

## 5 TOWN DAM COMMITTEE MEETING

August 27, 2024

Bucksport Town Office

Meeting Summary

### Attendees

Sue Lessard - Bucksport

Steve Bishop - Bucksport

James Wootten - Blue Hill

Mary Allen - Surry

Gina Bushong - Orland

Tad VanLeer - Alamoosook Lake

Chris Closs - Toddy Pond

Brian Smith, Toddy Pond

- To date, Bucksport Mill LLC/ AIM Demolition has not refiled its petition to DEP. If and when they do refile it is unlikely that DEP will impose the additional data requirements that we outlined in our request to the state.
- Bucksport has drafted an emergency moratorium on the transfer, abandonment, removal, or unregulated release of impounded waters or dams, and a draft ordinance to address that topic. It in many ways mirrors the state but has a lot more requirements and focuses on safety and economic concerns in contrast to the State statute which focuses on the environmental aspects. The Bucksport Town Council is meeting on Tuesday, August 27th at 6 p.m. to enact this emergency moratorium. Orland is actively considering taking the same steps however the Town has a different type of governing structure and the process would take significantly more time.
- Data Collection Efforts - As decided at our last meeting, we are actively compiling economic and environmental data to document the impacts of draining the lakes. Outreach is ongoing to:
  - Mitchell Center - the economic value of the lakes
  - Maine Office of Tourism
  - Hancock County Planning Commission
  - Local business owners connected to the lakes (employment and economic data)
  - The Shaw Institute was added to the outreach effort - James will contact them
- Convening Resource Group - It was decided to convene a group of local organizations to assist with data collection and strategic planning. The initial meeting will include GPMCT, DSF, Craig Brook Hatchery, BHHT, HCSWCD, HCPC, Maine Water, and Jera. The meeting will be held September 18th at 3:30 in Bucksport. Invitation to follow shortly.
- Due to scheduling conflicts, our standing meeting will be changed to every other Wednesday at 3:30 beginning on September 11th.