

Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board
Regular Meeting
February 17, 2016

Chairman Riley opened the Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. with a salute to the flag and a reading of the Open Public Meetings Notice which was sent to the Daily Record and New Jersey Herald on January 21, 2016 and was sent to the Clerks of the four municipalities, the State and the two counties.

OATH OF OFFICE: Chairman Riley administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Rattner.

ROLL CALL:

Daniel Bello -present	Rosemarie Maio - present
Thomas Bruno - present	Steven Rattner – present
Frances D’Auria - absent	John Rogalo - present
George Graham - present	Lester Wright - present
Robert Hathaway - present	Earl Riley - present
Joseph Keenan - present	

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: There were no modifications to the agenda.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Chairman Riley opened the meeting to the public. Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak, Chairman Riley closed the public portion of the meeting.

ACTION ON MINUTES: Chairman Riley noted the following correction to the minutes: the next to last sentence on page 3 under Lake Management reads: They would also need a tilt trailer and a truck from the Borough of Netcong or Stanhope to get the machine in the water.” The minutes should read: “The tilt trailer is included in the grant request and we would need a truck from the Borough of Netcong or Stanhope to get the machine in the water.” On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Hathaway, the Minutes of the January 20, 2016 Reorganization Meeting were approved, as amended on majority voice vote. Mr. Rattner abstained.

COMMUNICATIONS: The following communications have been placed on file:

01-28-16 Daily Record – Affidavit of Publication re: annual meeting notice
02-04-16 Clifford Lundin, Esq. – copy of letter to IRS submitting forms 1096 and 1099
02-04-16 Byram Township – response to \$1,000 funding request
02-04-16 van den Heuvel & Fountain – Volunteer Accident Policy
02-04-16 NJ Motor Vehicle Commission – registration renewals re: conveyor and harvester trailer

Ms. Maio questioned the correspondence from Byram Township. Chairman Riley read the letter received from Byram regarding the Board’s request for an additional \$1,000 contribution for the biological testing. Byram stated that according to Chapter 30-5 of their Code Book, the apportionment of costs and expenses of the Board shall be based upon the constituent municipalities’ respective proportionate shares of shoreline and that Byram’s specific percentage is 3.5%. It was requested that the Board resubmit a payment request in accordance with their ordinance. Chairman Riley stated he attended Byram’s Council meeting last night and requested their support for the 319 grant. He also told them that since Council does not appear to be supportive of additional funding, he is requesting an in-kind contribution of no money, but hours of himself. Chairman Riley stated, as a representative of Byram, he is embarrassed by their response. Chairman Riley did note that Byram does the hauling for the disposal of the weeds from the last and this season they made about 7-8 pulls from the lake, for which the Board did not receive a bill and last year they billed the Board less than \$900. Mr. Hathaway said that is Byram’s code and the Board should give them the final budget on the project and ask them for 3.5% of the cost. Mr. Hathaway

expressed his opinion that it is not the place of this Board to respond to Byram's letter; however the other towns may wish to respond to it.

On motion by Ms. Maio, seconded by Mr. Hathaway and carried by unanimous voice vote, the communications were accepted.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Canal Society – There was no report.

Musconetcong Watershed Association – Chairman Riley has no report, but did mention that the spill he reported on last month is still being managed by the DEP and the feds.

Site Plan Review/Stream Encroachment – There was no report.

Lake Awareness – Ms. Maio reported she has dates for Netcong Day and Stanhope Day, but does yet have a date for Byram Day. She will inform the Board when she has all the dates. Mr. Bello asked that he be given a list of the dates.

Lake Management – Mr. Hathaway reported he and Chairman Riley have been working on the 319 grant and have been soliciting support from the politicians and surrounding municipalities. Chairman Riley made a presentation before Netcong's Council and they enacted a resolution of support. Byram adopted a resolution last night. They are asking Roxbury and Stanhope to do the same. Ms. Maio will present it to Stanhope's Council at their February 23rd meeting. Chairman Riley stated they received letters of support from both the Sussex County and Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders as well as from Congressman Frelinghuysen. Senators Bucco and Oroho are in favor of the grant as well as Assemblymen Bucco, Parker and Phoebus. Chairman Riley noted a resolution is needed from the four towns for the in-kind requirement of the grant. The in-kind contribution from Netcong, Stanhope and Roxbury is the additional two per year storm drain cleanings. Ms. Maio stated Stanhope has seven (7) storm drains that drain into the lake. They plan to put leaf guards on them and do regular inspections. Ms. Maio questioned what happens if they conduct the inspection and it is determined they do not need to be cleaned. Chairman Riley responded if they are inspected and not in need of cleaning, the inspection would be sufficient to satisfy the cleaning requirement. Chairman Riley will be doing the quarterly reporting and Pat Rector will provide him with the formulas. Mr. Hathaway stated the grant submission date is March 11, 2016.

