**Local Midland County Commissioners**

**www.RestoreTheLakes.org**

The purpose of this guide is to provide contact information for key elected officials. While their email addresses are included, please also consider sending your written comments in a letter format via US Mail. There is something about a letter that helps emphasis your message.

You can do both, email your thoughts and then mail a letter with them as well. A stamp cost 55 cents and is a powerful means to be heard. A book of stamps is $11 and enough to mail 20 letters.

To write your letter, start from a place in your heart, share a memory or a story. Then ask for their assistance to secure financial support to restore the lakes. We provide suggested key points for your letter to help you frame your thoughts. While we each think about “our lake”, **the government views this as the Tittabawassee water system (be sure to reference this into your request for restoration help). In the subject line please type: RESTORE THE LAKES**

There is a sample letters available below for your review and consideration.

You can revise these to make them your own. Note: If you live in Gladwin County, please write the Gladwin Commissioners / if you live in Midland County, those Commissioners are included for your use.

Thanks for taking time to write and mail your letters. You can help restore the lakes; restore property values; restore the local economy and keep the lakes alive for generations to come.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **GLADWIN COUNTY BOARD of COMMISSIONS** | **Suggested Key Points of Your Letter** |
| **Mailing Address for all:**401 W Cedar Ave #8, Gladwin, MI 48624**Kyle Grove District #1**Butman, Clement, Gladwin & Sherman Townshipskgrove@gladwincounty-mi.gov**Ron Taylor District #2**Sage Township & Gladwin City**989.426.4367**rtaylor@gladwincounty-mi.gov**Michael Szuch District #3**Bourret, Billings, Bentley, Grim and Secord Townshipsmszuch@gladwincounty-mi.gov**Karen Moore District #4**Buckeye, Hay & Tobacco Townshipskmoore@gladwincounty-mi.gov**Rick Grove District #5**Beaverton City, Beaverton & Grout Townships**989.239.5314**rgrove@gladwincounty-mi.gov | * The May 2020 failure of the mid-Michigan dams was caused by the failure of federal regulators to hold a private dam owner in compliance.
* Is not fair to hold property owners, who did nothing wrong, with footing the entire bill to restore the lakes.
* While a local special assessment may be necessary to help restore the lakes, I am also writing letters to seek state and federal assistance.
* I support the FLTF plan to restore the lakes. This is the ONLY plan. No one has put forth a Plan B to restore the lakes. I seek your support of the FLTF plan.
* Doing nothing is NOT AN OPTION. To keep the local economy, property values and tax base in place, the lakes must be restored.
* Restoring the Lakes will restore the local economy, restore property values, keep the local tax base from collapse and create jobs for our area.
* We need your help to secure state and federal funds.
* What can I do to help you secure funding?
 |
| **MIDLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** | **Suggested Key Points of Your Letter** |
| **Jeanette M. Snyder District #1**City of Coleman, Edenville, Geneva & Jerome Twps, Village of Sanford & Warren Township4740 N. Anna LaneSanford, MI 48657Bd. Office 989.832.6381 Cell 989.430.1020jsnyder@co.midland.mi.us**Mark Bone District #2**Hope, Larkin, Lincoln & Mills Townships3644 Coyote Ridge CircleMidland, MI 48642Bd. Office 989.832.6382 Work 989.631.3511mbone@co.midland.mi.us**Steve Glaser District #3**Greendale, Homer, Jasper, Lee & Porter Townships1186 Meadowlark LaneMidland, MI 48640Bd. Office 989.832.6383Home 989.832.4417 Cell 989.264.4933sglaser@co.midland.mi.us**Gaye Terwillegar District #4**City of Midland, Ingersoll, Midland & Mount Haley Township2636 Freeland RdFreeland, MI 48623Bd. Office 989.832.6386 Cell 989.430.5507gterwillegar@co.midland.mi.us**James Geisler District #5**City of Midland5813 Sturgeon Ave.Midland, MI 48640Bd. Office 989.832.6387 Work 989.839.7117jgeisler@co.midland.mi.us**Eric A. Dorrien District #6**City of Midland3207 Dawn DriveMidland MI 48642Bd. Office 989.832.6388Home 989.615.1982 Cell: 989.948.3654edorrien@midland.mi.us**Scott Noesen District #7**City of Midland2006 Eastman AvenueMidland MI 48640Bd. Office 989.832.6389 Home 989.839.9765snoesen@co.midland.mi.us | * The May 2020 failure of the mid-Michigan dams was caused by the failure of federal regulators to hold a private dam owner in compliance.
* Is not fair to hold property owners, who did nothing wrong, with footing the entire bill to restore the lakes.
* While a local special assessment may be necessary to help restore the lakes, I am also writing letters to seek state and federal assistance.
* I support the FLTF plan to restore the lakes. This is the ONLY plan. No one has put forth a Plan B to restore the lakes. I seek your support of the FLTF plan.
* Doing nothing is NOT AN OPTION. To keep the local economy, property values and tax base in place, the lakes must be restored.
* Restoring the Lakes will restore the local economy, restore property values, keep the local tax base from collapse and create jobs for our area.
* We need your help to secure state and federal funds.
* What can I do to help you secure funding?
 |

Thanks for your support. Please send us a copy of the letters send to RestoreTheLakes@gmail.com We want to keep track of letters and will post some of the best ones we receive for others to see.

Board of Commissioners

County Services Building

220 W. Ellsworth

Midland, Michigan 48640

Re: RESTORE MID-MICHIGAN LAKES

Dear Commissioner [NAME]:

As a property owner on or around Sanford Lake, I am writing to express my **SUPPORT for restoring the lakes**. The plan of the Four Lakes Task Force (FLTF) as the Delegated Authority is the best path forward and has my support. Speaking for myself and my neighbors, **we want our lakes back!**

**We greatly appreciate what the Midland County Commissioners have done so far with lake restoration efforts. It cannot have been easy.**

With the special assessment being pushed back a year, this allows more time to secure additional funding from other sources to alleviate some of the financial burden on property owners and local government. **My friends and I are also writing letters to our State and Federal Representatives seeking financial support for the FLTF plan.** We want to help you, as our local official, to Restore The Lakes.

**The recent announcement of bipartisan bills within the Michigan State Legislature to provide significant funding to rebuild our dams offers encouragement. You have my commitment to write letters to key legislators over the summer to move this through Committee, to the floor for a passing vote in both the House and Senate, then to the Governor’s desk for approval. Passage of these bills, with significant funding to Restore The Lakes will reduce the financial burden on property owners. This is good for all of us.**

My family and friends enjoy coming to the lake to take advantage of all the area has to offer including the local restaurants, shops, and businesses. The restoration of the lakes is good for our property values, the local economy, and the environment.

We do not want anything to slow the progress of restoring our lakes. We ask for your SUPPORT of the FLTF plan forward. There is no other viable alternative.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]

[PROPERTY ADDRESS]

[CITY, STATE, ZIP]