

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – June 10, 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, Daniel McCarthy, Blanca Chevestt Neil Senatore, Ronald Smith, Todd Stevens, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen

Absent: Bradley Hoferkamp, Karen Porfido, Shawn Potillo, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Fred Steinbaum, Thomas Sellaro

Alternates Present: Marie Galate, Ryan Gilfillan, Steven Levinson,

With eight 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 McCarthy makes a motion. Commissioner Tessier 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 Senatore 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 May minutes. Commissioner Tessier makes a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner McCarthy seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Chevrestt	Abstain	Stevens	Yes
Crowley	Yes	Tessier	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes

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Senatore	Yes	Smith	Yes
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The motion passes 7-100 (one abstention).

VI. Treasurer’s Report

Todd Stevens provides the Treasurer’s report. He comments on receipt of the quarterly statutory payment and grant reimbursements. Commissioner Stevens provides an overview of expenditures including costs associated with the Commission’s grants. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the Monthly Cash Report. Commissioner Wilsusen makes a motion. Commissioner Tessier seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Chevrestt	Yes	Stevens	Yes
Crowley	Yes	Tessier	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Senatore	Yes	Smith	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.

VIII. Chairman’s Report

Chair Smith states that he and Marty Kane met with Senator Bucco. He states that there is not much support in the State legislature for raising boat licensing fees. The Commission needs to find alternate sources of funding.

IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments

No comments.

X. Administrator’s Update

Mrs. Lyons provides an update on current grants. She states that the Resolution supporting changes to the Water Level Management Plan that was approved at the May meeting was sent to NJDEP. She states that the Audit Engagement Letter was also provided to the auditor. Mrs. Lyons states that she needs to finalize the HAB grant addendum. All projects under the 319 grant are complete with the exception of some monitoring by Princeton Hydro. The Commission advertised a bid for the NFWF Musconetcong Streambank Stabilization Project. Unfortunately, all bids

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came in over budget. Princeton Hydro has recommended rejection of bids. She states that Roxbury, Hopatcong and Mount Arlington have installed biochar under the Lakes Grant. We are working with Jefferson DPW to install biochar in their MTDs. Mrs. Lyons states that she, Marty and Kyle will visit a lake with a similar oxygenation system to observe its operation.

XI. Weed Harvesting Report

Mr. Calderio states that two machines were moved to Lee's County Park. He states that a machine was also moved to Ashley Cove. One machine will be in Woodport starting tomorrow.

XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Kyle Richter, Executive Director of the Lake Hopatcong Foundation provides an update on Foundation activities. He states that this is the last week of the field trip program. The Foundation hosted 2,000 students from 30 schools. He states that the Shrink Wrap Program recycled 21,000 pounds of shrink wrap that would have otherwise gone to the landfill. The Foundation has assisted the Commission with the 319 Grant Socks for Docks Program and still has a few socks remaining. Mr. Richter states that the Foundation Annual Meeting is on Thursday at 6:30p and the Annual Gala is on July 18th at the Stone Water.

Princeton Hydro Updates

Pat Rose of Princeton Hydro provides an update on their activities. He states that the first water quality monitoring event took place on May 14th. Conditions looked good. Mr. Rose will be on the lake again this week for June water quality monitoring. He states that the Landing Channel engineering report is complete and under review, the 2024 Trout Habitat Proposal is on the agenda for the June Highlands Council meeting, this is the third and final year. He comments on the NFWF Grant and Musconetcong Bids. Princeton Hydro will meet with the Commission and Foundation to discuss options. Mr. Rose provides updates on the additional projects on the lake.

XIII. Updates

State Park Updates

Commissioner Chevrestt introduces herself as Commissioner Owowski's replacement while he is temporarily working at Liberty State Park. Commissioner Chevrestt states that the water level is currently 9' 11", slightly lower than this time last year. She states that Jacob Hamilton will be the new Superintendent for Hopatcong State Park and starts on Saturday. She states that the swimming area at Hopatcong State Park will open on Wednesday June 12th.

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CAC Meeting

No update.

Committee Updates

Land Use Committee Update

Committee Chair Tessier provides an update on applications within 200 feet of Lake Hopatcong.

Budget

Commissioner Stevens provides an update in Committee Chair Steinbaum's absence.

Finance

No update.

Bylaws

No update.

Planning

No updates.

Public Outreach

No update.

Ice Retardant

Committee Chair McCarthy states that the ordinance was submitted to the municipalities, and they are reviewing their comments and concerns.

Ad-Hoc Boating Safety

Commissioner Stevens states that the committee will share a presentation in July.

Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat

Committee Chair McCarthy states that eleven trout were caught this season, so far no hold overs.

Ad Hoc Goose Management

Commissioner Stevens states that there are a lot of goslings this year. There was some turnover of staff at USDA which may account for less eggs addled.

XIV. New Items

No new items.

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XV. Public Comments

Marie Galate, Alternate Commissioner from Hopatcong introduces the new Borough Administrator, Neil Spidaletto.

XVI. Action Items

RES 24-10 Bid Cancellation

RES 24-11 Employment Agreement – Maintenance Supervisor

RES 24-12 Employment Agreement – Maintenance Technician

RES 24-13 Contract – Full Time Administrator

Chair Smith introduces each of the resolutions and proposes they be voted on in a block. He states that Resolution 24-11 will be voted on at the July meeting and be retroactive to July 1st. He entertains a motion to approve the resolutions. Commissioner Tessier makes a motion. Commissioner McCarthy seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Chevrestt	Yes	Stevens	Yes
Crowley	Yes	Tessier	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Senatore	Yes	Smith	Yes

The motion passes unanimously.

XVII. Close of Meeting

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

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