

***Lake Hopatcong Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes – June 9, 2025  
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, Blanca Chevrestt, Daniel McCarthy, Fred Steinbaum, Todd Stevens, Robert Tessier, Ronald Smith

Absent: Jacob Hamilton, Bradley Hoferkamp, Ryan Gilfillan, Karen Porfido, Shawn Potillo, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Neil Senatore, Eric Wilsusen

Alternates Present: Marie Galate, Steven Levinson, Thomas Sellaro

With nine members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum.

**IV. Executive Session**

There is no executive session.

**V. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the May minutes. Alternate Commissioner Levinson makes a motion to approve the minutes; Commissioner McCarthy seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Abstain
Sellaro	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Abstain
Chevrestt	Yes	Smith	Yes
Levinson	Yes		

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

**VI. Treasurer's Report**

Commissioner Stevens provides the Treasurer's report. He reviews payments of statutory funding and reimbursement on the NFWF Grant. He provides an overview of disbursements and bookkeeping adjustments. Chair Smith entertains

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a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion. Commissioner Tessier seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Sellaro	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Chevrestt	Yes	Smith	Yes
Levinson	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

**VII. Correspondence**

Mrs. Lyons states that the Commission received land use applications which are available on the Commission OneDrive account. The Commission received Princeton Hydro's monthly report and the 2025 Boating Rules for Lake Hopatcong from NJ State Police.

**VIII. Chairman's Report**

Chair Smith states that the weed harvesting program is active and making great progress. He states that the settlement with Weldon is moving along.

**IX. LHC Commissioner's Comments**

Commissioner Crowley states that New York State allows boaters to take an online safety course and that the online boating course is not accepted in New Jersey. He states that New Jersey should be consistent with the Boat US course and allow an online option.

**X. Administrator's Update**

Colleen Lyons provides an update on her activities. She is working on closing out the 319 Grant and DEP will hold the remaining 20% or \$20,000 until they have approved the closeout documents. She states that plantings were completed at Glen Brook and along the Musconetcong River. She states that the Commission received reimbursement on the grant for \$91,000 and she will submit the next report. The Commission received another NFWF Grant in 2024 and planning is underway to begin that project as well.

**XI. Weed Harvesting Report**

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Mr. Calderio states that 310 cubic yards of weeds have been harvested from the lake this season. He states that the machines are cutting in Landing Channel, Ingram Cove, King Cove, Bed Bug Island and Castle Rock.

**XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates**

Kyle Richter provides an update on Foundation activities. He states that field trips end this week, and more than 2,000 students attended the program this year. The second year of high school field trips will begin in the fall. He states that the Annual Gala will be July 17<sup>th</sup> at the Stone Water and there will be a meeting with NJDEP and the Mayors at Hudson Farms this month. Mr. Richter states that Princeton Hydro completed an Aquatic Species Early Detection Plan and are working on the Foundation's Stormwater Grant. The Foundation will hold their Annual Meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

**Princeton Hydro Updates**

Pat Rose provides an update on Princeton Hydro's activities on the lake. He states that water quality monitoring was completed on May 20<sup>th</sup>. He states that clarity is slightly better than this time last season. Cyanobacteria densities were low except for the mid lake station where it was higher than in the last couple of years. He provides an overview of the Commission's and Foundation's grants. Biochar has been purchased and distributed to the municipalities under the 319 Grant. Princeton Hydro assisted the Commission in an application to the 2025 319 Grant RFP to restore two stormwater basins in Roxbury. He states that Princeton Hydro completed post treatment sampling in Crescent Cove under their Army Corps Grant and saw an improvement in clarity. They hope that the treatment will control HABs for the season. Commissioner McCarthy comments that in the winter there were no weeds under the ice, but now there has been a lot of weed growth. Mr. Rose responds that the winter weeds are a result of the previous year's growth.

**XIII. Updates**

**State Park Updates**

Commissioner Chevestt states that the water level is 9.22 feet.

**CAC Meeting**

Commissioner McCarthy states that there was a meeting with NJDEP Division of Parks to review public comments on the WLMP. The Commission will be responsible for overseeing the CAC. They will set up the meetings and solicit public input and then submit it to the NJDEP.

**Committee Updates**

**Land Use Committee Update**

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Committee Chair Tessier states that the Planner reached the end of his contract allotment and so he will begin work again in July.

**Budget**

Committee Chair Steinbaum reviews spending to date. He states that the Commission has spent 91% of its budget which is appropriate for this point in the fiscal year.

**Finance**

Committee Chair Stevens states that the HAB Grant reports were reviewed to confirm that \$500,000 was received. He states that the FY2023 books will be sent to the auditor soon.

**Bylaws**

No update.

**Planning**

No updates.

**Public Outreach**

Committee Chair Pravs is not present.

**Ad-Hoc Ice Retardant**

Committee Chair McCarthy states that the committee is waiting to hear from the municipalities and requests that this be mentioned at the upcoming Mayor's Meeting.

**Ad-Hoc Boating Safety**

No update. The July Boating Regulation Commission meeting will be held at Lake Hopatcong in July.

**Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat**

Committee Chair McCarthy states the committee met and reviewed the draft report.

**Ad Hoc Goose Management**

Committee Chair Porfido is not present.

**XIV. New Items**

No new items.

**XV. Public Comments**

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Mr. Pedati, Roxbury asks a question about the Roxbury Basin Project.  
Jon Conklin, Lakeside Blvd Andover asks about weed growth at the Knollwood Club. Mr. Calderio states that there are a lot of rocks in that area.  
Brenden Duffy asks if the public can review the Invasive Species Plan. Mr. Richter states that it is a Foundation Grant and is not available to the public currently.  
Neil Strain, Raccoon Island states that there are 50 geese in front of his dock.  
Lynn Owens asks about the weed growth at Byram Community Club. Mr. Calderio states that they are working near Stony Point.

**XVI. Action Items**

Chair Smith introduces Resolutions 25-10 Appointing Part-Time Seasonal Laborers and Resolution 25-11 Appointing A Part-Time Seasonal Laborer. He entertains a motion to approve both. Commissioner McCarthy makes a motion. Alternate Commissioner Levinson seconds the motion.

**Roll Call:**

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Sellaro	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Chevrestt	Yes	Smith	Yes
Levinson	Yes		

The motion passes unanimously.

**XVII. Close of Meeting**

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

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