

# Gladwin County Commissioners

[www.RestoreTheLakes.org](http://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 emphasize your message.

You can do both, email your thoughts and then mail a letter to 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 email or letter, start from a place in your heart, share a memory or a story. Then ask for their 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 email / letter available on page 2 for your review and consideration. You can revise it to make it your own.

Thanks for taking time to write and email / 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 COMMISSIONERS	Suggested Key Points of Your Letter
<p data-bbox="215 953 698 1018"><b>Mailing Address for all:</b> 401 W Cedar Ave #8, Gladwin, MI 48624</p> <p data-bbox="110 1060 698 1161"><b>Kyle Grove District #1</b> Butman, Clement, Gladwin &amp; Sherman Townships <a href="mailto:kgrove@gladwincounty-mi.gov">kgrove@gladwincounty-mi.gov</a></p> <p data-bbox="110 1203 479 1339"><b>Ron Taylor District #2</b> Sage Township &amp; Gladwin City 989.426.4367 <a href="mailto:rtaylor@gladwincounty-mi.gov">rtaylor@gladwincounty-mi.gov</a></p> <p data-bbox="110 1381 722 1482"><b>Michael Szuch District #3</b> Bourret, Billings, Bentley, Grim &amp; Secord Townships <a href="mailto:mszuch@gladwincounty-mi.gov">mszuch@gladwincounty-mi.gov</a></p> <p data-bbox="110 1524 535 1625"><b>Karen Moore District #4</b> Buckeye, Hay &amp; Tobacco Townships <a href="mailto:kmoore@gladwincounty-mi.gov">kmoore@gladwincounty-mi.gov</a></p> <p data-bbox="110 1667 657 1803"><b>Rick Grove District #5</b> Beaverton City, Beaverton &amp; Grout Townships 989.239.5314 <a href="mailto:rgrove@gladwincounty-mi.gov">rgrove@gladwincounty-mi.gov</a></p>	<ul data-bbox="824 953 1510 1803" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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.</li><li>• Is not fair to hold property owners, who did nothing wrong, with footing the entire bill to restore the lakes.</li><li>• While a local special assessment may be necessary to help restore the lakes, I am also writing letters to seek state and federal assistance.</li><li>• 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.</li><li>• Doing nothing is NOT AN OPTION. To keep the local economy, property values and tax base in place, the lakes must be restored.</li><li>• Restoring the Lakes will restore the local economy, restore property values, keep the local tax base from collapse and create jobs for our area.</li><li>• We need your help to secure state and federal funds.</li><li>• What can I do to help you secure funding?</li></ul>

[DATE]

Re: RESTORE THE LAKES

Dear Commissioner [NAME]:

As a property owner and taxpayer, 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!**

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.

Great progress has already been made by the FLTF on behalf of the lakes. In less than one year, they have raised more than \$52 Million with \$5 Million from private donations. This money has helped with the clean-up and stabilization of the dams and is expected to be enough to fund the engineering and design studies required for all 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 to 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, the environment, and our well-being.

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]

[LAKE PROPERTY ADDRESS]

[CITY, STATE, ZIP]