

***Lake Hopatcong Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – June 8, 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: Blanca Chevrestt, Mark Crowley, Bradley Hoferkamp, Karen Porfido, Neil Senatore, Fred Steinbaum, Todd Stevens, Robert Tessier, Eric Wilsusen, Ronald Smith

Absent: Daniel McCarthy, Jacob Hamilton, Shawn Potillo

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

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 May minutes. Commissioner Steinbaum makes a motion to adopt the minutes. Commissioner Hoferkamp seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Abstain	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Abstain
Chevrestt	Abstain	Tessier	Yes
Galate	Yes	Wilsusen	Yes
Porfido	Yes	Smith	Yes
Senatore	Yes		

The motion passes 8-0-3 (three abstentions)

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VI. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Stevens provides the Treasurer's report. He reviews payments including the quarterly statutory payment. He reviews disbursements including payroll, PH invoices for grants, goose flyers, administrator, planner, NJ Pension and Benefits expenses, weed harvesting expenses, employee expenses, polos and t-shirts, and bookkeeper. He states that there is \$631,374 remaining after expenses.

Roll Call:

Crowley	Yes	Steinbaum	Yes
Hoferkamp	Yes	Stevens	Yes
Chevrestt	Yes	Tessier	Yes
Galate	Yes	Wilsusen	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. They also received Princeton Hydro's monthly report, the Lakes Grant Biochar Report, and the Roxbury Constructed Wetland Concept Plan. Morris County also provided eight copies of the Morris County Manual.

VIII. Chairman's Report

Chair Smith provides an update on weed harvesting and requests that a meeting of the Weed Harvesting Committee be scheduled.

IX. LHC Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Tessier states that the Department of Community Affairs was asked by Mount Arlington Borough to assist with a pedestrian bike path around the lake. There is a general discussion on the trail/path. Commissioner Wilsusen states that there is a Lake Hopatcong Mayor's Meeting on Friday.

X. Administrator's Update

Colleen Lyons provides an update on her activities. She states that she attended a PLANJ meeting on June 1st and attended a brief meeting with Congresswoman Meija on May 29th. Mrs. Lyons states that NJDEP requested additional information for the SEP which will be submitted to NJDEP after Weldon's counsel reviews the materials. She provides an update on grants and states that the Commission is still

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waiting for a final grant agreement for the new 2025 319 Grant. She states that she is waiting for the federal requirements to be finalized for the planting projects under the 2021 NFWF Grant. She states that due to a design issue the bid for the Witten Park project was cancelled. Hopatcong's administrator is working to find a resolution with the County.

XI. Weed Harvesting Report

Michael Calderio states that they have harvested 1,072 cubic yards of aquatic plants in 15 days compared with 1,700 cubic yards for the entire season in 2025. He states that they will be sending two machines to Crescent Cove at the end of next week. One machine will go to north of Brady Bridge to work with the harvester that is up there already.

XII. Lake Hopatcong Foundation Updates

Caitlin Doran provides an update on Foundation activities. She states that over 5,000 people attended the Block Party in May. The Foundation Gala is July 16th. Ms. Doran states that the Lake Hopatcong 250th Celebration is on the historical museum website and will be held on July 11th. She states that the Lake Friendly living program is available on the Foundation website. She states that Congresswoman Meija visited the lake and that two interns will be at the antique boat show representing the Foundation at the LH Yacht Club.

XIII. Princeton Hydro Updates

Dr. Fred Lubnow provides an update on Princeton Hydro's activities as outlined in their meeting memo. He notes that in 2017 water clarity was between 2-2.5 meters. Then in 2019 clarity went down to 1.6m because there were more algae in the water column. Between 2024-2025 clarity was 1.5-1.8m. May 2026 was the first time since 2018 that the clarity was 2m. He explains that increased water clarity allows more sunlight to reach the sediments and encourages more weed growth. He states that the increased water clarity also indicates that efforts to reduce nutrients have been successful.

XIV. Updates

State Park Updates

Commissioner Chevrestt states that a large oak came down in the picnic area during the storm last week and that the area is cautioned off. No one was injured. She states that the water level is just over 9 feet and rain over the last week has helped bring the lake to full pool.

Committee Updates

Land Use Committee Update

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Committee Chair Tessier reviews land use applications that occurred in May. He notes two applications in Mount Arlington.

Budget

Committee Chair Steinbaum reviews spending against the Commission's budget through end of May. He states that the Commission has received their statutory payments totaling \$500,000. He also notes interest earned. He states that spending is on track at 92% of the budget.

Finance

Committee Chair Stevens no update. Chair Smith requests an update on the audit.

Bylaws

Committee Chair Crowley no update.

Planning

Committee Chair McCarthy states that they will meet prior to one of the upcoming monthly meetings.

Public Outreach

Mrs. Lyons provides an update on the Block Party.

Ad-Hoc Ice Retardant

Committee Chair McCarthy no update.

Ad-Hoc Boating Safety

Committee Chair Steinbaum no update.

Ad-Hoc Trout Habitat

Committee Chair McCarthy discussed earlier.

Ad Hoc Goose Management

Committee Chair Porfido states that they are conducting molt survey. Commissioner Steinbaum asks about the goose management program.

CAC Meeting/WLMP Update

Mrs. Lyons states that the next meeting is scheduled for June 17th in person at the Lake Hopatcong Train Station.

XV. New Items

No new items.

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XVI. Public Comments

Lynn Fischer, Castle Rock – What can homeowners do to kill the weeds. Dr. Lubnow responds that they can hire a licensed applicator. Ms. Fischer asks if there a happy medium between clarity and weeds? Dr. Lubnow – alum treatments in the fall of 2024 and other watershed projects have reduced nutrient availability and increased clarity. Commissioner Steinbaum suggests contacting the legislature about additional funding for the Commission.

Sam DeAlba, Lake Hopatcong - asks about where the harvesters are scheduled to move next.

Tony Pizzano, Hopatcong – Comments on the weeds in Crescent Cove. He comments on the storm drains in Crescent Cove and improvements after they were cleaned in past years.

Willa Scantlebury, Hopatcong – Comments that cleaning the aqua filters in Crescent Cove helped water quality a lot.

XVII. Action Items

XVIII. Close of Meeting

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

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