August 2015 - The township is informed that water is flowing through a pipe in the upper lakes dam. The fact is that water has flowed through that pipe for years, though at a much lower rate than it is currently. The upper Ice Lakes water level falls.

August, 2015 - Township Supervisors, Engineer, Chief are alerted of lowering lake level and investigate the issue. DEP is contacted and consultations begin.

September/October, 2015 - Township Engineer creates an investigation, as required by DEP, resulting in 3 options to lower lake level and affix a valve to the existing pipe. These three options are shared with DEP.

November/December, 2015 - Township Supervisors and Secretary take the investigation document and utilize it for the basis of an application for an LSA (Gaming Funds) grant from DCED to provide funding for affixing a valve to the pipe.

January-July, 2016 - Township awaits grant application response. Any funds expended during this period on the project will not be reimbursable from the grant if awarded. Such expenses would be borne by all Township taxpayers.

July 1, 2016 - Secretary receives verbal notification of award.

July 18, 2016 - Township receives formal notification of award.

July - August, 2016 - Township Engineer pulls DEP permit and reviews deliverables. Township Engineer re-engages DEP in discussions of the project and refers to 4th Quarter, 2015 discussions. DEP prefers the siphoning option, not using a coffer dam. DEP concludes that a full permit is unnecessary and that a Letter of Authorization is appropriate. Township Supervisor, Secretary and Engineer prepare to meet DEP personnel to review siphoning proposal to lower lake lever and install valve. DEP personnel cancels meeting due to death in the family. Rescheduling meeting commences.

August, 2016 - non-township resident makes phone call to the office to complain about level of the lake.

August 15, 2016 - same non-township resident makes phone call to the office to complain about level of the lake, condition of the roads, accuses Supervisors of theft; employees of dereliction of duty, makes statements about conditions at the lake, the floating dock and pavilion that are not factual, and announces that he has called WBRE to investigate the matter. Days later, Township worker is stopped by DEP employee at the lower Ice Lakes dam on Henry Dr. who is deployed under emergency due to an anonymous phone call reporting a breach in the dam. No such breach exists. Unhappy DEP employee.

August 23, 2016 - Township Secretary receives call from WBRE reporter that they want to meet that day to do an update on last year's story about the dam. Township Supervisor, Chief of Police and Secretary meet with WBRE camera team at upper Ice Lakes dam to be interviewed about the pipe. Story has yet to be aired.

September 2, 2016 - Township Engineer and Secretary meet with DEP Representative Kirk Krieder at upper Ice Lakes dam. Krieder inspects dam, walking one end to the other, and inspects spillway and downstream course to the lower lake. His conclusions are that 1.) the dam is in violation of section 105 of Commonwealth law which requires that dams have the provision to dewater the lake in an emergency; that the trees at the northern end of should be removed (that we should ask the private land owners for permission to do that); that the downstream water course to the lower lake should be cleared of all vegetation and debris (without any concern for affected wildlife); that the several seepage points within the masonry spillway should be fixed; that otherwise the dam was in good shape; that the Township must apply for a Letter of Amendment (LOA)(much easier than a whole new dam permit) in order to specify the plan to retrofit the dam to meet section 105. He reviewed the LOA checklist and removed several as unnecessary. When I asked why we were just hearing this now after their involvement in the whole process Krieder replied that he had told Andy...that the lake would have to be dewatered. I can find no evidence of that or any reference to Section 105.

September 9, 2016 - Township Engineer and Secretary write and distribute written report on September 2, 2016 meeting with Kirk Krieder.

September 21, 2016 - Township receives reply from DEP engineer that Pasonick's emergency dewatering calculations using the 14" pipe and sluice meets the standards in section 105.96, assuming that the sluice can be located and made operational. The alternative is to bore a 24" hole through the bottom of the spillway.

September 22, 2016 - Township Secretary briefs LSA Analyst Dara Bostic regarding the original grant and the obstacle presented by the Section 105 Dam requirement. Beck reports to Pasonick her unhappy demeanor, as in, "why is this coming up now after we gave you the grant?", to which I have no answer.

October 3, 2016 - Pasonick prepares cost estimates for Option 1 and 2 for retrofiting the dam to meet Section 105 and drafts a proposal to prepare the Letter of Intent for Board of Supervisors to consider.

October 4, 2016 - Board of Supervisors authorizes PennEastern to prepare Letter of Amendment.

November 14, 2016 - PennEastern reports a PNDI hit on the Fish and Boat Commission for the Northern Cricket frog. The search is part of the checklist requirements for the Letter of Amendment.

November 21, 2016 - bids start coming in to perform the Phase 1 frog study.

December 6, 2016 - Board of Supervisors awards Phase 1 frog study to Herpetological Associates.

December 28, 2016 - Township receives Letter of Amendment from PennEastern.

December 30, 2016 - Township files documents requesting additional LSA grant based on Letter of Amendment. Township also sends Letter of Amendment to Dara Bostic, LSA analyst assigned to the dam project.

January 6, 2017 - FedEx confirms delivery of Letter of Amendment to DEP in Harrisburg.

February 6, 2017 - Dara Bostic notifies the Township that the LSA grant approved in 2016 for the dam repair is approved for application to the dam retrofit project.

March 21, 2017 - PennEastern notifies Township that Fish and Boat require a Phase 2 frog study. Initial proposal totals $28,000.

March 29, 2017 - Pasonick forwards AquaDam coffer dam brochure.

March 29, 2017 - Dara Bostic notifies the Township that the CFA has awarded an additional $33,939 LSA grant to the dam retrofit project as requested.

