

**Lake Hopatcong Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes –April 11, 2022**  
**125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850**

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

- a. In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, The Lake Hopatcong Commission has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof delivered or mailed or electronically mailed to the following:

*DAILY RECORD the NEW JERSEY HERALD* and posted on the Lake Hopatcong Commission website (lakehopatcongcommission.org)

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

**III. Roll Call**

Present: Mark Crowley, Bradley Hoferkamp, Daniel McCarthy, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Fred Steinbaum, Todd Stevens, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen, Ronald Smith

Absent: Ryan Gilfillan, Bill Hirschfeld, Joshua Osowski, Shawn Potillo, Neil Senatore

Alternates Present: Laura Franek, Steven Levinson, Karen Porfido, Thomas Sellaro  
With eleven members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum.

**IV. Executive Session**

Chair Smith states that there will be an executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues. He entertains a motion to move to executive session. Commissioner Tessier 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 Wilsusen makes a motion. Commissioner McCarthy seconds the motion. All those in favor signified by saying “aye” those opposed said “no”. The motion passed unanimously.

**V. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

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

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Franek	Yes	Stevens	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes

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McCarthy	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Pravs	Yes	Smith	Yes
Levinson	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

**VI. Treasurer’s Report**

Commissioner Stevens provides the Treasurer’s report. He states that there is the opening balance was \$548,619. Commissioner Stevens then reviews the list of bills. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion, Commissioner Hoferkamp seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Franek	Yes	Stevens	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Pravs	Yes	Smith	Yes
Levinson	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

**VII. Correspondence**

Colleen Lyons states that the land use applications are available on the OneDrive Account. She states Congresswoman Mikie Sherill’s office sent information on an EPA strategy to protect water quality. Morris County Parks Commission sent a letter of support request for a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant they are applying for. Mrs. Lyons states that the Borough of Hopatcong submitted plans for Witten Park prepared by Mott MacDonald.

**VIII. Chairman’s Report**

Chairman Smith states that he has been in contact with the Morris County Parks Commission to request use of their ramp for staging the weed harvesting conveyor and dump truck. He states that this request has been approved.

**IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments**

Alternate Commissioner Levinson states that the proposed plans for Lee’s County Park Marina will intensify use of the property and lake. He states that more information should be provided before the Commission provides a letter of support.

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**X. Administrator’s Update**

Colleen Lyons provides updates on her activities. She states that she attended the third annual NJDEP HAB Summit on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. She is working with Princeton Hydro to coordinate spring schedule of grant projects. Princeton Hydro will continue to monitor a subset of the HAB grant projects and will begin work on the 2019 319 grant projects including four small watershed projects, one in each municipality. Mrs. Lyons states that she attended a meeting with representatives of Parks and Forestry to discuss a revised MOU to cover the Franklin Building, State Park Office and will outline any outstanding expenses still covered by the DEP related to the Weed Harvesting Program. These expenses will need to be transferred to the Commission or reimbursed to DEP. She states that she Marty and Kyle have been attending the Council meetings and County Commissioner meetings to update organizations on their work over the last year.

**XI. Goose Management Presentation**

Alternate Commissioner Porfido introduces April Simnor of the USDA to provide a presentation on goose management techniques. The Commission discusses Ms. Simnor’s presentation. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve a survey of Lake Hopatcong by the USDA. Commissioner Tessier makes a motion. Commissioner McCarthy seconds the motion. All those in favor signified by saying “aye” those opposed said “no”. The motion passed unanimously.

**XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates**

Marty Kane provides an update on Foundation projects. He states that the Foundation continues their advocacy work toward an annual public lake’s appropriation bill. They are also scheduling a meeting with DEP to discuss dredging of Landing Channel and have 1,300 children expected for educational field trips this season. The LH Museum is working on the State Park Fountain. Mr. Kane provides a list of dates for upcoming Foundation events including May 7<sup>th</sup> – Native Plant Sale, May 14<sup>th</sup> – Hudson Farm Charity Hike, May 21<sup>st</sup> – LH Block Party.

**XIII. Princeton Hydro Updates**

Pat Rose presents an update on Princeton Hydro’s activities on the lake. He states that Princeton Hydro received the signed contracts for 2022. Princeton Hydro will begin water quality monitoring in May, the Highlands Council approved the trout study so there will be additional monitoring in July and August on habitat data and temperature profiles. He states that the 319 internal load report is under review and Dr. Lubnow will provide a presentation on the results in May. Mr. Rose provides an update on ongoing project schedules. He states that the Stormwater Report

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revisions provided by the committee are being incorporated and that the HAB expert team provided materials to DEP on the impacts of water level drawdowns.

**XIV. Updates**

**State Park Updates**

Alternate Commissioner Franek states that the lake level is currently at 9.72' and a no wake alert is in effect. There is one gate open at the dam to bring the water level back down. Commissioner McCarthy asks who at DEP should be contacted about the new USGS water level website. Alternate Commissioner Franek suggests posting a comment on the website.

**NJDEP/LHC MOU**

Commissioner Osowski is not present, but Alternate Commissioner Franek states Josh Osowski is working to set up a meeting.

**Committee Updates**

**Land Use Committee Update**

Chair Tessier states that the Stormwater Ordinance Report provided by Princeton Hydro is excellent, the committee plans to send it to each municipality with ordinance suggestions.

**Budget**

Chair Steinbaum states that the Commission does not receive enough funding and now is the time to request additional funds from the state.

**Finance**

Chair Stevens has no updates.

**Bylaws**

Chair Crowley has no updates.

**Planning**

Chair McCarthy has no updates.

**Public Outreach**

Chair Pravs states that she will be sending out an email with a request for Block Party volunteers.

**Ice Retardant**

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Chair McCarthy states that the committee met last week. They would like to resend the ice retardant system flyer this fall and they propose a no fee registration system for propeller driven systems.

**Ad-Hoc Trout Stocking**

Chair McCarthy states that 1,000 trout were stocked on March 26<sup>th</sup>. He states that three have been caught so far.

**XV. New Items**

No new items.

**XVI. Public Comments**

Tim Clancy, Lake Hopatcong states that the original funding for the Commission was \$1.5 million annually and an additional \$1.5 million for startup. He states that the ice retardant system flyer should be revised where run time is listed as every hour for 15 minutes. He states that tag directions may need to be revised for the trout study.

**XVII. Action Items**

No action items.

**XVIII. Close of Meeting**

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

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