

**Lake Hopatcong Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes –April 10, 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: Bradley Hoferkamp, Daniel McCarthy, Neil Senatore, Fred Steinbaum, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen, Ronald Smith

Absent: Mark Crowley, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Joshua Osowski, Thomas Sellaro, Todd Stevens

Alternates Present: Laura Franek, Bill Hirschfeld, Karen Porfido, Shawn Potillo, Ryan Gilfillan, Steven Levinson

With ten 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 Hoferkamp seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Franek	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Levinson	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Smith	Yes
Porfido	Yes		
Potillo	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

**VI. Treasurer’s Report**

Colleen Lyons provides a review of the list of bills in Commissioner Stevens absence. She states that the Commission received payment from the Knee-Deep

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Club for the trout study. She states after payment of bills the balance is \$601,150.03. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion, Commissioner Tessier seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Franek	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Levinson	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Smith	Yes
Porfido	Yes		
Potillo	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 Commission received a copy of the monthly land use report, ice retardant draft ordinance, FY 2022 audit engagement letter, truck purchase quote for the harvesting program and an email from Sam DeAlba regarding water level and lake outflow.

**VIII. Chairman’s Report**

Chairman Smith states that he would like to vote on the purchase of a new truck for the harvesting program at the next meeting. He states that the quarry is being pressured about dust issues, however the Commission is not involved because of the ongoing settlement with the quarry. He states that the full-time harvesting position has been advertised and seasonal personnel are also being addressed.

**IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments**

Alternate Commissioner Levinson states that the weed harvesting committee is working on the policy and procedure manual. Some chapters need to be reviewed and updated. Commissioner Wilsusen states that the mayors will meet with DEP on April 26<sup>th</sup>.

**X. Administrator’s Update**

Colleen Lyons provides an update on her activities. She states that Mount Arlington will continue use of the aeration unit, Lake Forest has opted not to continue use, and she is still waiting to hear from Shore Hills Community Club. She states that

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she is working to catch up on HABs grant reporting and will submit a report this week. Princeton Hydro has been working on the National Fish and Wildlife Grant and Mrs. Lyons submitted a no cost time extension for the grant. She has been working on the grant agreement requirements for the lake funding grant and is waiting for feedback from NJDEP.

**XI. Weed Harvesting Report**

Michael Calderio provides an update on weed harvesting activities. He states that all of the registrations for equipment are up-to-date. They are working on putting the new motor on the old machine. He states that the other machines are in good shape. He hopes to be on the water May 8<sup>th</sup> and have the harvesters at the LH Block Party. He would like to have the Boston Whaler on the lake before May.

**XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates**

Kyle Richter provides an update on Foundation activities. Mr. Richter states that the shrink wrap recycling program is now in place and all the marinas on the lake are participating. The dumpster is at the Mount Arlington Recycling Center. He states that the Block Party is May 20<sup>th</sup>, Hudson Farm hike on May 13<sup>th</sup> and the river clean up on Friday. He states that the Foundation will hold an eco-friendly landscaping presentation Thursday at 7pm. Commissioner McCarthy asks if there is shrink wrap recycling at the Hopatcong Borough recycling facility, Mr. Richter states that it's not available there this year. Marty Kane provides additional updates. He states that the Lake's Funding Bill is moving slowly. He provides an update on the Jefferson Sewer Funding through Congresswoman Mikie Sherill's office, municipal ordinances, and the Hopatcong State Park fountain. He states that the Boat Regulation Committee will be at the LH Yacht Club on July 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

**Princeton Hydro Updates**

Dr. Fred Lubnow provides an update on Princeton Hydro's activities. He states that he is working on the contract for the lake's bill that will allow them to begin work. He states that there is a supplemental environmental project meeting with the quarry professionals on Friday. Princeton Hydro is nearly done with the NFWF design for stabilization on the Musconetcong river. He states that the 2022 Trout Habitat Report and 2023 study request was forwarded to Jefferson Township. The Morris County Oxygenation RFP was sent to Morris County and on April 17<sup>th</sup> Paul Gantzer will begin the sediment oxygen demand study for design of an oxygenation system.

**XIII. Updates**

**State Park Updates**

Alternate Commissioner Franek states that the water level is 8.52 feet. She states that per the water level management plan the pilot program states that the flow

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cannot be lowered unless gauges are below the median at Musconetcong, Bloomsbury and Green Pond Brook. Currently they are under the median, so DEP will not lower the flow.

**CAC Meeting**

Alternate Commissioner Franek states that the April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting was canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for May 23<sup>rd</sup>. The annual drawdown will be discussed.

**Committee Updates**

**Land Use Committee Update**

Chair Tessier provides an overview of land use applications in the watershed over the past month. He states that the committee is making progress with the municipal land use board's and the applicants.

**Budget**

No updates.

**Finance**

Chair Stevens is not present. Chair Smith states that he would like to complete both the 2021 and 2022 audits by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Bylaws**

No updates.

**Planning**

Chair McCarthy has no new updates.

**Public Outreach**

Alternate commissioner Porfido mentions the volunteer list for the Commission booth at the Block Party.

**Ice Retardant**

Chair McCarthy provides an updated ice retardant ordinance for review. The language for an outright ban on propeller driven systems was removed.

**Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat**

Chair McCarthy states that on March 26<sup>th</sup> 1,000 tagged brown trout were stocked. None stocked south of bedbug island because of the dam. The committee has also set up banners and is working to have one placed at Brady Bridge.

**Ad Hoc Goose Management**

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Alternate Commissioner Porfido states that the committee met today. They have a plan to contact volunteers for the lake to cover certain sections. USDA is out adding nests.

**XIV. New Items**

Weed Harvesting Truck Purchase

Colleen Lyons states that she is finalizing paperwork and it will be presented at the next meeting.

**XV. Public Comments**

Sam DeAlba, Lake Hopatcong – states that the rainfall outlook for the month is poor and the lake has received 7.95” over the past three months. He states that he is concerned about refill and the outflow at the dam should be reduced.

Tanya Lewitt, Hopatcong – states that the Foundation and Commission visited her property last year to view stormwater issues.

**XVI. Action Items**

**RES-23-06 Audit Engagement Letter**

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the FY22 Audit. Commissioner Tessier makes a motion, Commissioner Levinson seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Franek	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Levinson	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Smith	Yes
Porfido	Yes		
Potillo	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

**XVII. Close of Meeting**

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

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