

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2024
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: Bradley Hoferkamp Daniel McCarthy, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Neil Senatore, Fred Steinbaum, Todd Stevens, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen

Absent: Mark Crowley, Ryan Gilfillan, Joshua Osowski, Shawn Potillo, Ronald Smith,

Alternates Present: Laura Franek, Marie Galate, Steven Levinson, Karen Porfido, Thomas Sellaro

With nine members present, Acting Chair McCarthy declares a quorum.

IV. Executive Session

Acting Chair McCarthy states that there is no need for an executive session.

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Acting Chair McCarthy entertains a motion to approve the January minutes. Commissioner Hoferkamp makes a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Steinbaum seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

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

The motion passes 7-2-0 (two abstentions).

VI. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Stevens provides the Treasurer's report. He states that the Commission received interest of \$1,908. Disbursements included insurance

Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, March 11, 2024
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2024
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

payments, a payment to Frank’s Truck Center for purchase of the Weed Harvesting Truck, payments to the pension system and Aquarius Systems for weed harvesting parts as well as others. Acting Chair McCarthy entertains a motion to approve the Monthly Cash Report. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion. Commissioner Pravs seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

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

The motion passes unanimously.

VII. Correspondence

Acting Chair McCarthy states that the Commission received land use applications which are available on the Commission OneDrive account. He states that they received Princeton Hydro’s monthly report and 2024 Revised Proposals. He states that a copy of Bill S2466 which would increase motorboat license fees and increase funding to the Lake Hopatcong Commission was also received.

VIII. Chairman’s Report

Nothing to report.

IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments

Commissioner Steinbaum comments on the Star Ledger cover story focusing on winters activities such as ice sailing on Lake Hopatcong in the 1930’s. Commissioner Wilsusen states that he attended the visit to the Franklin Building and was impressed with the work done by the harvesting program.

X. Administrator’s Update

Mrs. Lyons provides an update on outstanding grant payments. She states that a HAB grant payment of \$42,755 should be processed this week. NJDEP requested additional information to back up the match reported, so payment is delayed. She states that the NFWF reimbursement request for \$58,000 was processed on January 22nd and should be paid this week. She states that the Commission should also receive the third quarter statutory payment of \$124,624 this week.

XI. Police Safety Report

Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, March 11, 2024
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

***Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2024
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

Lieutenant Ryan Tracy, Sergeant Anthony Buro and Chief Jack Ambrose are present to discuss a joint safety video release expected in April 2024. Lt. Tracy and Sgt. Buro provide a summary of the safety initiative for Lake Hopatcong and present five of the six safety videos. Safety videos will be made available in the spring along with signage at marinas on how to access the videos and boating safety manual. News and information on the lake will also be shared by law enforcement to the marinas and shared with their email lists. Commissioner McCarthy suggests a topic for an additional video on Lake Hopatcong specific information such as no wake. Lt. Tracy states that no wake information can be provided through email communications as well.

XII. Weed Harvesting Report

Mr. Calderio thanks the commissioners for attending the Franklin Building visit. He states that the Aquarius parts order was received, and staff are working on repairs. He states that the welder should be completing work this week or next.

XIII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Caitlin Doran, Development Director for the Foundation provides an update on the Block Party. The Block Party will be held on May 18th from 10am to 4pm. She states that booths are sold out. NJ State Police will attend with Motor Vehicle to provide vessel registration renewals, trailer renewals replacement boating safety cards and to add the boating safety endorsement to licenses. Marty Kane provides an update on advocacy work. He states that S876 which would provide an additional round of Lake's Funding has been introduced. The Foundation will be meeting with legislative representatives to advocate for the Bill. He states that S2466 was also introduced. The Bill raises the boat licensing fee from \$4.50 to \$7.50 and would raise the Lake Hopatcong Commission statutory funding from \$500,000 to \$750,000 annually. He states that the Hopatcong Police Department is working to secure a boat. They are working with Morris County and State Park Police on a memorandum of understanding to use the police boat at Hopatcong State Park. Mr. Kane states that the Foundation and Commission continue to work on a proposal for an oxygenation system for the lake. They are working with design professionals and property owners to identify onshore locations for compressors. He states that they are also continuing work on the Floating Island dredging project in Landing Channel, and with police on nighttime speed restriction guidelines. He states that he also drafted a letter on the CAC to be shared with the full Commission.

