

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – May 13, 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: Mark Crowley (7:06p), Bradley Hoferkamp, Daniel McCarthy, Joshua Osowski, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Neil Senatore, Ronald Smith, Fred Steinbaum, Todd Stevens, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen

Absent: Ryan Gilfillan, Thomas Sellaro, Shawn Potillo

Alternates Present: Marie Galate, Steven Levinson, Karen Porfido,

With ten members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum.

IV. Executive Session

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

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

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

Roll Call:

Crowley	N/A (7:06P)	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Abstain
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Osowski	Yes	Wilsusen	Abstain
Pravs	Yes	Smith	Yes
Senatore	Abstain		

The motion passes 7-3-0 (three abstention).

VI. Treasurer's Report

Todd Stevens provides the Treasurer's report. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the Monthly Cash Report. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion. Commissioner Hoferkamp seconds the motion.

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Roll Call:

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

The motion passes unanimously.

VII. Correspondence

Ms. Lyons states that the Commission received land use applications which are available on the Commission OneDrive account. She states that they received Princeton Hydro’s monthly report and the monthly land use memo. They also received an Audit Engagement Letter from BKC CPA.

VIII. Chairman’s Report

Chair Smith reports that the Commission will have a table at the Lake Hopatcong Block Party. He states that the Commission’s expenses are higher than their budget. Commissioner Tessier asks for a plan if no additional funding is received. Commissioner Steinbaum asks about the proposed increase in boat licensing fees to raise the Commission funding. Chair Smith states that there is no support for raising the fee in the state legislature.

IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments

No comments

X. Administrator’s Update

Mrs. Lyons provides an update on current grants. She states that the Commission received the 4th quarter payment of \$124,472.00 on May 10th. She states that the \$3,000.00 contribution from the Knee-Deep Club for the trout study was deposited as well as \$15,000.00 in reimbursement checks for the 319 grant. Under the 319 grant a new project was selected for Hopatcong. She states that she is working with Princeton Hydro and the Foundation on a “socks for docks” program. Pickup for Hopatcong residents is on May 23rd at 5pm at the State Park. She states that the Commission advertised a bid for the National Fish and Wildlife Grant Musconetcong River Streambank Stabilization Project. The project will be awarded at the June 10th meeting.

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XI. Weed Harvesting Report

Mr. Calderio states that the machines were out cutting last week. Chair Smith asks when the Boston Whaler will go in the water. Mr. Calderio responds in the next two weeks.

XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Kyle Richter, Executive Director of the Lake Hopatcong Foundation provides an update on Foundation activities. He states that NJ State Police will continue working with municipalities on dilapidated docks. He states that the Block Party is this week, and the field trip program has kicked off. He states that the Foundation is also developing a high school educational program. Mr. Richter states that the shrink wrap recycling program has recycled 12,000 pounds to date. A community drop off day will be held June 1st from 10-12p. Marty Kane, Chair of the Board provides an update on lake advocacy. He states that the Lakes Funding Bill is moving forward. The Boat Regulation Commission met last week and asked if the Commission subcommittee would provide a report at the July meeting. Commissioner Steinbaum comments on the presentation and recommendations. Mr. Kane states that the Fountain will be reopening on July 16th. The time will be announced once confirmed with the Commissioner's office.

Princeton Hydro Updates

Dr. Fred Lubnow of Princeton Hydro provides the 2023 Water Quality Report presentation and updates on Princeton Hydro's 2024 activities. He states that the first water quality monitoring event will be May 14th. A proposal for additional lab fees to collect samples for chloride analysis was sent to Mrs. Lyons. There is a general discussion and decision to apply for chloride monitoring through a Highlands Council Grant or Watershed Watch Network Grant. Dr. Lubnow provides updates on the Commission's grants.

XIII. Updates

State Park Updates

Commissioner Osowski provides an update on the search for a State Park Superintendent. An offer was made, and they are awaiting a start date confirmation. He states that the lake is at 9.22 feet and that swimming will start at the beach the second weekend of June.

CAC Meeting

Commissioner Osowski states that the draft Water Level Management Plan will be available for public comment on their website soon. Commissioner Steinbaum asks

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about the Commission taking over the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) responsibilities. The Chairman entertains a motion for the CAC responsibilities to be transferred to the Commission.

Roll Call:

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

The motion passes unanimously.

Committee Updates

Land Use Committee Update

Committee Chair Tessier provides an update on applications throughout the watershed.

Budget

Committee Chair Steinbaum the Budget vs Actual report and states that the Commission needs to identify additional sources of funding.

Finance

No update.

Bylaws

No update.

Planning

No updates.

Public Outreach

Chairwoman Pravs states that the Commission will have a table at the Lake Hopatcong Block Party.

Ice Retardant

No update.

Ad-Hoc Boating Safety

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No update.

Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat

Committee Chair McCarthy states that stocking was held on April 13th 1,000 tagged trout were stocked. He reminds everyone to report all catches to LHCtrout.com and that this year’s tag color is caramel.

Ad Hoc Goose Management

Chairwoman Porfido states that she did not get great feedback from the volunteers and needs to get an update from USDA on the number of eggs added to date.

XIV. New Items

Princeton Hydro chloride monitoring. This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

XV. Public Comments

Commissioner Steinbaum reads a statement from Ron Sorenson of Lake Hopatcong Marine. He states that the CAC meetings have not been in person and that there are issues with the WLMP that need to be addressed. He recommends that the responsibilities of the CAC be taken over by the Commission.

XVI. Action Items

- RES 24-05 Employment Agreement – Maintenance Technician
- RES 24-06 Audit Agreement
- RES 24-07 Appointing Part-Time Seasonal Laborers
- RES 24-08 Advertising Bid

Chair Smith introduces each of the resolutions and proposes they be voted on in a block. He entertains a motion to approve the resolutions. Commissioner Tessier makes a motion. Commissioner Wilsusen seconds the motion.

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XVII. Close of Meeting

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

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