

**Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board  
Regular Meeting  
September 21, 2022**

Chairman Riley opened the Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. with a reading of the Open Public Meetings Notice which was sent to the Daily Record and New Jersey Herald on January 20, 2022 and was sent to the Clerks of the four municipalities, the State and the two counties.

**ROLL CALL:**

Robert Hathaway – present (arrived @ 7:15pm)	Steven Rattner - present
Joseph Keenan - present	Rudy Shlesinger - absent
Rosemarie Maio - present	Lester Wright - present
Shawn Potillo - absent	Earl Riley - present

**MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Additional bills listed.

**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:** On motion by Mr. Rattner, seconded by Ms. Maio the Minutes of the August 17, 2022 regular meeting were approved on unanimous voice vote.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** : The following communications have been placed on file:  
08-26-22 Theresa Dunay – River Park monthly oil/water separator inspection log (August)  
08-26-22 Notice to Property Owners – Brian Murphy re: variance application for a shed at 2 Plane Street, Stanhope  
09-12-22 Morris County Sportsmen Federation – check in the amount of \$200.00 re: donation for fishing derby

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

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

**Canal Society** – Chairman Riley reported on Saturdays through the end of September they will be having Canal Days at Waterloo Village from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Canal Society’s website lists other activities in other locations.

**Musconetcong Watershed Association** – There was nothing to report.

**Site Plan Review/Stream Encroachment** – There was nothing to report.

**Lake Awareness** –. There was nothing to report.

**Lake Management** – Noting Mr. Hathaway will arrive late; Chairman Riley moved the Lake Management report to after Mr. Hathaway arrives.

**Operating Budget** – There was nothing to report.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** The Treasurer’s Report was emailed to the Board. Mr. Keenan explained the bank adjustment of \$4.00 shown on the Treasurer’s Report. The bank was charging a \$2.00 fee every

month. He told he bank the Board should not be paying this fee. The bank agreed and put in an order to stop the charge. The \$4.00 is the bank reimbursing the Board the \$2.00 fee for two months. There are other bank adjustments on the statement that will be resolved. The bank is working on getting it resolved permanently. On motion by Mr. Rattner, seconded by Mr. Wright and carried by unanimous voice vote, the Treasurer’s Report was accepted and placed on file.

**BILLS:** On motion by Mr. Rattner, 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	\$ 550.00
Clifford Lundin – Legal Fees 01/18/22 through 05/24/22	\$1,942.50
Selective Insurance Company – installment payment (commercial policy)	\$ 939.00
Earl Riley – Reimbursement of Expense re: tip to shed delivery driver	\$ 20.00

Lake Management Account:

JCP&L – electric at shed	\$ 4.09
Solitude Lake Management–Balance for Tribune Application on 6/30/22)	\$3,694.00

Debit-Credit Card:

Amish Mike – Balance due for shed	\$1,290.00
Netcong Hardware – keys for shed	\$ 14.94

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Keenan – yes	Mr. Rattner - yes
Ms. Maio – yes	Mr. Wright - yes
	Chairman Riley – yes

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Shed – Chairman Riley reported the shed has been delivered. Chairman Riley had keys made for himself and the operators. There are three keys left. Chairman Riley informed the Board there is a camera mounted in a tree that is looking at the site and which will be monitored.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Removal of Buoys and Equipment from Lake – Chairman Riley said they need to plan to get the buoys out of the lake. This will be done on the harvester. Volunteers are needed to help with picking up the buoys, which will be stored in the shed. They also need a plan to get the harvester and Jon boat out of the water and stored for the winter. He would like to have everything done by mid-October. Chairman Riley asked Ray Guyre, present in the public, to take off the flat tires and he will pick them up and take them to the discount tire place in Byram to have new tubes put in.

Weed Removal – Chairman Riley stated all the weeds harvested this year were compacted in the dumpster and the weed’s water level went away. They have not had a full dumpster all season. Chairman Riley noted they cannot leave the weeds in the dumpster because it will solidify. Chairman Riley said he will take only one load to the Morris County MUA. Wayne Swistak took out a load of pond lilies. The dumpster is presently ¾ full so they will harvest one more load of pond lilies and then take it for disposal.

(Mr. Hathaway arrived.)

Ms. Maio questioned why the permanent buoys cannot remain in the water. Mr. Hathaway responded they can remain in the water since they are permanent markers. The Board agreed the permanent markers should remain in the lake.

**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.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE:**

**Lake Management** – Mr. Hathaway reported the shed has been installed and looks great. Mr. Hathaway stated that, before the next meeting, the equipment will have been taken out of the lake as well as the buoys. He hopes to have this done before Columbus Day. Mr. Hathaway also reported he has been in email contact with Laura Franek about scheduling a drawdown. Hopefully they will be able to schedule a 30-day drawdown for dock maintenance. Mr. Hathaway informed the Board that, with respect to the probiotic, he spoke to Solitude and Cynet, and both expressed a willingness to take back the material as long as they have someone to absorb it, which should not be an issue. Mr. Hathaway also reported he reached out to the Commissioner of the DEP to express concerns he has. The DEP’s moto is “do no harm” and the overview he relative to this situation is that inaction is just as harmful as any action could be. Mr. Hathaway said he conveyed the issue to the Commissioner and it appears they were not prepared for the conversation as there had not been any review on their part. Mr. Hathaway stated there was an application to use this material or similar on Lake Hopatcong in 2020 which is what provoked the notice. There is no peer review material available to anyone relative to the use of these products. There is research, some of which the Board provided to NJDEP. Their standard is that it needs to be peer reviewed for them to have “wobble room.” Mr. Hathaway said NJDEP works collaboratively with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) so the language used and the pathway suggested in the permit was suggested by the EPA. Mr. Hathaway said there is a willingness to cooperative with the Board on a collaborative experiment. They will review the data we gave them. Mr. Hathaway said they are willing to create the peer review data and do an investigation and he hopes Lake Musconetcong will be the subject matter. They will get back to him within thirty days to give us the path forward. Mr. Hathaway said they did discuss some pathways. The DEP’s position is they are willing to move forward in an experiment, but they need time to do research. Mr. Hathaway stated he worked with Chairman Riley on gathering previous 319 grant documentation and they have a lot of data showing this lake is in trouble. Chairman Riley emailed various documents and information to the DEP Commissioner. Mr. Hathaway noted it looks like there is a willingness to help the Board. Chairman Riley stated he will let the entire Board and the volunteers aware of the date for the buoy and equipment removal from the lake.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:** On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Keenan, and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Horak, Clerk