

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Special Meeting Minutes – August 3, 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, Bradley Hoferkamp, Daniel McCarthy, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Fred Steinbaum, Ronald Smith, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen

Absent: Tom Foley, Joshua Osowski, Neil Senatore, Todd Stevens, Richard Zoschak

Alternates Present: Melissa Castellon, Ryan Gilfillan, Bill Hirschfeld, Tom Sellaro
With ten members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum.

IV. Treasurer’s Report

Colleen Lyons presents the list of bills. She states that the list of bills includes Princeton Hydro’s HAB grant invoices that were held by Princeton Hydro until after the Commission received their advanced payment from DEP. She states that the Commission received payment on July 22nd and can now pay the bills. She states that there is one additional invoice from Eric Snyder one of the Commissioner’s planners. Commissioner Tessier makes a motion to approve the Princeton Hydro HAB grant invoices. Commissioner Pravs seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Pravs	Yes
Castellon	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Fisch	Yes	Stevens	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Smith	Yes

The motion passes unanimously.

Commissioner McCarthy makes a motion to approve the last invoice on the list of bills from Eric Snyder. Commissioner Pravs seconds the motion

Roll Call:

Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
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Crowley	Yes	Pravs	Yes
Castellon	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Fisch	Yes	Stevens	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Smith	Yes

The motion passes unanimously.

V. Executive Session

Chair Smith indicates that no executive session is required during the meeting

VI. Action Items

a. **Weed Harvesting Contract**

Chair Smith states that the Commission received notification from DEP that they will receive their fiscal year 2021 first quarterly payment in August. The Commission has had several discussions about whether they should pursue contracted weed harvesting services for the remainder of the season. He states that because the Commission is subject to the provisions of the Public Contracts Law they are required to bid the work. He states that he has asked Colleen Lyons and Dr. Lubnow to look for similar documentation so that the Commission can create a scope of work. He states that the timeline would need to be put in the paper for a minimum of ten days and then a special meeting to award the contract. He states that at best the weed harvesting program would begin the third week of August. He asks the Commissioners if it would be worth it to start the program at that time. Dr. Lubnow states that he believes the recreational season will extend further into the fall this year due to more people working from home and being on the lake. He states that any aquatic plant biomass removed from the lake this season will reduce nutrient availability to algae and plants in subsequent years. There is a general discussion of the weed harvesting program and Commission finances. Chair Smith states that the Commission will put together a bid specification for review by the Commission prior to the August meeting.

b. **HIGLIN Agreement**

Colleen Lyons introduces the proposed agreement from HIGLIN to demonstrate their diver assisted suction harvesting (DASH) boat and sonar on Lake Hopatcong. HIGLIN intends to demonstrate DASH technology to remove aquatic plant growth in the lake and sonar to demonstrate whether they can accurately detect Eurasian water milfoil and water chestnut in more turbid waters of Lake Hopatcong compared to Green Pond in Rockaway NJ.

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She states that the Commission’s legal counsel Durkin and Durkin have reviewed the document and suggest a revision to the hold harmless section. There is a general discussion of the agreement. Commissioner Tessier makes a motion to approve the agreement subject to revisions by the Commission’s attorney Murphy Durkin. Commissioner McCarthy seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Pravs	Yes
Castellon	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Fisch	Yes	Stevens	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Smith	Yes

The motion passes unanimously.

VII. Public Comments

Chair Smith opens the meeting to the public.

Jim Fitzpatrick of Lake Hopatcong Regional News asks if there are any vendors available to complete the work. Colleen Lyons states that there are two vendors with some availability, but they will only have one to two machines available and it won’t be the same level of program as is normally run on the lake.

VIII. Close of Meeting

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

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