

***Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – November 10, 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: Blanca Chevestt, Mark Crowley, Bradley Hoferkamp, Karen Porfido, Fred Steinbaum, Todd Stevens, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen, Ronald Smith

Absent: Jacob Hamilton, Daniel McCarthy, Neil Senatore, Shawn Potillo

Alternates Present: Marie Galate, Ryan Gilfillan, Phil Harvey, Steven Levinson, Thomas Sellaro,

With eleven members present, Chair Smith declares a quorum.

IV. Executive Session

No executive session.

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the October minutes. Commissioner Hoferkamp makes a motion to approve the minutes; Commissioner Crowley seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Abstain
Galate	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Chevestt	Abstain	Wilsusen	Yes
Levinson	Abstain	Smith	Yes
Porfido	Abstain		

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

VI. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Stevens provides the Treasurer's report. He states that the Witten Park NFWF Grant column is not included in the totals. He reviews the receivables

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including a payment on the 2021 NFWF Grant and interest. Commissioner Stevens reviews the expenses including payroll, Princeton Hydro invoices, the Commission planner, attorney, weed harvesting, administrator, USDA Goose Management Program, and credit card expenses. Commissioner Stevens explains that there was check fraud on a check written to Dover Brake and payment is being reissued. The bank will eventually reimburse the Commission for the stolen check. He states that after expenses the balance in the account is \$570,182. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Commissioner Levinson makes a motion. Commissioner Crowley seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Yes
Galate	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Chevrestt	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Levinson	Yes	Smith	Yes
Porfido	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. They also received the monthly planner's report and Princeton Hydro's monthly report.

VIII. Chairman's Report

Chair Smith states that Mike Calderio's brother passed away and the Commission sent a donation to Schriner's Children's Hospital in his name. He states that he wants to set a meeting with Jefferson Recycling to discuss weed disposal for next season.

IX. New Jersey State Police Year End Update

Sgt. Buro, Lt. Tracy, and Sgt. Koster present a year end summary about police activities on Lake Hopatcong. Sgt. Buro states that there will be a larger presentation on policing statistics in the future. He states that Lake Hopatcong State Police station will be constructed between March and September 2026. They are looking for temporary locations to run operations over this summer. Lt. Tracy discusses community events on the lake including the power boat races this fall. He states that in the future they will do more community outreach and involvement including the with the Commission, but overall, the event was successful. There

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were eight boating under the influence citations issued this season. Lt. Tracy states that high visibility in Byram Cove was the goal and complaints were much lower than in the past. Sgt. Koser states that NJ State Police (NJSP) hosted a basic law enforcement course for local police. Training exercises on the Ms. Lotta were also held to teach operator and people in the boat how to get onto the Ms. Lotta in case of emergency. NJSP T.E.A.M.S. hosted training on additional search and rescue training techniques. Sgt. Buro comments on the ice safety presentations in the elementary schools and the boating safety certification courses for kids. Commissioner Steinbaum states that police presence is so much better than it used to be and asks what the most challenging issue is. Lt. Tracy responds that new boaters are challenging and that is why they are pushing education through social media and in the schools.

X. LHC Commissioner's Comments

None.

XI. Administrator's Update

Colleen Lyons provides an update on her activities. She states that she received a copy of the Draft FY23 Audit Report and forwarded it to Chair Smith and Commissioner Stevens. She states that the Commission received a \$367,000 319 Grant for restoration of two stormwater basins in Roxbury Township. She states that all documents have been submitted for the Commission's current 319 Grant and are under review by NJDEP so that the final payment can be issued. Mrs. Lyons states that the Commission and Princeton Hydro are working with NFWF to finalize a scope change for the 2021 NFWF Grant and planning is underway for the 2024 NFWF Grant for Witten Park.

XII. Weed Harvesting Report

Chair Smith states that Mike is not at the meeting, but that all the machines are out of the water.

XIII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Marty Kane, Board Chair of the Lake Hopatcong Foundation provides an update on Foundation activities. He states that the Foundation is trying to set a meeting with the Governor elect to discuss funding for lakes. They are also setting a meeting with the new State Assemblywoman, Marrisona Sweeney. Mr. Kane provides an update on the State Park Fountain. He states that the fountain is off while they wait for installation of their screening equipment. He states that the proposal for construction of a barn building to expand the museum is about to enter the formal approval process. He states that the celebration of the 250th anniversary of United States is July 2026. He is working with Morris County tourism to plan an event on

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July 11th. He states that fireworks are on June 26th. Commissioner Steinbaum asks about progress on the sewerage of Jefferson. Commissioner Wilsusen states that Jefferson has the money in place, but it will take time. Commissioner Levinson states that he may have contacts for Assemblywoman Sweeney and Governor-elect Sherrill's office if needed.

XIV. Princeton Hydro Updates

Pat Rose from Princeton Hydro provides an update on their activities as outlined in their monthly memo. He states that the annual water quality report will be available in early 2026 followed by a presentation on the results.

XV. Updates

State Park Updates

Commissioner Chevrestt states that the water level is at 7.5 feet. She states that it has been quiet at the park. Commissioner Steinbaum asks when the drawdown will start. Commissioner Chevrestt responds that there are only four inches to go. Commissioner Steinbaum asks if the State Park will restrict launching of personal watercraft (PWC) at the state park on the weekends. Commissioner Chevrestt states that the State Park is the only facility on the lake that allows PWC launches but there is no talk of restricting them.

Committee Updates

Land Use Committee Update

Committee Chair Tessier reviews recommendations from the Commission's planner. Commissioner Steinbaum asks about a west shore dock approval that is before the NJDEP. Commissioner Chevrestt states that the approval is made by the municipalities first and then approval by the State Park. There is a discussion of the commercial and residential approval process and Parks approvals versus the Division of Land Use Regulation approvals.

Budget

Committee Chair Steinbaum reviews spending to date and states that spending is at about 33% which is accurate for being four months into the fiscal year. He reminds the Board that the income from the state is \$500,000 and this year's budget is based on \$613,000. He states that if the budget doesn't increase there will be issues in the future.

Finance

Committee Chair Stevens states that the Draft FY23 Audit was received. The Committee will review, and the final draft should be available at the December meeting for approval.

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Bylaws

No update.

Planning

No update.

Public Outreach

No update.

Ad-Hoc Ice Retardant

No update.

Ad-Hoc Boating Safety

No update.

Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat

No update.

Ad Hoc Goose Management

Committee Chair Porfido states that there will be a presentation in December from USDA on the 2025 Addling Program.

CAC Meeting/WLMP Update

No update.

XVI. New Items

No new items.

XVII. Public Comments

Brennan Shaprinko, Roxbury is an angler and asks about communication with anglers. He is concerned about herbicide treatment and about bass spawning and management of the fishery. Mrs. Lyons will connect Mr. Shaprinko and Commissioner McCarthy.

Sam DeAlba, Lake Hopatcong comments on the plans for the CAC and WLMP going forward.

XVIII. Action Items

No action items.

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XIX. Close of Meeting

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

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