Princeton Hydro Updates

Pat Rose of Princeton Hydro provides an update on monitoring and grant projects. He states that he final water quality report was submitted to the LHC in January. Data will be presented at the April 2024 LHC meeting. He states that Princeton

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, March 11, 2024
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

***Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2024
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

Hydro continues to work on the NJ Highlands Council grants which include the Landing Channel Floating Island project, oxygenation project and the Trout Study. He states that they are also continuing work on the NFWF grant, which consists of three streambank stabilization projects at Witten Park, Glen Brook and the Musconetcong River. He states that Princeton Hydro is also working on the Lakes Restoration Grant. They have begun the permitting process for an alum treatment, however it appears that with timing restrictions and permitting timelines the application will be completed in fall 2024 rather than this spring. Mr. Rose states that projects under the LHC 319 grant are wrapping up. A scope change amendment was recently submitted to reallocate funds for the Hopatcong project for a socks for docks program that would provide homeowners with biochar socks. The socks would be removed after three months and tested for various forms of phosphorus to calculate the total phosphorus removed. Commissioner Steinbaum asks about the differences in a spring versus fall alum treatment. Mr. Rose states that they will have the same effectiveness at controlling the internal nutrient load, but a fall treatment would not provide control for summer 2024.

XIV. Updates

State Park Updates

Alternate Commissioner Franek states that the water level is 7.34'. She states that she is transferring to High Point State Park in March. She states that she will introduce the new Superintendent at the March meeting.

CAC Meeting

Alternate Commissioner Franek states that the next meeting is scheduled for March 6th at 11am. Commissioner Steinbaum states that the original CAC consisted of 18 members and the most recent invitation only went out to 13. He states that it should consist of an annual in-person meeting to discuss the water level management plan.

Committee Updates

Land Use Committee Update

Committee Chair Tessier provides an overview of the land use report from the Commission's planner. He states that there was an application heard in Jefferson on January 22nd. No action was taken, and it will be carried to April 2024. He states that there will be a major project in Mount Arlington within their redevelopment district that the Commission should comment on.

Budget

Committee Chair Steinbaum provides an overview of the FY25 Budget Proposal. He reviews current and project costs for weed harvesting, goose management and other Commission programs. He states that the FY25 Budget is \$615,000, where

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, March 11, 2024
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2024
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

statutory funding is only \$500,000. Approval of the budget would require a transfer of funds from retained earnings. There is a general discussion of the budget. Commissioner Tessier and Hoferkamp suggest that the budget be reduced so that retained earnings can be maintained. There is concern about running out of money if the budget is more than the annual statutory funding.

Finance

No update.

Bylaws

No update.

Planning

No updates.

Public Outreach

No updates.

Ice Retardant

No updates

Ad-Hoc Boating Safety

No updates.

Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat

Committee Chair McCarthy states that the committee drew the winners of the 5 \$100 Windlass gift certificates. He states that the winners are, Lou Marucci, Jim Archambault, Hunter Good, Michael Rivera, and Leonard Okken.

Ad Hoc Goose Management

Alternate Commissioner Porfido provides an update. She states that there will be a goose management information session on Thursday February 15th at 6:30pm at the Train Station. She states that the presentation will be provided by USDA Wildlife Management Services. This year they are seeking volunteers to help identify nests, addle eggs, and contact property owners.

XV. New Items

No new items.

XVI. Public Comments

Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, March 11, 2024
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2024
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850

Nick Vanzile East Shore Estates asks about the weed harvesting schedule. He states that the harvesters are normally staged at East Shore Estates and property owners don't want to look at them all summer.

Sam DeAlba Lake Hopatcong comments that the water level management plan should have updated outflow reduction restrictions.

XVII. Action Items

RES 24-04 Approval of the FY2025 LHC Budget

Acting Chair McCarthy introduces Resolution 24-04. Commissioner Hoferkamp makes a motion, Commissioner Stevens seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

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

The motion passes unanimously.

XVIII. Close of Meeting

Alternate Chair McCarthy entertains a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Wilsusen seconds the motion. The meeting is adjourned.

Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, March 11, 2024
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850