

**Lake Hopatcong Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2020**  
**Remote Virtual Meeting**

**I. Opening of Meeting/Open Public Meeting Statement**

- a. In accordance with the Open Meeting Law (N.J.S.A. 10:4-9.1), The Lake Hopatcong Commission has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof via electronic notification to the following:

The Lake Hopatcong Commission website (lakehopatcongcommission.org)

**II. Salute to the Flag and Moment of Silence**

**III. Roll Call**

Present: Mark Crowley, Mark Fisch, Daniel McCarthy, Joshua Osowski, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Fred Steinbaum, Todd Stevens, Robert Tessier, Ronald Smith

Absent: Ryan Gilfillan, Joel Servoss, Eric Wilsusen

Alternates Present: Melissa Castellon, Bill Hirshfeld, Tom Foley, Tom Sellaro, Neil Senatore, Richard Zoschak

With ten members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum.

**IV. Executive Session**

Chair Smith indicates that no executive session will be held.

**V. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Wilsusen makes a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Steinbaum seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Sellaro	Yes
Fisch	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
McCarthy	Abstain	Stevens	Yes
Osowski	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Pravs	Abstain	Smith	Yes

The motion passes 8-0-2 (2 abstentions).

**VI. Treasurer's Report**

Commissioner Fisch provides the Treasurer's report. He states that there are fourteen bills totaling \$28,243.15. He states that there is \$207,061.59 in the Commission's bank account. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the list of

**Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Monday, June 8, 2020**  
**Remote Virtual Meeting**

**Lake Hopatcong Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2020**  
**Remote Virtual Meeting**

bills. Commissioner Tessier makes a motion to approve the list of bills, Commissioner Steinbaum seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Sellaro	Yes
Fisch	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
McCarthy	Abstain	Stevens	Yes
Osowski	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Pravs	Abstain	Smith	Yes

The motion passes unanimously.

**VII. Correspondence**

Colleen Lyons provides a summary of the correspondence. She states that the Commission’s land use applications are posted on the OneDrive account.

**VIII. Chairman’s Report**

Chair Smith states the Lake Hopatcong Fund is short this year due to the closure of MVC. He states that because MVC is closed boat licensing fees are lower than usual.

**IX. Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Steinbaum states that he is hopeful that the low water and air temperature will mitigate HABs on the lake. He states that the rain patterns are also less severe than they were in 2019. Commissioner Tessier states that she is concerned about the long-term funding for the Commission. Commissioner Pravs inquires about the Commission’s funds. There is a general discussion of how the Commission’s funds are derived. Commissioner McCarthy states that he has been appointed to Senator Oroho’s Restart and Recovery Advisory Council and invites people to reach out to him to provide comments on recovery for the lake. Commissioner Pravs asks about whether an economic impact report update had been finished. Commissioner Zoschak states that he will provide a historic economic report to the Commission. There is a general discussion of an economic study for Lake Hopatcong. Alternate Commissioner Foley asks Dr. Fred Lubnow of Princeton Hydro about the impact of cooler spring temperatures on HABs. Dr. Lubnow states that although temperatures are cool now, with the right conditions warmer temperatures later this season could allow HABs to return. He states that a mild winter could have allowed certain species of cyanobacteria to survive the winter. He states that Princeton Hydro will conduct water quality sampling on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Monday, June 8, 2020**  
**Remote Virtual Meeting**

**Lake Hopatcong Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2020**  
**Remote Virtual Meeting**

**X. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates**

Marty Kane provides an update from the Lake Hopatcong Foundation. He states that the NJDEP will reach out to the Commission to solicit input on a new tiered system for a HAB response strategy. He states that the Foundation is working remotely continues to work on programming for the lake. He states that the Lake Hopatcong Block Party has been rescheduled to October 10<sup>th</sup> and the Lake Loop will be held the same weekend. He states that there will be no floating classroom this year due to the move to online schooling. Mr. Kane states that Miss Iotta went in the water today. The Native Plant Sale will be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, plants can be ordered ahead of time and picked up at the train station.

**XI. Princeton Hydro Presentation**

Dr. Fred Lubnow of Princeton Hydro provides an update on their activities. Dr. Lubnow states that the watershed implementation plan (WIP) is being finalized. He states that water quality monitoring will take place on May 19<sup>th</sup> and field assessments for HAB grants are underway. He states that Princeton Hydro, the Commission and Foundation held a kickoff meeting with Roxbury to discuss projects within the municipality. He states that they are awaiting approvals for one project involving Biochar filter media and will be conducting a site assessment in Hopatcong for the Aquafilter units in Crescent Cove. Dr. Lubnow states that Princeton Hydro is also working on developing the costs for dredging the quarry cove. Commissioner Foley asks if there is a backup plan in there are high phosphorus levels in the lake this year. Dr. Lubnow states that the HAB grant projects are designed to prevent and control HABs and will be installed throughout the season.

**XII. Updates**

**Weed Harvesting and Water Level**

Alternate Commissioner Castellon states that the water is currently over the dam. She states that the weed harvesting program currently has two permanent employees on payroll, however only one is working as the second is considered high-risk for coronavirus. She states that there is currently no scheduled date to resume weed harvesting on the lake.

**Weldon Quarry and Valiant Environmental Investigation Update**

Commissioner Osowski states that he has no new updates.

**LHC/NJDEP MOU**

Alternate Commissioner Castellon has nothing new to report on the MOU.

**CAC Meeting**

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.***  
***Monday, June 8, 2020***  
**Remote Virtual Meeting**

**Lake Hopatcong Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2020**  
**Remote Virtual Meeting**

Commissioner Osowski states that they are looking to schedule the next CAC meeting virtually in June.

**Land Use Committee Update**

Colleen Lyons provides an update on land use activities around the lake. She states that she and the Commission's planner attended the Jefferson Land Use Board meeting and provided testimony on an application for a parking lot near the lake. She states that she also received a phone call from Joyce Dargel the new Zoning Board Chair for Roxbury Township who conveyed her support of the Commission hiring professional planners to assist in reviewing land use applications around the lake.

**Audit Update**

Ms. Lyons states that the Commission received the draft audit from Samuel Klein and Company. Commissioner Stevens states that he and Ms. Lyons will review the audit and provided any necessary revisions to the auditor.

**XIII. New Items**

**FY2020 May & June Limited Weed Harvesting Program**

Chair Smith introduces the topic of a limited weed harvesting program. There is a general discussion of the Commission's finances and funds required to run the weed harvesting program through May and June 2020. Chair Smith states that he believes the State has a responsibility to harvest weeds on the lake. He states that a Commission run weed harvesting program would deplete Commission funds before the end of the season.

**Rutgers Rain Garden Program**

Ms. Lyons states that the first two sessions of the Rutgers Rain Garden Program will be held on June 4, 2020 at 10a and 6:30p via Zoom.

**XIV. Public Comments**

Chair Smith opens the meeting to the public.

Karen Fucito of the Lake Hopatcong News comments on the meeting and that it is to see everyone from the Commission.

**XV. Action Items (Resolutions)**

There are no action items.

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.***  
***Monday, June 8, 2020***  
**Remote Virtual Meeting**

**Lake Hopatcong Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2020**  
**Remote Virtual Meeting**

**XVI. Close of Meeting**

Chairman Smith entertains a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Fisch seconds the motion. The meeting is adjourned.

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.***  
***Monday, June 8, 2020***  
**Remote Virtual Meeting**