



**LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN**  
**OFFICE OF THE DRAIN COMMISSIONER**

2300 E. Grand River Ave, Suite 105, Howell MI 48843  
Phone 517-546-0040 Fax 517-545-9658  
Web Site: <https://milivcounty.gov/drain/>

## Memorandum

**To: Livingston County Board of Commissioners**

**From: Mitch Dempsey, Environmental Projects Manager**  
**Ken Recker, Chief Deputy Drain Commissioner**

**Date: 02/21/2025**

**Re: Resolution Approving the Special Assessment Roll and Project Costs for Repairs to the Portage Baseline Lake Dam**  
**Resolution Pledging Full Faith and Credit for the Portage Baseline Lake Level Assessment District, 2025 Lake Level Bonds**

---

Honorable Commissioners:

The attached resolutions approve the special assessment roll and project costs for repairs to the Portage Baseline Lake Dam. After an engineering inspection of the structure noting deficiencies occurred on June 20, 2023, the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner in coordination with our office have been involved with completing required repairs of the Portage Baseline Lake Dam located within Dexter Township in Washtenaw County. The proposed repairs involve replacement of the radial control gates, upgrades to the safety system, fixing the concrete retaining walls, and upgrading monitoring equipment. While several statutory requirements for the repair have already been completed, approval of the special assessment roll and computation of costs by the Livingston County Board of Commissioners is needed pursuant to Part 307 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act.

The cost of repairs is assessed to the Portage and Baseline Lake Level Special Assessment District which includes properties in both Livingston and Washtenaw Counties. On February 6, 2025, the Livingston County Drain Commissioner's Office and Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner's Office held a public hearing at Hamburg Township Hall to review the Portage Baseline Lake Level special assessment roll and project costs. The hearing was held to provide property owners in the Portage Baseline Lake Level Special Assessment District an opportunity to review, comment, and potentially protest their proposed assessment and the cost of the repair project. Following public comment during the hearing, the Livingston County Drain Commissioner and Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner have tentatively

approved a special assessment roll for their respective County and the computation of costs presented for the Portage Baseline Lake Level District.

Approval of the attached resolutions by the Livingston County Board of Commissioners would authorize the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner's Office as the delegated authority to secure financing and proceed with required repairs to the dam in coordination with the Livingston County Drain Commissioner's Office. It also finalizes the special assessment roll, and the assessments listed unless appealed in a court within 15 days of the resolution adoption. Please note that the assessments shown are totals and are proposed to be spread over 8 years.

We respectfully request passage of the attached resolutions.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact us.

Enclosures:

Portage Baseline Lake Level Special Assessment District Map

Project Computation of Costs

Minutes of February 6, 2025, Public Hearing

Portage Baseline Lake Level Special Assessment Roll for Repair Project

Assessment Roll Modification Exhibit

2025 Portage Baseline Engineering Plans