Mr. Hathaway reported that he and Chairman Riley have also been working on the biological alternatives since they were not impressed with the new proposal from the contractor used last season. He stated it is Netcong's intention to move forward with their contribution and he heard similar from Roxbury. Ms. Maio stated Stanhope has included it in their budget. Mr. Hathaway will propose the LMCA participate in the program and ask them also for a letter of support for the 319 grant. Ms. Maio stated she recalls the Board discussing bringing someone in to speak to Mr. Rogalo's concern about the affect the biological treatment has on the oxygen of the lake. Mr. Hathaway stated he believes they need to first decide on a product and methodology and then bring someone in to speak about the affect. Mr. Rogalo stated he looked for literature and all he could find that referenced it in a scientific document was from a Guide to Lake Management in Massachusetts. The article said there is no scientific evidence to approve or disapprove and that it is only experimental. The article also said it can lead to anaerobic conditions. Mr. Rogalo spoke about the water condition he witnessed where the water came out of Lake Musconetcong and went down the river. The water was greyish in color and had a foul odor. Mr. Rogalo suggested speaking to the Watershed Ambassador about taking secchi disc readings. If a reading was taken now it

would be crystal clear. They could take a reading now and as different treatments are done, do weekly readings. Mr. Rogalo suggested also taking samples from the treated area and areas away from the treatment area. Ms. Maio expressed concern that the number of different treatments being done in the lake, makes it difficult to determine what is actually causing the problem. Mr. Hathaway stated he and Chairman Riley have discussed this and there are many factors that may be influential. In addition to the pond test area, they will have other “controlled” areas i.e. Byram Cove Arbolino Cove. Mr. Rogalo will approach the Watershed Ambassador about doing the secchi disc readings. Mr. Bello suggested informing Fish and Wildlife. Ms. Maio again expressed concern with the number of different treatments done in the lake. Mr. Hathaway agreed they need a “centralized” entity which should be the Board having control over what other entities do in the lake. The DEP should give control as to what treatments are done in the lake to the Board. The Board needs to be given the authority to manage the lake. Ms. Maio suggested asking the Board’s attorney’s opinion on the charter of the Board. Mr. Bello will speak to Cliff Lundin and ask that he contact the Chairman.

Mr. Hathaway also reported that Netcong sold the Board’s two containers, believing they were theirs to sell. Netcong will help get two more containers for the Board.

Operating Budget – There was no report.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Chairman Riley noted the Treasurer’s Report was emailed to the Board. On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Bruno the Treasurer’s Report was accepted and placed on file.

BILLS: On motion by Mr. Graham, seconded by Ms. Maio and carried by the following unanimous roll call vote, the following bills are to be paid if and when funds are available:

Operating Account:

Ellen Horak - Clerk’s Monthly Compensation	\$500.00
Postmaster – 100 stamps @ \$.49 each	\$ 49.00
New Jersey Herald – annual meeting notice and award of contracts	\$ 39.60
Daily Record – annual meeting notice	\$ 71.08

Lake Management Account:

JCP&L – electric at shed	\$ 2.81
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ROLL CALL:

Mr. Bello – yes	Ms. Maio - yes
Mr. Bruno – yes	Mr. Rattner - yes
Mr. Graham - yes	Mr. Rogalo - yes
Mr. Hathaway – yes	Mr. Wright – yes
Mr. Keenan – yes	Chairman Riley - yes

OLD BUSINESS

Biological/Bacteria Treatment – Chairman Riley stated, as reported last month, he found another company as an option and Mr. Wright also researched a company. Mr. Wright distributed information he received from Emily Douglass of Maryland Biochemical Company regarding “BioSpikes.” Emily has offered to attend a meeting and speak to the Board about the product. Mr. Wright explained the spikes get dropped into the sludge and it eats away the area. Chairman Riley stated the other product they are looking at is a “bio-bag” that dissolves in the water column and depending on the amount of sludge determines the frequency of treatment. There is 4 feet of sludge in the lake and a weekly or bi-weekly

treatment would be recommended for the powder product. It is a similar idea to the spikes. Chairman Riley stated treating a 10 acre area with 1,000 pounds of product would last about 8 weeks. The area in front of Musconetcong Park is only about 5 acres, not 10 acres. Chairman Riley said they will use buoy markers to mark where the product is put and they can take measurements at the exact location and also at the “controlled” areas. Mr. Bruno stated since the BioSpikes would need to be put every 4 acres, the cost would be approximately \$20,000 per acre. The Board discussed the BioSpikes and agreed it would not be cost effective to use the product. Chairman Riley thanked Mr. Wright for his effort. Mr. Hathaway will place buoy markers in the pond, Arbolino and Byram Coves and another test site. Chairman Riley recommended they move forward with this treatment and to have secchi disc readings done and “DO” testing at every location so they can have an idea on the impact of this product on the overall lake. Mr. Rogalo noted a page from the information provided by Mr. Wright entitled “Benefits” and it indicates you are adding nutrients to the lake that may reduce sludge, but not phosphorous. Mr. Rogalo explained the process and that phosphorous will make the weeds grow. Mr. Hathaway suggested asking a representative of the company the affect on the phosphorous in the lake. Ms. Maio asked that a representative of the company attend a meeting and make a presentation to the Board. Chairman Riley will request attendance by a representative. Chairman Riley asked the Board members to send him any questions or concerns they have about the product so he can include them in his letter to the company requesting their attendance at a meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hathaway stated Melissa Castellon asked the Board to write a letter to her requesting the buoys and the nature of their use. Mr. Hathaway will provide the information to the Clerk who will prepare the letter and send it to Melissa.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Chairman Riley opened the meeting to the public.

Ray Guyre, informed the Board he disposed of eight (8) broken buoys.

Seeing no one further from the public wishing to speak, Mr. Hathaway closed the public portion of the meeting.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Ms. Maio asked the status of the ramp for the harvester. Chairman Riley responded the ramp is functional. Mr. Hathaway stated the ice damming helped the ramp situation. They have the permits and can renovate the ramp when there is a drawdown. The last drawdown was only for three (3) weeks and since it did not last as long as they thought it would, they were not prepared. They were led to believe the drawdown would last longer than three weeks. The work will be done during the drawdown this coming fall. The ramp is viable for what the Board intends to do. Chairman Riley explained the ice actually moved the stones and made the ramp area better.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Rogalo, and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Horak, Clerk