

**Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**April 21, 2021**

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 21, 2021 and was sent to the Clerks of the four municipalities, the State and the two counties. Furthermore, notice of the change in the meeting to an electronic meeting via Zoom was sent to the New Jersey Herald and Daily Record on April 12, 2021 and was placed on the official website of the Board.

**ROLL CALL:**

Michael Balogh - absent	Greg Poff - present
Mark Crowley - absent	Steven Rattner - present
Robert Hathaway – absent	Rudy Shlesinger – present
Joseph Keenan – present	Lester Wright - absent
Rosemarie Maio – present	Earl Riley - present

**MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Additional communications and bill as 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. Keenan, seconded by Mr. Rattner, the Minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting were approved on unanimous voice vote.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** The following communications have been placed on file:

- 03-19-21 Daily Record – Affidavit of Publication re: March meeting change to Zoom meeting
- 03-29-21 Selective Insurance – Commercial Insurance Renewal Policy
- 04-05-21 Notice to Property Owners – Roxbury Township re: proposed amendment to Zoning Ordinance to create the AH-7 Inclusionary Affordable Housing Zone District
- 04-16-21 Morris County – Memorandum of Understanding and Purchase Order in the amount of \$6,260.00 re: 2021 budget contribution
- 04-19-21 Daily Record - Affidavit of Publication re: April meeting change to Zoom meeting
- 04-21-21 Roxbury Township – Purchase Order in the amount of \$10,815.08 re: 2021 budget contribution (\$10,065.08) and herbicide treatment (\$750)

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

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

**Canal Society** – Chairman Riley reported the next meeting of the Canal Society will be Friday, May 21, 2021 via the Zoom format. If interested in attending, contact Chairman Riley and he will provide you with the meeting information or go to the Canal Society’s website. Chairman Riley stated there is nothing going on at Waterloo Village due to COVID and he does not know when they will start again.

**Musconetcong Watershed Association** – Mr. Rattner reported it has been a rough month for the MWA. Mr. Rattner stated there was an application for a perpetual violator for expansion and the draft permit came out and basically, it violated the EPA and back-tracked on some of the restrictions put on it years ago. Mr. Rattner said he would not be disclosing the name of the applicant. Mr. Rattner stated the conclusion of Alan Hunt, PhD, in summary, was that the MWA found numerous deficiencies in the water surface discharge. Mr. Rattner read the numerous deficiencies found, which totaled 19 deficiencies. Mr. Rattner added that, basically they said in the permit that most of their regulations and EPA standards did not mean a thing. Mr. Rattner said he received a 19-page draft response to the permit, which he will forward to Chairman Riley. Mr. Rattner also reported that the Film Festival's first year being done virtually had the largest participation. They had participation from 13 states, the furthest being Hawaii. They tie the festival into the National Wild and Scenic. Mr. Rattner stated there were 2 to 3 follow up meetings after last month's outreach with the Congressional representative, which were productive meetings. Mr. Rattner said they complained that there were so many projects for which funding was promised, but did not happen. One Congressman guaranteed he will insert earmarks in the 2023 budget for money for some of the projects on the Musconetcong.

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

**Lake Awareness** – Ms. Maio said she was questioned about whether participants in the fishing contest would be required to wear masks and if markings would be placed to assure 6-foot distancing. Ms. Maio will include on the flyer that masks are required. The Board questioned how they will enforce it. Chairman Riley suggested the flyer state that standard COVID protocol must be followed. Mr. Rattner offered to provide extra masks for anyone who does not have one. Chairman Riley stated the Clerk sent a letter to Ramsey's requesting a donation for the fishing contest. He received notice that Ramsey's will make their usual donation of 2 to 3 fishing poles. Chairman Riley also noted that John Rogalo assured him that the Sportsmen's Federation will donate \$200 for the prizes. The age categories will remain the same as previous years. Mr. Shlesinger offered to donate \$200 towards prizes to make a total of \$400. Chairman Riley explained that every participant gets something to take home. Trophies and the new fishing poles are given to the winners and everyone else receives a small prize. Chairman Riley said he spends the \$200 from the Sportsmen's Federation and they usually have extra prizes left over. Chairman Riley said that, although they appreciate the offer, he does not think the extra \$200 is needed for the fishing contest.

