

Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board
Regular Meeting
August 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.

ROLL CALL:

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

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: Additional communication and bills listed.

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

Melissa Castellon, State Parks, advised a public hearing on the Lake Hopatcong Water Level Management Plan is scheduled for September 19th at Jefferson High School. She will inform the Board as soon as she knows the time of the hearing. The hearing will give the public an opportunity to comment on the plan.

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 Mr. Graham, seconded by Hathaway, the Minutes of the July 20, 2016 meeting were approved on unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS: The following communications have been placed on file:

08-01-16 Clifford Lundin, Esq. – Local Public Contracts Law
08-05 -16 Clifford Lundin, Esq. – Lake Hopatcong Water Level Plan
08-05-16 Roxbury Township – Purchase Order in amount of \$8,026.94 re: 2016 budget contribution
08-15-16 Roxbury Township – check in the amount of \$8,026.94 re: 2016 budget contribution
08-15-16 van den Heuvel & Fountain – Officers Liability Renewal

On motion by Ms. Maio, seconded by Mr. Hathaway and carried by unanimous voice vote, the communications were accepted. Chairman Riley noted the four municipalities and two counties have now paid their 2016 budget contribution.

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 noted the Board was looking for material for Byram Day as well as Netcong Day. She prepared an updated Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet which will be displayed at the Board’s table. Ms. Maio is in the process of updating the Board’s brochure and asked for input. She would like to

include information on the hydro rake. Chairman Riley suggested verbiage from the thank you letter sent regarding the grant for the hydro rake. The Clerk will forward Ms. Maio a copy of the thank you letter. Ms. Maio will prepare a draft brochure for the Board’s review and comment.

Lake Management – Mr. Hathaway reported the jon boat is in the water and the docking has been amended thanks to Jetur Riggs. Mr. Hathaway also thanked Mr. Riggs for the placement of the hazard buoys. The LMCA purchased stencils that will mark the buoys “hazards.” Mr. Hathaway reported they have been removing approximately 2 dumpsters per week which is about 50 tons of weeds per week. The Lake Hopatcong Commission’s summary of achievements indicates a significantly smaller number of weeds removed than our Board has already done. Mr. Hathaway noted this is a testament to the Board’s efficiency, adding the Board has a great commitment of people working on the lake which is a great benefit to the Board’s efforts. Mr. Hathaway also reported the area in back of the lake is in a challenged condition. We only treated 50 acres and there is an enormous effort ongoing to bring it under control. He hopes to have the volume of coontail and milfoil under control by Labor Day weekend. The LMCA asked that the Board coordinate with them on the shoreline clean-up because they are having a survey taken. Mr. Hathaway stated he received a report on the probiotic treatment. The lake is growing in depth in excess of one foot, but it is not limited to the test area; it is throughout the lake. There is less of a change in the control area; however, the water column is growing. Mr. Hathaway added it is not relative to the water level because there has been no change in the water level. Mr. Hathaway advised that after speaking with Chairman Riley, he authorized an application of 24D in the back of Byram Bay to address heavy water chestnut in the area. They treated 5 acres at a cost of approximately \$1,000. Herbicide treatment was the only way to address the water chestnut and there was money in the budget for the treatment. Chairman Riley stated the herbicide was applied on August 3rd and when he inspected the lake, they are already turning brown. Chairman Riley thanked Mr. Riggs for his work on the jon boat and for placement of the buoys. Chairman Riley asked Mr. Riggs, present in the public, if he used gps for placement of the buoys to which Mr. Riggs responded in the affirmative. Chairman Riley said the buoy placed on the corner of the Port Morris shoreline is not on the rock. While on the harvester earlier today he hit the rock. The rock is approximately 20 feet into the lake from the location of the buoy and is less than 6 feet in the water. Chairman Riley said that because of the physical size of the buoys, writing “hazard” on the buoy would need to be in very small lettering and he suggested writing “rock” on the buoys.

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. Graham, and carried by unanimous voice vote, the Treasurer’s Report was accepted and placed on file.

BILLS: On motion by Ms. Maio, seconded by Mr. Graham 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

Lake Management Account:

JCP&L – electric at shed \$ 3.85

Ag Choice –aquatic vegetation disposal (7/18/16-7/26/16) \$ 720.00

Ag Choice –aquatic vegetation disposal (8/1/16-8/5/16) \$ 180.00

Ag Choice –aquatic vegetation disposal (8/3/16 & 8/9/16) \$ 360.00

Solitude Lake Management – herbicide treatment	\$13,160.00
Solitude Lake Management – sludge judge & sediment sampling	\$ 4,899.00
Solitude Lake Management – algae/weed control (spray water chestnut)	\$ 1,005.00
Netcong Hardware – parts	\$ 13.99
County Welding – oxygen refill	\$ 30.20
Debit/Credit Card	
Enrite – fuel	\$ 8.59
Approved Auto Electric – repair to starting motor	\$ 399.90

ROLL CALL:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Maio stated on or about September 19th, Stanhope Borough will begin a road reclamation project in the Port Morris area and it will affect access to the harvester location. Ms. Maio will inform the Board of the exact date closer to the day. Mr. Hathaway said he will have the harvester stored on the other side of the lake during the road project.

Mr. Hathaway noted discussion last meeting about the amount of the herbicide treatment and the likelihood the Board will need to go out to bid for the purchase of the hydro rake and he suggested the Board pursue a Qualified Purchasing Agent (“QPA”). A QPA will increase the Board’s bid threshold and will take care of the issue with the herbicide treatment. Mr. Hathaway stated Netcong’s QPA is Marvin Joss and he would like to approach Mr. Joss about being the QPA for the Board on an annual basis and inquire about his fee. There was no objection to Mr. Hathaway contacting Mr. Joss about being the Board’s QPA.

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.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Graham, and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Horak, Clerk