

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – October 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: Daniel McCarthy, Todd Stevens, Neil Senatore, Fred Steinbaum
Absent: Anne Seibert-Pravs, Joshua Osowski, Eric Wilsusen, Karen Porfido, Mark Crowley, Bradley Hoferkamp, Robert Tessier, Ronald Smith, Ryan Gilfillan, Bill Hirschfeld, Shawn Pottillo

Alternates Present: Laura Franek, Steven Levinson, Thomas Sellaro

With six 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 states there are not enough voting members present to hold a vote on the September meeting minutes. He states that the September meeting minutes will be voted on in November.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Stevens provides an overview of the monthly cash report. He states that a payment was received from the Lake Hopatcong Foundation for the trout stocking study and reviews the invoices. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion, Commissioner Franek seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Franek	Yes	Senatore	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Sellaro	Yes	Stevens	Yes

The motion passes unanimously.

VII. Correspondence

Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, November 13, 2023
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Colleen Lyons provides an update on the Commission correspondence. She states that land use applications are available on the Commission's OneDrive. The Commission also received the monthly progress report from Princeton Hydro and emails from residents either supporting or requesting an end to the five-foot drawdown.

VIII. Chairman's Report

No update.

IX. LHC Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Stevens states that during the April and May meetings there were many complaints about aquatic weeds and lake level. He states that Mrs. Lyons responds to the public and thanks her for doing a good job.

X. Administrator's Update

Colleen Lyons provides an update on her activities. She provides an update on the Commission's grants. She states that HAB Grant reimbursement reports are up-to-date, and she is still waiting for a response from Lake Management Sciences to remove the aeration system at Lake Forest Yacht Club. There is one project remaining under the 319 grant in Hopatcong. Projects in Mount Arlington, Jefferson, and Roxbury are complete. She is working with Princeton Hydro on a budget amendment request under the NFWF grant, and continues to work on reimbursement reports. She states that the Lakes Restoration Grant agreement was approved by Budget and Finance and is now with an Assistant Commissioner for final approval. She is holding Princeton Hydro's invoices until the grant agreement is approved. She states that she has also been working on the sediment outfall cleanout project under the grant, which requires a DEP permit by certification and MOUs with each municipality and county. A public information study for a lake wide oxygenation system will be held on November 4th at 6:30pm at Roxbury Town Hall.

XI. Weed Harvesting Report

Mr. Calderio states all of the machines have been removed from the lake and are at the Franklin Building. He states that the total weeds harvested for the season are 2,200cy of wet material that was reduced to 385cy after dewatering. Morris County and Jefferson Township assisted with dewatering activities. Commissioner Steinbaum asks whether the equipment is in good shape. Mr. Calderio states that it will need some work since it has been two years since major repairs were completed.

XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

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Kyle Richter provides an update on Foundation activities. He states that the lake-wide cleanup is scheduled for November 4th from 9a-12p. There are 50 locations around the lake and volunteers can sign up online through the Foundation website. He states that the Foundation, Commission, and Mayors had their quarterly meeting with NJDEP. The meeting focused on Lakes funding and oxygenation.

Princeton Hydro Updates

Pat Rose of Princeton Hydro provides an update on projects associated with the HAB, 319, NFWF and Lakes Restoration Grant. Water quality monitoring for the season is complete and PH will begin analyzing the data and preparing the year end report. Mr. Rose states that they continue to work on Roxbury's Highlands Council grant for Landing Channel and most of the fieldwork for the study has been completed and now they will review the data. They are also continuing work on Morris County's Highlands Council grant for an oxygenation system for the lake.

XIII. Updates

State Park Updates

Alternate Commissioner Franek states that the drawdown began on September 22nd, water level is at 6.75 feet and 156 cfs.

CAC Meeting

Alternate Commissioner Franek states that at the last CAC meeting they determined they are not making any significant changes to the plan. DEP are working on the minor updates proposed by the CAC.

Committee Updates

Land Use Committee Update

No updates.

Budget

Commissioner Steinbaum provides an overview of the actual vs budget report. He states that three months into the year spending is around 25%. He states that weed harvesting staff and benefits are higher with the new full-time person. Total weed harvesting expenses are less than expected.

Finance

No updates.

Bylaws

No updates.

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Planning

No updates.

Public Outreach

No updates.

Ice Retardant

Chair McCarthy states that the committee is due for a meeting in November.

Ad-Hoc Boating Safety

No updates.

Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat

No updates.

Ad Hoc Goose Management

No update.

XIV. New Items

None

XV. Public Comments

Alternate Commissioner Levinson asks whether there has been any update on the supplemental environmental project. Mrs. Lyons states that there has been no update since the last meeting and the last update was that NJDEP and Weldon were discussing the proposed project.

John Kurzman, Lake Hopatcong states that Boating Regulation Commission has wake surfing regulations that should be promoted by the LH Commission. He states that he is concerned about glyphosate's impact on cyanobacteria growth.

XVI. Action Items

None

XVII. Close of Meeting

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

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