**Lake Management** – In Mr. Hathaway's absence, Chairman Riley reported that the AM 2000 is in the water and the buoys are all placed in proper locations throughout the lake. Ray Guyre has been working on the harvester and all repairs have been made. The jon boat will be in the water for the addling season. Chairman Riley noted there are geese on the lake this year. It was also noted that it appears there are swan nests. Chairman Riley said he does not know if they will addle the swan nests. Chairman Riley reported he and Mr. Hathaway had discussions with Solitude Lake Management. They are in the second year of their 2-year contract. Chairman Riley reported Solitude was on the lake doing the initial survey and they said the turbidity of the lake is extremely high and they feel it is coming from Lake Hopatcong down to the river. Chairman Riley said he checked with Roxbury Township to see if they were in the river with machinery as part of a project they received a grant for and they responded in the negative.

**Operating Budget** – There was no report.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Mr. Keenan noted the Treasurer’s Report was emailed to the Board. The total in the operating account is \$14,805.84 and the overall total is \$15,491.47. Mr. Keenan noted the Board received the budget contribution from Netcong and has received Purchase Orders from Roxbury and Morris County. On motion by Ms. Maio, seconded by Mr. Rattner and carried by unanimous voice vote, the Treasurer’s Report was accepted and placed on file.

**BILLS:** On motion by Mr. Rattner, seconded by Mr. Keenan 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
Gannett NJ (Daily Record) – legal notice re: March meeting change to Zoom	\$ 53.49
Times Herald-Record (NJ Herald) – legal notice re: March meeting change to Zoom	\$ 17.10
Selective Insurance – Commercial Ins. Premium Installment Payment	\$1,880.00

Lake Management Account:

JCP&L – electric at shed	\$ 3.26
Solitude Lake Management- Lake Management Services (04/01)	\$2,249.00

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Keenan - yes	Mr. Rattner – yes
Ms. Maio - yes	Mr. Shlesinger - yes
Mr. Poff – yes	Chairman Riley – yes

**UNFINISHED (OLD) BUSINESS:**

Sale of AM 2000 (Hydro Rake) – Chairman Riley stated as of last month Cliff Lundin had expressed some concerns relative to the grant being federal money. Chairman Riley spoke to the DEP and told them the Board wanted to sell the equipment. The Grant Manager and Supervisor had a similar concern about the federal money and would look into it. Chairman Riley informed the Board that the money they received in the grant was not Federal funds. The money was received through a 319 Grant which is State funds. Chairman Riley said the State does not have a problem with the Board selling the equipment. They asked for a letter stating why the Board wants to sell the equipment so soon after the grant was completed. Chairman Riley drafted a letter, which he had Cliff Lundin review before sending it to the DEP. Chairman Riley stated the Board has clearance to move forward with the sale. Cliff Lundin will draft a Resolution approving the sale of the AM 2000, which will be adopted at next month’s meeting. After the resolution is adopted, Chairman Riley will take pictures of the equipment and list it on govdeals. Chairman Riley said the Board must decide on a price for the equipment. Chairman Riley noted the sale will include the AM 2000, tilt trailer, conveyor and all the spares. Chairman Riley said he would like to ask \$200,000+, adding the machine has less than 200 hours of use and the conveyor has less than 5 hours. Chairman Riley suggested the Board use the money from the sale to purchase a smaller harvester. Use of the money from the sale will be discussed next month.

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

John Rogalo, informed the Board the turbidity that is being seen in Lake Musconetcong is due to the fact that Hopatcong State Park finally tied into the sanitary sewer system which included doing site work. Their stormwater drain discharges right in front of the gates where they let the water out. It is coming off Hopatcong State Park and flowing into the river. Mr. Rogalo said they disturbed a lot of land and once the grass grows where the site work was done, it should clear up.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:** On motion by Mr. Keenan, seconded by Ms. Maio, and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Horak, Clerk