

**Lake Hopatcong Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – September 14, 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](http://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, Ronald Smith, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen

Absent: Bradley Hoferkamp,

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

With ten members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum. (Bob Tessier 7:10pm arrival, Mark Crowley 7:15pm arrival)

**IV. Executive Session**

Chair Smith indicates that an executive session will be held at the end of the meeting to discuss legal matters.

**V. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion to approve the minutes for the August meeting, Commissioner Pravs seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

		Steinbaum	Yes
Fisch	Abstain	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes		
Osowski	Abstain	Wilsusen	Yes
Pravs	Yes	Zoschak	Yes
Sellaro	Yes	Smith	Yes

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

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**VI. Treasurer’s Report**

Commissioner Fisch presents the Treasurer’s report. He states that as of August 31, 2020 there was \$389,820.76 15 in the Commission account. He states that there are fifteen bills due, one was added for Ken Nelson in the amount of \$852.80. The total list of bills is \$34,898.39, of which 60% goes toward the harmful algal bloom grant from the state. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion to approve the bills, Commissioner Fisch seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

		Steinbaum	Yes
Fisch	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes		
Osowski	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Pravs	Yes	Zoschak	Yes
Sellaro	Yes	Smith	Yes

The motion passes unanimously.

**VII. Correspondence**

**VIII. Chairman’s Report**

Chairman Smith states the Commission advertised for and received bids for weed harvesting. He states that there was only one bidder and it will be discussed in executive session later in the meeting. He asks the Commission members to consider having a live meeting soon. If some commissioners have concerns they may be able to join by phone. There is a general discussion of holding in-person meetings.

**IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments**

Commissioner Zoschak asks if anyone has received complaints about weed harvesting. Colleen Lyons states that in the beginning of the season there were a lot of phone calls and as the season went on the calls tapered off. There is a general discussion of weed growth during the season. Dr. Lubnow states that there were many early season weeds and later in the season more turbid/cloudy water blocked sunlight and may have inhibited weed growth. Commissioner Wilsusen states that they had a quarterly mayor’s meeting last Thursday to recap the season. He states that he thinks it’s great that the four mayors meet regularly and that it has been productive.

**X. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates**

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Marty Kane provides an update from the Lake Hopatcong Foundation. He states that there is high water, low weeds, and low algae blooms. Mr. Kane states that the NJ Lakes group will introduce new members with the purpose of lake advocacy for lakes across New Jersey. Mr. Kane states that there was a Boat Regulation Commission meeting last week, the first since March. They spoke a lot about wake surfboats and they are still working on regulations for the State. He states that there have been many bad boating issues and not enough state trooper coverage. He states that in Byram Cove there have been counts of 400 boats on a weekend day and consideration has been made for whether a buffer should be made around the cove to allow for property owners to get in and out of their docks. Mr. Kane states that the Foundation met with Senator Bucco and had a good conversation about the lake. There is a general conversation of use of Byram Cove and the lake.

**XI. Princeton Hydro Updates**

Dr. Fred Lubnow of Princeton Hydro provides an update on their activities. He states that GreenVest will be sending material to the Commission. Princeton Hydro are working on the paperwork for the new 319 grant and supplemental environmental projects to post on the DEP website. He states that he will be reaching out to Keri Green at the Highland's Council to finalize the WIP. Dr. Lubnow provides an update on the HAB grant projects that have been implemented throughout the season. He states that there are some potential sources of funding through NFWF and others for more projects going forward. Commissioner Pravs asks if there is anything new with the quarry investigation. Dr. Lubnow states that he will begin his review of the quarry report once the proposal is approved. Colleen Lyons states that the proposal is on the agenda for approval tonight and adds that there are no additional updates on the quarry investigation.

**XII. Updates**

**State Park Updates**

Alternate Commissioner Castellon's provides a state park update. She states that Mike and four hourly employees working at the Franklin Building on building and grounds maintenance. All of the equipment has been moved to the Franklin Building and one dump truck is scheduled for repairs. Alternate Commissioner Castellon provides updates on the work done at the Franklin Building. There is a discussion of hiring a mechanic for the program. Ms. Castellon states that she submitted the application for the 22-inch drawdown and is waiting on permit approval.

**NJDEP/LHC MOU**

Commissioner Osowski has no update on the MOU.

**CAC Meeting**

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Commissioner Osowski states that the next CAC meeting will be scheduled for October and an invitation will be sent to the members of the CAC soon. Colleen Lyons asks Commissioner Osowski for an update on the sewer project at the state park. Alternate Commissioner Castellon states that the project will go out to bid and the project may begin sometime in November. She states that the project will take approximately six months.

**Grant Updates**

Colleen Lyons states that Dr. Lubnow had covered most of the HAB grant projects in his update. She states that the Rutgers Rain Garden Program is working on a larger scale project for Byram Cove Community Club, but there are no other updates on the HAB grant program.

**Land Use**

Commissioner Tessier states that there was a land use committee meeting with the Commission's planners. The municipal land use reviews have been divided up between the two planners and they discussed the updates to stormwater management rules from DEP. The rules need to be adopted by each municipality by March 2021, so the committee thinks that now is a good time to present a model ordinance to the municipalities that would be more protective of water quality. There is a general discussion of the land use application review process and model ordinance.

**Ice Retardant Committee**

Commissioner McCarthy requests a presentation to the Commission for the October meeting and then go to each municipality. Colleen Lyons states that she will put together a presentation and provide it to the ice retardant committee. Commissioner Tessier suggests combining all ordinance revisions for presentation to the municipalities to streamline the process.

**XIII. New Items**

**Morris County Park Update**

Colleen Lyons states that a representative of the Morris County Parks Commission will present their proposed projects for the recently awarded 319 grant from DEP.

**Governor's HAB Initiative Grant Award**

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

**HIGLIN**

Colleen Lyons states that the HIGLIN agreement for demonstration of DASH boats and sonar on Lake Hopatcong has been approved by the LHC and LHF. HIGLIN is reviewing the agreement and will schedule the demonstration.

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**XIV. Public Comments**

Chair Smith opens the meeting to the public.

Marty Kane commends all the work done by various groups and Princeton Hydro on the HABs projects.

**XV. Action Items (Resolutions)**

**RES 20-12 Princeton Hydro General Consulting Addendum**

Colleen Lyons states that the resolution is to approve an addendum to the general consulting contract with Princeton Hydro. The addendum will allow Princeton Hydro to review the Existing Conditions Report from Weldon Quarry’s consultant and provides an hourly rate if Princeton Hydro is required to testify. Commissioner Tessier makes a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner McCarthy seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

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

The motion passes unanimously.

**XVI. Executive Session**

Chair Smith states that the Commission will enter executive session to discuss legal matters. He entertains a motion to move to executive session. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion. Commissioner McCarthy seconds the motion. All those in favor signified by saying “aye” those opposed said “no”. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Smith entertains a motion to re-enter the public session. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion. Commissioner Tessier seconds the motion. All those in favor signified by saying “aye” those opposed said “no”. The motion passed unanimously.

**RES 20-13 Weed Harvesting Services**

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve weed harvesting services up to \$30,000 with final approval to be made by a subcommittee of the Commission. Commissioner Crowley makes a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Tessier seconds the motion.

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Fisch	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Osowski	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Pravs	Yes		
Sellaro	Yes	Smith	Yes

The motion passes unanimously.

**XVII. Public In-Person Meeting**

Chair Smith requests that Commissioners consider moving to in person meetings beginning in October. Commissioner Fisch asks if Camp Jefferson can be used. Colleen Lyons will confirm availability.

**XVIII. 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.

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