

MEETING WITH DNR April 23, 2026 3PM near the Mill Pond

Attendees: Ryan Pichler DNR, Forrest VanAsten DNR, Mark Schraufnaegel DNR, Cody from Alliant Energy, Dan Biggers of Alliant Energy, Hunter Hoffmann Shawano Co. Hwy. Dept., Scott Breitrack contractor, Sean Shumaker Town of Pella Supervisor and dam operator, Gary Thomack Town Chairman, Ken Genskow Town Supervisor, Tammy Adams Town Treasurer, Max and Roy Kleisch Powerhouse Lessee. Town residents: Mike Mai, Jeff Machmueller, Frant Zeinert, Rick Briske, Dotty Nolan, Larry & Dawn Bretzel, Brian Westfahl, Michelle Olson, PJ Courchaine, Pete Kucksdorf and Clerk Karen Habeck.

Purpose of the meeting: For the DNR representatives to speak with all that were involved with the flooding on April 13th, 2026 of the Pella Pond, Pella Mill Pond, hydroelectric building and the spillway that led to a large breach near the powerhouse and dry hydrant building. And for them to get a timeline of what went down when, and who was contacted about the emergency.

Anyone who may have taken pictures of anything that was going on at the time is asked to email them to: Ryan.Pichler@wisconsin.gov.

Going forward, the DNR will assess all the information taken at the meeting from all who were involved in the crisis situation and resolving the issues.....**a DNR approved engineer will need to be hired by the Town to set up a plan to fix the large breach near the hydrant building.** As the power needed to be cut to make sure the power pole did not tip into the breached area; it was found that caused the power to be cut off to the large shelter in the Park and bathrooms. Alliant Energy is working with the DNR to get power restored to the Park, even if it may be temporary....there are several reservations of the large shelter coming in the next couple of weeks. Power is needed to hook up water to the bathrooms and the large shelter.

More information will be forthcoming about the DNR's recommendation to move forward.