March 31, 2017 - Mullery, Forgach, Pipech, Beck, Pasonick meet with Chris Urban of Fish and Boat, discuss frog issues, walk lake, discuss possible compromise to lower water 6' instead of 12' and use the 14" pipe alone as a compromise emergency dewatering method. Urban suggests that Herpetological Associates misinterpreted the required scope of work and the $28,000 quote is higher than it should be for the Phase 2 frog study. Urban indicates that dewatering down to 6' in July-August might be acceptable for the frogs.

April 6, 2017 - additional proposals come in on the Phase 2 frog study between $12,100 to $25,000.

April 26, 2017 - Mullery and Forgach meet with Kirk Krieder and Krieder's boss in Harrisburg to discuss dam issues.

May 18, 2017 - Mullery and Forgach meet with Thomas, Pipech, Pasonick and Beck to debrief the April 26 meeting. Message is that they have received no plan to review. Township determines to prove the plan was there.

May 19-22, 2017 - documents are retrieved

May 24th or thereabouts, 2017 - Pasonick calls Krieder and presents compromise plan to dewater the lake 6' and utilize only the 14" existing pipe for emergency dewatering. Krieder replies that compromise cannot be made. Krieder reiterates that no plan was presented. Pasonick points to section 10 of the Letter of Amendment. Krieder responds that those plans need to be detailed out for DEP to review. Krieder responds that is what they need. Pasonick explains that such can only be accomplished if the lake is dewatered and excavation reveals the bottom of the dam and the sluice. Krieder responds that Pasonick is correct, and that is why DEP recommends a 6' stone and membrane coffer dam to allow the dewatering to take place twice to allow the detail plans to be drawn for DEP review.

June 15, 2017 - Pasonick contacts Urban to see if a 6' draw down of the majority of the lake with a coffer dam around the spillway would allow Fish and Boat to waive Phase 2 frog study.

February, 2018 – Rep. Mullery’s office assists in securing EDCIP grant for $60,000, A. R. Popple starts construction.

March, 2018 - Popple submits pay request #1 for $\_\_\_, reimbursed by EDCIP grant.

May, 2018 - Popple submits pay request #2 for $----, reimbursed by EDCIP grant.

Summer, 2018 – clear that Popple cannot perform, pay request #3 rejected.

Fall, 2018 – Attorney Wendolowski engaged to review Popple contract; determines award followed appropriate protocol by Supervisors, Township petitions surety company to honor draw on Popple bond, surety company denies drawdown, litigation begins.

Spring, 2019 – Township requests and extends grant C000063843, extends Fish and Boat drawdown permit.

Summer, 2019 – advertised for bids for Ice Lakes Dam Retrofit Project, low bid received of $490, 833, rejected by Supervisors.

Fall, 2019 – Rep. Mullery’s office helps secure H20 grant for $508,833 for dam.

March 11, 2020 – COVID pandemic declared, most business and government activities halted or impaired. State workers work from home as all state offices are closed.

October 29, 2020 – Project rebid, 9 bids received, Fabcor awarded low bid at $427,695.50.

February, 2021 – Fabcor initiates lake water drawdown, installs coffer dam to protect Northern Cricket Frog, project includes boring 2-foot diameter pipe through over 100 year old dam made of mortar and rubble.

February, 2021 – Supervisors request extension for C000063843 and C000062541 LSA grants, received.

May, 2021 – First payment to Fabcor of $124,849.98 extinguishes both LSA grants.

July 22, 2022. Rep. Mullery’s office hosts a conference call with Township Engineer, Secretary/Treasurer, DEP representatives for DEP Wilkes-Barre office and DEP dam official Kirk Kreider to find ways to accelerate the process. As part of the meeting, Engineer Pasonick discussed the desire on the part of the Township to order a 2-foot gate which could be used either by the sluice or the 2-pipe, depending on the ultimate outcome. This would allow the Township to place an order given the significant supply chain issues that exist. This idea was not met with any enthusiasm by the DEP representatives. The meeting failed to reach the desired objective.

October, 2022 – Pasonick and DEP discuss project, DEP concludes that existing sluice is best solution and requires 1.) a conceptual design plan from the Township Engineer, 2.) the delivery of a full extension plan and DEP complete application to amend the outstanding Dam permit and 3.) creation of an operation and maintenance manual for the DEP-recommended new sluice gate with plans for the new gate and control mechanism.

January/August, 2023 – Change Order #1 approved for $5,210 to clean, flush and camera the sluice and existing 14” pipe.

February, 2023 – Change order #2 approved to install a metal platform over the dam with safety railing to access sluice gate mechanism for $39,038.24.

Spring, 2023 – Meetings with Senator Culver and Representative Ryncavage regarding the pace of the project results in additional members of DEP involved, pace to resolve project accelerates.

May, 2023 – EDCIP grant is extinguished, all $60,000 utilized to reimburse dam construction and engineering expenses.

May, 2023 – Township Engineer meets with Fabcor to discuss installing DEP-suggested concrete wall instead of using shotcrete, repointing existing masonry, removing existing sluice gate, inspecting the sluice and determining when a new sluice gate could be delivered. DEP opposes ordering a new sluice gate since one size would fit the sluice and a larger size required by a 2-foot pipe. Supervisors order the 2-foot sluice gate to keep the project moving.

July, 2023 – Change order #3 approved to install concrete wall, repoint masonry, reset spillway and dewater for $148,027.

July, 2023 – Change order #4 approved to install galvanized trash rack as required by DEP for $4,019.81.

Late Fall, 2023 – early 2024 – Coffer dam removed, parties expect project completed, but water seeps through the dam.

March, 2024 – investigation at dam with contractor, engineer and DEP concludes that water is seeping through sluice.