

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes –January 9, 2023
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, Neil Senatore, Fred Steinbaum, Todd Stevens, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen, Ronald Smith

Absent: Joshua Osowski, Shawn Pottillo

Alternates Present: Laura Franek, Karen Porfido, Thomas Sellaro, Ryan Gilfillan, Bill Hirschfeld, Steven Levinson

With eleven members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum.

IV. Executive Session

Chair Smith states there is no need for an executive session.

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

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

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Abstain	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Abstain	Tessier	Yes
Franek	Yes	Wilsusen	Abstain
Pravs	Yes	Smith	Yes
Senatore	Yes		

The motion passes 8-3-0 (3 Abstentions)

VI. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Stevens provides a review of the list of bills. He reviews expenses paid this month. He states that he was expecting to see a reimbursement on the HAB grant and asks Mrs. Lyons to provide an update. She states that she has

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reached out to NJDEP and is waiting for a response. Chair Smith asks for contact information so he can reach out on behalf of the Commission. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Commissioner McCarthy makes a motion, Commissioner Pravs seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

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

The motion passes unanimously.

VII. Correspondence

Colleen Lyons provides an update on the Commission correspondence. She states that land use applications are available on the Commission’s OneDrive. The Borough of Hopatcong forwarded a copy of a grant they received for a trail in Witten Park.

VIII. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Smith states that they would like to get the damaged harvester back. He states that he attended a meeting with a Roxbury resident to discuss a land use application for a lakefront property.

IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments

No comments.

X. Administrator’s Update

Colleen Lyons provides an update on her activities. She states that due to the holidays there is not a lot to report on. The nearshore aeration systems that were installed under the HAB grant were winterized. Transfer of the systems is scheduled for March 2023.

XI. Weed Harvesting Report

Michael Calderio provides an update on weed harvesting activities. He states that the machines are being taken apart and he is waiting for availability on an engine for the damaged weed harvester. Commissioner McCarthy asks about supply chain issues, Mr. Calderio states that he doesn’t know if any parts will be delayed yet.

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XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Kyle Richter provides an update on Foundation activities. Mr. Richter states that the field trip program received a Governor’s Excellence Award. The Foundation has been researching a shrink wrap program for shrink wrap around the lake. He states that the five-foot drawdown will begin in early November and the Foundation is planning a cleanup. Mr. Kane states that Senator Bucco submitted a Bill for Lake’s Funding of \$17 million toward public lakes in New Jersey. He states that draft noise and house boat ordinances will be submitted to the municipalities later this week. He also provides an update on the WRDA funding of \$90 million for sewers in Jefferson that was authorized, but have not been appropriated yet.

XIII. Princeton Hydro Updates

Dr. Fred Lubnow provides an update on Princeton Hydro’s activities. He states that they submitted the 2023 proposals for General Consulting, Water Quality Monitoring and Cyanotoxin Monitoring. He states that Princeton Hydro is moving forward with the 2019 319 Grant projects including replacement of filter media in two Filterra units in Jefferson with Biochar. He states that the Landing Channel engineering and ecological proposals were submitted to Roxbury for review and approval. The proposals will be sent to the Highlands Council for funding consideration. Dr. Lubnow states that Princeton Hydro reviewed the Borough of Hopatcong’s stormwater design for Witten Park which will be implemented under the Commission’s NFWF grant. He states that the Commission was awarded a Lake Restoration grant for \$1 million for projects including a nutrient inactivation treatment, use of biochar and removal of accumulated sediments at stormwater outfalls around the lake.

XIV. Updates

State Park Updates

Alternate Commissioner Franek states that water level is at reached full drawdown level on December 15th. It has since increased slightly with the rain this week.

CAC Meeting

Alternate Commissioner Franek states that DEP is still waiting for responses, but the meeting will likely be held on January 30th.

Committee Updates

Land Use Committee Update

Chair Tessier provides an overview of land use applications in the watershed over the past month. Commissioner’s Steinbaum and Pravs comment on the importance

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of uniform codes for the municipalities. Commissioner Tessier requests a Land Use Committee meeting.

Budget

Chair Steinbaum provides an overview of financial statements. He states that the Commission hovers around 50% of the total budget in many categories.

Finance

Chair Stevens comments on the Commission receipt of credit cards. He states that there should be written approvals for use of the cards.

Bylaws

Chair Crowley has no updates.

Planning

Chair McCarthy has no new updates.

Public Outreach

Chair Pravs states that the committee is working on the brochure.

Weed Harvesting

This update was provided earlier in the meeting.

Ice Retardant

Chair McCarthy states that a draft ordinance was provided on November 14th. There is a general discussion of the ordinance. Commissioner McCarthy will provide an updated draft prior to the next meeting. He requests any responses to be provided one week prior to the February meeting.

Ad-Hoc Trout Stocking

Chair McCarthy states that the committee will be meeting in a week. He states that the proposed stocking date is March 25th. The permit has been prepared and sent.

Ad Hoc Goose Management

Commissioner Tessier provides an overview of the cooperative service agreement, proposed scope of work and recommended timeline.

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve a one-year egg addling program. Commissioner Tessier makes a motion to approve the USDA Contract for a one-year egg addling program for \$15,000. Commissioner Crowley seconds the motion.

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Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Franek	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Pravs	Yes	Smith	Yes
Senatore	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

XV. New Items

No new items.

XVI. Public Comments

Commissioner Levinson comments on the Weed Harvesting Program. He states that he would like the Commission’s HR Consultant to begin work on the employee handbook. He states that she will highlight areas that need to be updated. He also mentions that the Commission could be eligible for the Morris County Joint Insurance Fund.

Tim Clancy, Jefferson states that the Trout Committee should draw names for gift certificates at the next meeting. He states that he would like to see quarry settlement funds used for the purchase of air quality monitors.

Ron Sorenson, Jefferson requests information on the draft houseboat ordinance. Mr. Kane states that until the municipalities present the ordinance during a council meeting, the document is not public.

XVII. Action Items

RES-23-01 Meeting Dates & RES 23-02 Official Newspapers

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve Resolution 23-01 for the 2023 Meeting Dates and Resolution 23-02 Adoption of the Official Newspapers. Commissioner Wilsusen makes a motion, Commissioner Steinbaum seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Yes

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Franek	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Pravs	Yes	Smith	Yes
Senatore	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

XVIII. Close of Meeting

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

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