

Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board
Regular Meeting
June 15, 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.

ROLL CALL:

Daniel Bello -absent
Thomas Bruno - present
Frances D'Auria – absent
George Graham - present
Robert Hathaway - present
Joseph Keenan - absent

Rosemarie Maio - present
Steven Rattner – present
John Rogalo – present (arrived @ 7:05 pm)
Lester Wright – present (arrived @ 7:03 pm)
Earl Riley - present

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: Additional communication and bills listed.

Chairman Riley announced that Mr. Bello will be not present at Board meetings until the October meeting. The Superintendent of the Round Valley Reservoir is out on leave and Mr. Bello will be serving as Acting Superintendent for the time being.

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

John Searle, 583 Main Street, Landing asked for an update on the spraying of the lake. Chairman Riley responded last week they sprayed Sonar to address the milfoil, curly tail pondweed and coontail. Mr. Searle asked if the Board would do additional spraying to which Chairman Riley responded in the negative. Mr. Hathaway said he heard the permit was released to the LMCA. Pat Marsico, present in the public, stated the LMCA received conditional approval to treat. They need to do testing in their treatment zone and out of their treatment zone for three endangered species. Ms. Marsico asked if the Board could provide the grid from the Board's previous study on robbins pondweed. Chairman Riley expressed his opinion that the plants in the lake should not be on the endangered species list. Chairman Riley stated he will provide the LMCA with the grid map from the Board's 2008 study. There was a lengthy discussion on the difficulty the LMCA is having with respect to their permit. Mr. Hathaway explained the sonar treatment for this season. There is about 150 acres of challenge area that requires herbicide. To do all 150 acres requires a three-year plan. The Board can afford to do 50 acres per year. They chose to treat the lake with Sonar 1 in pelletize form which the contractor indicated would be most effective. Mr. Hathaway expressed his opinion that this will be 100% effective.

Dave Hickey, 8 Spring Lane, Stanhope noted discussion at the last meeting about the Board's responsibility to make recommendations to the towns and state on how to handle problems with the lake and he asked that the Board make a recommendation to the State that, at a minimum, the LMCA's permit should be approved. Mr. Hathaway responded he will make a statement on behalf of the Board endorsing the LMCA's permit and noting that the LMCA's strategy is a significant part of the Board's lake management plan. Mr. Hathaway will email a copy of his statement to the Board for their review. Mr. Hathaway stated, for the records, the State is slow to act and there is seldom thinking in its actions. Mr. Hathaway suggested the LMCA contact their local legislators.

Jim Fredericks, 7 Spring Lane, Stanhope asked what the statement from the Board will accomplish. Mr. Hathaway responded he does not believe the statement will change anything. The process for the LMCA has changed this year. Permit approval goes from the State Park to the Bureau of Land Management. For

the past four years the Board has not had to go through the Bureau of Land Management because someone at the State Parks took care of it. Mr. Graham asked that Mr. Hathaway provide him and Mr. Rattner with a copy of his statement and they will make sure that Senator Oroho and Senator Bucco receive a copy. Ms. Maio commented on changes within the State Park. Chairman Riley agreed noting the Board can no longer dispose of weeds on State property and they now have to pay Ag Choice to take the weeds.

Geraldine Hickey, 8 Spring Lane, Stanhope asked if the harvester can go past her house because there is a large amount of algae in that area. Chairman Riley responded the public access areas are being done first. The focus of the Board has been to address the open waters and public access areas. Once those areas are under control, they can address other areas. Chairman Riley stated qualified harvester operators are able to take the harvester out on the weekends and harvest their shorelines and their neighbor's shoreline. The Board's priority is and will remain the open waters and public access areas.

Dorothy Frederick, 7 Spring Lane, Stanhope asked why the lake is so bad this year. Mr. Hathaway responded on the impact of the weather. There was no ice this winter so the plants grew all winter plus the sunlight hitting the bottom of the lake and warm temperatures added to the early growth of the plants this year. Mr. Hathaway assured Ms. Frederick that the lake is salvageable. They treated 50 acres and although the shorelines are problematic, most of the worst areas in the open water have been addressed with herbicide. The parks still need to be finished. They will not be doing Arbolino Bay because that was treated with the chemicals. Mr. Hathaway stated he is working on a 10-year plan to rescue the lake. He spoke about the grant application submitted for a hydro rake and how the hydro rake would be used if the Board is awarded the \$300,000 grant for the purchase of the equipment.

Mr. Rattner spoke as a member of the Musconetcong Sewerage Authority and said the MSA has been in litigation with the DEP regarding permits. Mr. Rattner suggested the LMCA ask for a "stay" for this season.

Pat Marsico spoke about the success of the hand pull, especially in Arbolino Bay and she encouraged people to keep helping at the hand pulls because it is making a difference.

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

ACTION ON MINUTES: On motion by Ms. Maio, seconded by Mr. Hathaway, the Minutes of the May 18, 2016 meeting were approved on majority voice vote. Mr. Graham, Mr. Rattner and Chairman Riley abstained.

COMMUNICATIONS: The following communications have been placed on file:

- 05-20-16 Borough of Stanhope – Purchase Order in the amount of \$13,058.75 re: 2016 budget contribution
- 05-20-16 Byram Township – check in the amount of \$1,407.71 re: 2016 budget contribution
- 05-24-16 NJ Motor Vehicle Commission – registration renewal re: 1988 Ford Backhoe
- 05-25-16 Morris County – Signed Memorandum of Understanding re: 2016 budget contribution
- 05-31-16 Stanhope Borough – check in the amount of \$13,058.75 re: 2016 budget contribution
- 05-31-16 Sussex County – Purchase Order in amount of \$4,991.88 re: 2016 budget contribution
- 06-06-16 Roxbury Township – notice of application for permit under Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act re: variance to add a cover over patio at 505 Main St, Roxbury

06-07-16 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission – registration renewal re: weed harvester
06-07-16 Solitude Lake Management – Pesticide Permit Application
06-09-16 Stanhope Chamber of Commerce – Vendor Information for Stanhope Day
06-15-16 Morris County – check in the amount of \$4,883.00 re: 2016 budget contribution

Chairman Riley noted Morris County again this year did not send the full budget amount requested.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Canal Society – There was no report.

