

***Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – September 8, 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, Jacob Hamilton, Bradley Hoferkamp, Daniel McCarthy, Neil Senatore, Fred Steinbaum, Todd Stevens, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen, Ronald Smith

Absent: Blanca Chevrestt, Steven Levinson, Anne Seibert-Pravs, Shawn Potillo, Thomas Sellaro

Alternates Present: Marie Galate, Ryan Gilfillan, Karen Porfido

With eleven members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum.

IV. Executive Session

There is no need for an executive session

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the September minutes. Commissioner Crowley makes a motion to approve the minutes; Commissioner Wilsusen seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hamilton	Abstain	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Hoferkamp	Abstain	Tessier	Abstain
Porfido	Abstain	Smith	Yes
Senatore	Yes		

The motion passes 7-4-0 (four abstentions).

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 13, 2025
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

***Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2025
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

VI. Treasurer’s Report

Commissioner Stevens provides the Treasurer’s report. He states that the Commission received their first quarterly payment of \$124,223, which includes the amount deducted by NJDEP for fuel for the harvesting program. He reviews expenses including payroll, Princeton Hydro, the Commission’s planner and bookkeeper, and the Weed Harvesting Program expenses. He notes interest revenue and the balance after expenses is \$520,112. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Commissioner Crowley makes a motion. Commissioner Wilsusen seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hamilton	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Porfido	Yes	Smith	Yes
Senatore	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 monthly updates from their planner, Russell Stern and Princeton Hydro.

VIII. Chairman’s Report

Chair Smith states that the Weldon Quarry settlement is coming to an end after several years.

IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments

Commissioner Wilsusen states that due to the lack of rain the lake is low.

X. Administrator’s Update

Colleen Lyons provides an update on her activities. She states that all closeout documents for the NJDEP 319 Grant have been submitted. Mrs. Lyons states that the Commission and Princeton Hydro will meet with NFWF to discuss their proposal to use remaining funds under the grant for plantings in Hopatcong State Park. Planning is underway for the 2024 NFWF Grant for implementation of a stormwater conveyance in Witten Park in Hopatcong.

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 13, 2025
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

***Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2025
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

XI. Weed Harvesting Report

Mr. Calderio states that the two machines that were down have been repaired. He states that he started pulling out the machines in preparation for the boat races. They will be keeping two at Lee's County Park to finish up harvesting. He states that 1,682 cubic yards have been harvested and will be transferred from the Snowbowl property to the Morris County MUA.

XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Marty Kane provides an update on Foundation activities. He states that the next Boating Regulation Commission meeting is on Wednesday in Toms River. He states that the Antique Boat Clubs 50th Anniversary will be held at Lee's County Pavillion on September 27th. He states that the Museum open house marking 60 years will be held at the State Park on September 12th. Mr. Kane states that work on the fountain will be completed in two weeks. The fountain should stay on until the water comes over the dam again. He states that the Foundation Lake Loop is on October 5th. There will be boat races on the lake the weekends of the 13th & 14th and 20th & 21st. Commissioner Steinbaum asks why the fountain height is lower. Mr. Kane responds that it keeps more water in the Musconetcong to keep flow below the dam.

Princeton Hydro Updates

Dr. Fred Lubnow provides an update on Princeton Hydro's activities on the lake. He states that water clarity is about 25% better than 2024. In Crescent Cove clarity has also improved. In addition, the cyanobacteria concentrations in the open water have improved. He states that soluble reactive phosphorus over the sediments was 0.005mg/L in 2025 and 0.05mg/L in 2024. The reduction is due to the alum treatment in the fall of 2024. The results of the August cyanotoxin monitoring program showed that no cyanotoxins were measured. In Crescent Cove lack of cyanotoxins is attributable to the Army Corps ERDC treatments. Princeton Hydro also completed their Aquatic Plant Survey last week. The dominant species are Eurasian Water Milfoil and Tape Grass. He states that Princeton Hydro has also been working on the redesign of the bioretention strip in Jefferson Township. They have requested a preapplication meeting with NJDEP for the Roxbury Basins. He states that the permit from NJDEP to conduct the remaining ERDC treatments was issued. Princeton Hydro will begin the remaining treatments next week. He states that the Philadelphia Army Corps will be onsite for treatments. Commissioner Steinbaum asks if high weed growth should be expected again next year. Dr. Lubnow believes it will be similar due to the increase in water clarity.

XIII. Updates
State Park Updates

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 13, 2025
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

***Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2025
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

Alternate Commissioner Hamilton states the water level is 8.28 feet. He does not have an update on the Water Level Management Plan.

CAC Meeting

No update.

Committee Updates

Land Use Committee Update

Committee Chair Tessier reviews the recent Land Use Board applications.

Budget

Committee Chair Steinbaum reviews spending to date. He states that the Commission received the first quarter funding payment and income from interest. The Commission FY26 budget is more than the statutory funding of \$500,00 and is instead based on a \$613,000 budget. The spending year-to-date is about 16% of the budget which is appropriate for this point in the year.

Finance

No update.

Bylaws

No update.

Planning

No update.

Public Outreach

Committee Chair Pravs is not present.

Ad-Hoc Ice Retardant

Committee Chair McCarthy states that the committee is waiting for more information from the municipal administrators. Alternate Commissioner Porfido states that Mount Arlington is not inclined to revise their ordinance. Commissioner McCarthy requests that the committee meet with the Administrator.

Ad-Hoc Boating Safety

No update.

Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat

No update.

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 13, 2025
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

***Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2025
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***

Ad Hoc Goose Management

Committee Chair Alternate Commissioner Porfido says that USDA will provide a report in September. Commissioner Porfido will reach out to schedule a presentation of their results.

XIV. New Items

No new items.

XV. Public Comments

John Kurzman, Lake Hopatcong states that the DEP website indicates that unconfined groundwater is at the warning level. He states that he sent an email on the Water Level Management Plan to parks@nj.gov in August of 2024 stating that a federal environmental impact study should be completed if they are not closing the dam in the summer. He comments on Princeton Hydro's Army Corp Grant treatments and states that Phoslock depletes good cyanobacteria. He provides an example from Lake Erie and states that Phoslock increases toxic algae and nitrogen. He comments on test strips that are available for water quality testing.

Tom Turik, Raccoon Island states that he spends the winter in Texas. He reads the Commission meeting minutes and requests that they be improved he asks if recording can go on the website. Chair Smith suggests that recordings be placed on the website.

XVI. Action Items

RES-13 Resolution Approving the Agreement with Weldon Quarry for the Supplemental Environmental Project.

Carried to a future meeting.

XVII. Close of Meeting

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

***Next Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 13, 2025
In Person Meeting, Lake Hopatcong Train Station
125 Landing Rd, Landing NJ 07850***