

Lake Hopatcong Commission
Annual Reorganization Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2026
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, Bradley Hoferkamp, Daniel McCarthy, Karen Porfido, Neil Senatore, Todd Stevens, Robert Tessier, Ronald Smith

Absent: Shawn Potillo, Steven Levinson, Thomas Sellaro, Fred Steinbaum, Eric Wilsusen

Alternates Present: Ryan Gilfillan, Marie Galate, Jacob Hamilton, Phil Harvey,
With ten 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 December minutes. Commissioner Hoferkamp makes a motion to approve the minutes; Commissioner McCarthy seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Porfido	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Hamilton	Yes	Gilfillan	Abstain
Senatore	Yes	Smith	Abstain

The motion passes 8-0-2 (two abstentions)

VI. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Stevens provides the Treasurer's report. The Commission started the month with \$642,610. He states that the cash receipts are primarily from interest. He reviews the expenses including payroll, Princeton Hydro invoices,

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CLC Consulting, attorney, planner, weed harvesting insurance and expenses, the website, bookkeeper and internet expenses. After expenses the balance is \$571,016. Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Commissioner McCarthy makes a motion to approve the minutes; Commissioner Hoferkamp seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Porfido	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Hamilton	Yes	Gilfillan	Yes
Senatore	Yes	Smith	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 asks Ms. Lyons if there is any update on the Weldon settlement. Ms. Lyons states that she will contact the Commission attorney. Chair Smith asks the municipal representatives to provide a decision to Weldon as soon as possible. He states that he wants to hold a Weed Harvesting meeting on January 28th.

IX. LHC Commissioner’s Comments

No comments.

X. Administrator’s Update

Colleen Lyons provides an update on her activities. She states that she attended a meeting with the Lake Hopatcong Foundation to brief Assemblywoman-elect Sweeney on lake issues. She also met with the Foundation and Princeton Hydro for information on funding from Green Acres for Landing Channel. She states that a reimbursement request for the 2021 NFWF Grant was submitted at the end of December as well as a scope of work change for the planting projects in Roxbury and Hopatcong State Park. She states that the planning stages are underway for the 2024 NFWF Grant in Witten Park. The Commission is waiting for a contract from NJDEP for the 2025 319 Grant for restoration of the stormwater basin on Mount Arlington Boulevard in Roxbury.

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XI. Weed Harvesting Report

Michael Calderio provides an update on weed harvesting activities. He states that by the end of the week all the equipment will be taken apart and a parts list will be put together. He is discussing quotes with vendors.

XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Kyle Richter provides an update for the Foundation. He provides an update on the Block Party. He will participate in the upcoming Hill Day in Washington D.C. Marty Kane discusses updates on the election and Governor-elect Sherrill. He provides an update on the meeting with Assemblywoman Sweeney. He states that the NJ League of Conservation Voters has added lakes to their environmental priorities list. He states that Army Corps funding should remain available under the current administration. Commissioner Porfido asks for the Block Party date. Kyle Richter responds May 16th.

XIII. Princeton Hydro Updates

Dr. Lubnow provides an update on Princeton Hydro's activities as outlined in their meeting memo. He then presents the findings of the 2025 Water Quality monitoring. He focuses on the benefits of the alum treatment in fall of 2024 including increased water clarity and lower phosphorus availability for algae. He notes that the result of increased clarity is increased weeds, but that this is preferable to algae blooms. Commissioner Tessier asks how often alum treatment should occur. Dr. Lubnow states that this treatment should last at least five years. Princeton Hydro may suggest an additional small treatment for the deepest section of the lake where there may be a small pulse of nutrients. Commissioner Crowley asks how much water temperature has increased in the lake. Dr. Lubnow states that it has increased about nine degrees Fahrenheit since the 1990's. Commissioner Harvey states that an easy-to-read version of this data should be available to the public. Kyle Richter and Dr. Lubnow respond that a webinar will be hosted by the Foundation with Dr. Lubnow presenting findings of water quality monitoring. The webinar will be held in March.

XIV. Updates

State Park Updates

Alternate Commissioner Hamilton states that the water level is at 7.24 feet. He states that they plan to open the gates toward the middle or end of the week. Marty Kane states that the Fountain is running.

Committee Updates

Land Use Committee Update

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Committee Chair Tessier reviews Russell Stern's January 8th report. He states that all the Land Use Boards are taking more consideration of the lake in their approvals. He states it would be interesting to see where rain gardens were installed in the watershed.

Budget

Commissioner Stevens states the budget vs actual chart is a good tool for assessing spending to date. He states that the spending looks appropriate for this time of the year.

Finance

Committee Chair Stevens none.

Bylaws

No update.

Planning

No update.

Public Outreach

No update.

Ad-Hoc Ice Retardant

Committee Chair McCarthy states that the lake is mostly covered with ice. Some ice retardant systems are running a little high. Porfido comments on the ice variability in different areas of the lake.

Ad-Hoc Boating Safety

Committee Chair Steinbaum in not present.

Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat

Committee Chair McCarthy states that there have been no reports of trout being caught. He states that the final report should be submitted. Dr. Lubnow will confirm with Pat Rose.

Ad Hoc Goose Management

No update.

CAC Meeting/WLMP Update

Committee Chair McCarthy states that a meeting will be set. Ms. Lyons to send an email.

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XV. New Items

No new items.

XVI. Public Comments

Brendan Chuprinko, comments on a Fish and Wildlife report. Commissioner McCarthy asks Alternate Commissioner Hamilton if the Fish and Wildlife report will be provided. Alternate Commissioner Hamilton states that he will confirm, but he thinks it may be available in February or March. Mr. Chuprinko asks about herbicide permits. Commissioner McCarthy states that the Commission has asked NJDEP for the permit applications and they have not received them.

XVII. Action Items

RES 26-01 Approving 2026 Meeting Dates

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve Resolution 26-01. Commissioner Hoferkamp makes a motion; Commissioner Crowley seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Porfido	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Hamilton	Yes	Gilfillan	Yes
Senatore	Yes	Smith	Yes

The motion passes unanimously.

RES 26-02 Approving the Commission Official Newspapers

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve Resolution 26-02. Commissioner McCarthy makes a motion; Commissioner Tessier seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Porfido	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Hamilton	Yes	Gilfillan	Yes
Senatore	Yes	Smith	Yes

The motion passes unanimously.

RES 26-03 Approving Princeton Hydro Contracts

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Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve Resolution 26-03. Commissioner Stevens notes that without an approved FY2027 budget the Board cannot vote on the resolution. The resolution will be carried to the February meeting.

RES 26-04 Goose Management Program for Lake Hopatcong

Chair Smith entertains a motion to approve Resolution 26-04. Commissioner Tessier makes a motion to approve the resolution amended to select option three for nest and addling activities and three days of molt capture. Commissioner Porfido seconds the motion. Commissioner Crowley states that the Commission's role is to protect water quality of the lake. He states that geese negatively impact water quality, but that he will vote no because he believes the Commission should ask the State to fund a Goose Management Program for multiple years. The Commission only has funds for this program for one year. He states that there should be a special meeting to inform the public about goose management. Commissioner Tessier states that geese are a large contributor to water quality. He states that the Commission will be prepared with information for the public.

Roll Call:

Crowley	No	Porfido	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Yes
McCarthy	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Hamilton	Abstain	Gilfillan	Yes
Senatore	Yes	Smith	Yes

The motion passes (8-1-1). One abstention.

XVIII. Close of Meeting

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

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