment & Facilities](#)

Public Engagement and Education: We have continued our efforts to educate and interact with the public as often as possible. We have continued to speak at events and gatherings and we have increased our social media efforts to regularly push out boating safety messaging as well as messaging about the environment of the lake, including the role the CLA plays in both of those. While social media is the best way to reach most people these days, we realize that it is only one of many ways, so we maintain an informative website and send out electronic newsletters as well.

Buoys and Boats: The CLA operations department has been maintaining the 80-plus hazard, speed and navigation buoys to ensure they are properly located for the boating public. Additionally, we have been updating the Sherman Base by replacing rotting exterior boards and applying a fresh coat of paint to the building. We maintain our fleet of boats used for patrol, science and operations work on the lake. We also conducted our annual boat count of all of the resident boats on the lake as we have been doing for over 40 years.



Candlewood Lake Authority Staff

Mark Howarth - Executive Director

Nick Mellas - Marine Patrol Chief

Neil Stalter - Director of Ecology

Dee Wright - Administrative Coordinator

Michael Gasperino - Operations Manager

Candlewood Lake Authority Board of Delegates

Brookfield

Marianne Gaffey - Chair

Bill Lohan - Treasurer

Will Miekle

New Milford

Steve Kluge

Mark Toussaint

Joe Wodarski

Danbury

Chris Robinson

Dan Rosemark

Ed Siergiej

Sherman

Doug Cushnie

Martin O'Connor - Secretary

Phyllis Schaer

New Fairfield

Joan Archer - Vice Chair

Bill Licht

Jeff Main



CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY

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J. Neil Stalter

Director of Ecology and Environmental Education

Candlewood Lake Authority

Re: October Monthly Report

Date: 10/11/2023

- We have 2 more remaining water quality monitoring samplings left for this year! Anecdotally, this year has been a good water quality year, with high clarity measurements and relatively low algae levels. A more direct comparison will be done when we receive all the results from the lab, and I can begin the year-end report.
- While there is still very little plant material in the lake, we have begun to see some modest regrowth in the fall, similar to last year. This includes 3 of the 5 exclosures containing plant material, mostly eelgrass and the low-growing mudmat, with a few examples of milfoil, as well as modest milfoil bed regrowth in the areas of Allen's Cove and Hollywyle.
 - After all carp removals, the CT DEEP has removed a total of 219 grass carp this year from all sources. This is roughly around the amount that they were hoping/expecting and exemplified that electrofishing removals work relatively well for small step-wise removals.
 - We will be having multiple meetings with DEEP over this off-season to plan for continued management and balance of the plants so that we can get some regrowth hopefully without going to a state of overabundance again.



- The plant management guide on the website has more information on the technical details of the change and where we go from here.
- I have begun work on the Lake Steward final report, which will include information from both last year and this year, as well as discussing trends from the past 3 years of monitoring and inspections. In total this year the stewards inspected roughly 700 boats, bringing the three year total of inspections to over 2000!
 - The program is funded through next year, and we look forward to continuing our invasive species inspections at the launches!
- We had an excellent visit of the research visit at Rutgers, which is similar, if a little larger, than the one we will be pursuing for research and ops for the CLA. We learned a lot about the manufacturer and different things to consider during ordering and building.
- We are seeing a lot more growth of zebra mussels on boats and buoys this year than in the past, unfortunately indicating a self-sustaining and growing population in the lake. We posted on our social media warning homeowners and will likely include a notification in a newsletter to send out soon.
- We are working on a new budget for the 2024/25 watershed committee, which will be discussed and finalized at the meeting on the 18th.
- We have begun looking for vendors for the nutrient budget project, a key part of the lake management plan, to aid us in sampling next year. We have saved money in the budget for this project, and the UCONN lab is the perfect place for the samples to be analyzed.
- We will be at NALMS in Erie PA during the week of Oct. 23. This will be the first year I am attending as a Certified Lake Manager (CLM) and I was recently asked to potentially be a Subject Matter Expert on a few lake management topics for NALMS, which they will be hopefully confirming at a meeting that week.