Musconetcong Watershed Association – There was no report.

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

Lake Awareness – Ms. Maio reported on the difficulties during Stanhope Day. The heavy winds were a problem for some of the vendors. Chairman Riley expressed his disappointment with the lack of participation at this year's fishing contest. Only 9 kids showed up for the fishing contest. The trophies were given out to the winners but there are a lot of prizes left that will be used next year. Chairman Riley said typically the State provides the electronic announcement board to advertise the fishing contest, which they did not provide this year. Chairman Riley noted the need for better advertisement next year, especially noticing the local schools. Chairman Riley thanked Mr. Rogalo, Mr. Rattner, Mr. Wright and Mr. Hathaway who were present with him for the fishing contest and set up at Stanhope Day.

Lake Management – Mr. Hathaway reported on June 9 they applied both the probiotic and the sonar herbicide at 25 parts per million, which should provide very good results. It is slower to act, but longer lasting. Both harvesters are in the water and operational. As of today they have removed over 100 tons of weeds from the lake. The docking box has been modified. John Rogalo modified the dock to address complaints received from the operators. The buoys to mark the test areas have been purchased and they will be placed in the lake shortly. They will independently monitor the test site with the sludge judge. There are three points: 1 in Musconetcong Park Bay, 2 in the pond and 1 in Byram Bay. Mr. Hathaway reported the LMCA has set aside money to purchase hazard buoys and he asked the Board to also consider allocating money for the purchase of hazard buoys. This will eliminate the Board's reliance on the State. The present buoys are in poor condition and should be replaced. Jetur Riggs, present in the public, stated the LMCA has allocated \$500 for the purchase of the buoys. Mr. Hathaway recommended the Board contribute \$500 from the lake management budget for the purchase of 12 buoys. Together with funds from the LMCA they could purchase 24 buoys. Chairman Riley clarified that the Board previously purchased 12 inch buoys; however, the LMCA is proposing to purchase 18 inch buoys. Chairman Riley expressed his opinion that the 12 inch buoys are sufficient to serve their purpose and are \$10 to \$12 cheaper than the 18 inch buoys. Ms. Maio and Mr. Graham noted the tight budget and questioned if there is money in the budget for the purchase. Mr. Hathaway expressed his opinion that it is important to have buoys in the lake and he strongly suggested the Board authorize the purchase. Chairman Riley agreed they have a tight budget, but said he will be able to find the money for the purchase of the buoys in the lake management budget, possibly in the fuel line item. On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Ms. Maio and carried by the following unanimous roll call vote, the Board approved the amount of \$500 from the lake management budget for the purchase of twelve 12 inch buoys:

ROLL CALL:

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

Chairman Riley and Jetur Riggs will work together on the purchase of the buoys.

Mr. Hathaway stated Netcong's Council asked him the plan for residential shorelines and he reminded them that the Board has not harvested residential shorelines since he stopped doing it two years ago. He informed them that qualified operators can use the harvester on weekends to harvest the shorelines. Mr. Hathaway also reported that Pat Rector is involved in another study. This is a mosquito study to see how invasive versus natural plants affect mosquitos. If the study finds invasive plants increases the presence of mosquitos, there may be money for the lake.

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. Graham, seconded by Mr. Wright the Treasurer's Report was accepted and placed on file.

BILLS: On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Bruno 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
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Lake Management Account:

JCP&L – electric at shed	\$ 2.97
West Chester Machinery – hydraulic hose	\$125.75
Approved Auto Electric – battery for harvester	\$119.90
Earl Riley – reimbursement of expense (hose fittings)	\$ 4.26
Ag Choice –aquatic vegetation disposal (5/30/16-6/3/16)	\$180.00
NAPA Auto Parts – parts	\$ 13.38
Ag Choice - aquatic vegetation disposal (6/6/16-6/10/16)	\$180.00

Debit/Credit Card

Amazon – Buoys	\$298.10
Netcong Hardware – cable ties	\$ 9.19
Ramsey's – fishing contest prizes	\$198.62
U Name It – trophies for fishing contest	\$ 66.00
Amazon.com – buoys to mark probiotic sample locations	\$298.10
Staples – copies of brochures for Stanhope Day	\$ 31.30
County Welding – oxygen refill	\$ 30.20
Lowe's – anchor kit for buoys	\$ 45.96

ROLL CALL:

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

Mr. Rogalo asked to add a bill for \$50.00 payable to Brookside Laboratories, Inc. for approval tonight. This is the fee to have the compost analysis discussed at last month's meeting. On motion by Ms. Maio, seconded by Mr. Rattner and carried by the following unanimous roll call vote the Board authorized a check in the amount of \$50.00 payable to Brookside Laboratories, Inc. to cover the cost of the compost analysis.

ROLL CALL:

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

The Clerk will contact Mr. Keenan and ask that he write the check and the Clerk will then forward it to Mr. Rogalo.

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

John Searle, 583 Main Street, Landing asked if he could put the buoys out in the lake. Mr. Hathaway directed Mr. Searle to speak with Jetur Riggs, who is in charge of the placement of the buoys.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen Horak, Clerk