

**Town of Nelson  
Selectmen's Meeting  
3:00 PM**

March 4, 2026

Executive Board Attending: Brenna Kucinski, Mike Blaudschun, Don Carlisle, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others attending: B. Dunn, R. Thomas, M. Tarr, J. Cucchi,

*Absent:*

Brenna called the March 4, 2026 meeting of the Nelson Select Board to order at 3:04 PM.

● B. Dunn came before the Board to present concerns regarding the school bussing schedule that is causing late arrivals for the Nelson Students attending school at the Keene Middle and High schools. It is his understanding that two children (Non-residents) are being picked up in Nelson and delivered to their school ahead of the Middle and High school students. This arrangement for non-resident students is causing stressful late arrivals for all of Nelson's Middle and High school students. He has reported his concern to the School Board Chair and is awaiting further discussion of the matter. He is concerned that non-residents are having such an impact on so many Nelson resident students. The Board was unable to offer any concrete solution as this is a matter to be addressed with the School Board and perhaps the bussing company. Sometimes these situations occur as a result of court involvement or custody circumstances that are not public information and therefore those effected may not receive a fully satisfactory explanation. Dunn will reach out again to the School Board.

● Mike made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for February 25, 2026 as amended to correct the dates.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● Mike made a motion to approve the manifest for March 4, 2026 as presented.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● Mike made a motion to approve the Report of Cut and Timber Certification for E. Levy.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

Edie reported that this was the final timber cut for the 2025-2026 tax year and this was the first time that every Report of Cut for the year was received on time.

● The Board reviewed an email from T. Buttrick regarding his concern that political posters placed around town may not be in accordance with election requirements. This had also been reported to the Town Clerk and to state election officials. While the state ruling was that the signs must be removed, all agreed that the law as written is confusing and unclear.

● J. Cucchi came before the Board to present a potential re-routing of the road over the Granite Lake Dam. Weight was part of the concern presented as large logging trucks are regularly traveling back and forth over this roadway when entering a logging operation in Stoddard. The plan presented by Cucchi is attached as follows:

## Granite Lake Dam Problem

- Granite Lake now high impact lake rating - DES imposing 1,000 Year Storm dam requirements
- Costs to Town?
- RSA 231:191 regarding immediate weight limitations to stop Stoddard Logging operations from destroying our West Shore Road. Both Plans A&B are protection solutions for dam, and one for the both dam & culvert.
- Protects the future of the dam and its cost to maintain, or replace, as the DES seems to want now.

### Plan A - Solution 1

- Covered Dam/Bridge – Protecting dam using Cucchi/Pepin properties as fee owners of road easements location.
- Bensonwood deal/loved idea of project & offered free 15 employees/students, Cucchi house them 2 weeks/Pay for 2 weeks teachers.
- Raise money for materials/Wood etc. GRANY+TS AVAILABLE per NHDES.
- Use Cucchi properties for lumbering cuts.
- Dam's road easement remains, but 6-ton limitation insurance with restricted travel thru bridge height.
- Cucchi donate section of land from Mill Site/Approved by Nelson Road Agents & District IV as they like "T" intersections, which are the only acceptable intersection this day & age.
- Granite Lake intersection MARKED on SVE Survey plans A & B.
- "Y" Intersection to Newcomb, McAllister & Mackey properties closed - privatized entrance for those homes.
- Cucchi easements for Fire Trucks/water/Internet & Phone Easement on Cucchi property.

### Plan B - Solution 2 – AVOIDS WEIGHT PROBLEMS on BOTH DAM & CULVERT

- Cucchi & Pepin to donate parcels for new road layout. (SVE Survey)
- Diverts traffic weight problems to avoid areas.
- Reroutes Granite Lake's entrance to "T" intersection using Mill Site property section, then up Old Town Road, then West shore connect back to this through Pepin's property.
- Closes Granite Lake original entrance/Cucchi allows legal easements (Verizon/ Internet/Phones & Fire Trucks/water access)
- Deflects weight completely by redirecting vehicles avoiding the dam and West Shore culvert. DES has thoughts about best practices and agrees with both layouts.
- Replacing dam is extremely expensive. Granite Lake is now a high hazard lake. Even with these solutions the DES will change the rating of the lake, but we may be able to design dam repairs and fixes at a much lower cost.
- Money FUNDS are available per DES.

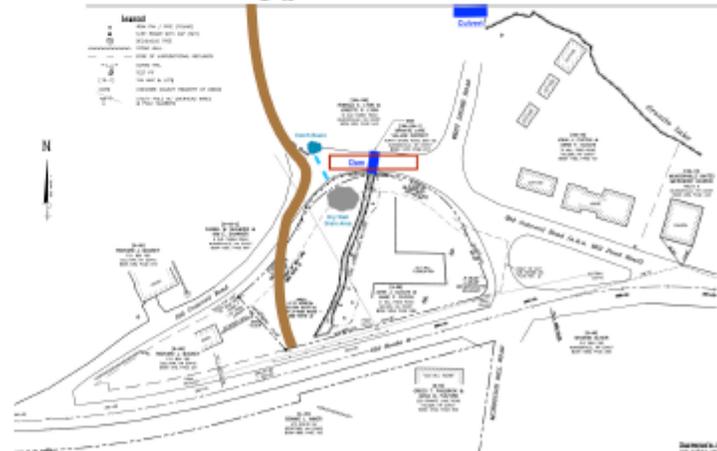
### Plan A - Covered Dam

Restricting 6-ton height limitations



### Plan B - Rerouting

Rerouting (protect both Dam & Culvert)









[Bonnie Minor's House \(Lumbervard\)](#)



## Old Stoddard Road (presently West Shore Road)

**Ron Lyon dock blocking culvert during 2006 flood storm.**



**Flooded Mill Pond.**



**Flooding "Mill Sight" property.**





Logging trucks to Stoddard (4 a day)

- While the proposed plan may improve the flow of traffic and be esthetically pleasing to the area, the work would not change the current status of the State's listed condition of the dam itself and the town would be responsible for the cost of the road that, by itself, may not offer a real solution to the overall problems with the dam. M. Tarr could not confirm that the current traffic is a substantial cause of the erosion to the dam. Further discussion will continue with the Granite Lake Village District, the Dam Commissioners, as well as abutters to the dam and proposed work areas, before any decisions are made.
- On another matter, M. Tarr reported that he spoke to the State engineer at DOT and they will plan a site visit of the Bailey Brook Bridge in the Spring to evaluate and make possible recommendations.
- M. Tarr also reported that the Peterbilt truck repairs are continuing and it remains out of service.
- The Select Board received a letter from J. Alexander expressing concern over "ICE" training for the police department and requested that the Selectmen state their opinion. While training in general can provide an additional layer of safety for both officers and residents, the Select Board will ask the Police Chief his thoughts on this training for Nelson.
- The Selectmen agreed to meet next week on Tuesday at 3:00 PM in the Library while they are covering their required attendance at the Town elections. No meeting will be held on Wednesday.
- Health Trust reported an improved dental option with no deductible at a cost difference of between 68 cents for a single person and \$1.60 per month for a family plan. Brenna made a motion to approve the new dental option.  
Mike seconded.  
The motion carried 3-0.
- The Board finished with a review of each Selectmen's presentation of articles at Town Meeting.

● With nothing further Brenna made a motion to adjourn.

Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned 4:52 PM

Next regular meeting March 10, 2026 at 3:00 PM in the Library  
during Town Elections

Minutes for March 4, 2026

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Brenna Kucinski, Chair

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Michael Blaudschun, Selectman

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Don Carlisle, Selectman