

Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board
Regular Meeting
July 17, 2019

Chairman Riley opened the Regular Meeting at 6:30 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 17, 2019 and was sent to the Clerks of the four municipalities, the State and the two counties. Furthermore, notice of the change in meeting time was sent to the New Jersey Herald and Daily Record on June 10, 2019.

ROLL CALL:

Mark Crowley - absent	Rosemarie Maio - present
George Graham – absent	Steven Rattner - present
Robert Hathaway - absent	John Rogalo - present
Joseph Keenan - absent	Lester Wright - present
	Earl Riley - present

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: Additional communication and 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 June 19, 2019 meeting and closed session were approved by unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS: The following communications have been placed on file:

06-24-19 NJS DEP – Executed Amendment/Modification re: 319(H) Grant: Implementation of Reduction of Total Phosphorus in Lake Musconetcong

07-05-19 NJ Motor Vehicle Commission – Registration for Weed Harvester

07-15-19 Sussex County – Check in the amount of \$5,425.00 re: 2019 budget contribution

07-15-19 Morris County Freeholders – vacancy of Rutgers Cooperative Extension Natural Resource representative

Ms. Maio questioned the communication from the DEP. Chairman Riley explained it is regarding the 319 grant. There was originally \$12,000 set aside for Pat Woods of Rutgers Extension to do all of the calculations and quarterly reports. Since Ms. Woods has retired and is not being replaced, Chairman Riley spoke to the grant manager and asked if the Board could take the remaining \$6,000 and transfer it into personnel costs so when Chairman Riley submits the reports, the Board will receive reimbursement, which is the amendment listed.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Canal Society – There was no report.

Musconetcong Watershed Association – Mr. Rattner had nothing to report

Site Plan Review/Stream Encroachment – Mr. Rogalo had nothing to report.

Lake Awareness – Ms. Maio had nothing to report

Lake Management – In Mr. Hathaway’s absence, Chairman Riley read the following report from Mr. Hathaway:

1. Probiotic treatment was done on 6/25/2019. All of the preliminary reporting was completed to our satisfaction.
2. Week of June 24th Mr. Rogalo re-built the conveyor base and the dumpster platform. An incredible job that far exceeds the amount of money he charged. Rich Perry donated diamond plate skids for the dumpster platform as well.
3. LMCA has agreed to donate \$2,600.00 to treat the weed mass in the lake center between Stanhope and Roxbury shorelines. Treatment was done July 9th by Aqua Technologies.
4. AM2000 was put in the lake on July 12th. Thank you to Stanhope DPW and Netcong Police Department. We will be using the machine to scoop up the floating weed masses throughout the center of the lake.
5. July 12th the conveyor had a major breakdown. Wayne, Al and Ray worked three days to repair it. Unfortunately, it broke down again on the 15th. Wayne, Al and Chairman Riley repaired it today and will finish up adjustments tomorrow or Thursday depending on weather and availability. The major issue with the conveyor is the belting (chains) has worn thin through 18 years of use. I called Aquarius for a quote to replace the belting. The quote was \$7,146.00 which is completely out of reach this year. We will discuss alternate plans.

Pat Marsico noted suspicious algae in the vicinity of the Stanhope shoreline by the former restaurant. She notified NJDEP. I received a note from Josh Osowski today informing me that NJDEP would be on the lake today testing the site.

Chairman Riley noted the quote from Aquarius Systems for the new assembly is \$7,145.98 and the Board’s entire maintenance budget for this year is \$5,000. The Board cannot afford it. Mr. Rogalo will reach out to Swartswood Lake and inquire what they did with their conveyor. Chairman Riley noted one option would be to take conveyor from the AM2000 and co-locate it with the current conveyor next to the backhoe. They could possibly utilize the AM2000 conveyor to offload the weeds from the harvester. In order to do this, the conveyor will need to be modified. The cost would be less than \$7,000. Chairman Riley noted Mr. Hathaway’s report about Ms. Marsico seeing an unusual algae bloom on the Stanhope side of the lake and he told the Board he will remain in contact with Josh Osowski about this. Chairman Riley does not know how long until the test results will be available. Mr. Rogalo noted the email about Ag Choice not taking Lake Hopatcong Weeds due to MEK. Chairman Riley stated it has something to do with gasoline, but our weeds have been tested and they are fine. Ms. Maio asked how much of the algae bloom can be due to the septic along the lake. Mr. Rattner stated nutrients going into the lake are from septic and most are coming from Jefferson who refuses to have sewers installed, although Hopatcong still has some septic. There are also some houses that have cesspools. Mr. Rattner noted over 40 years ago the State determined the overall need for sewers. Chairman Riley noted Lake Musconetcong is 100% sewer, but 95% of our nutrient load comes from Lake Hopatcong.

Operating Budget Committee – There was no report.

TREASURER’S REPORT: In Mr. Keenan’s absence, there was no Treasurer’s Report.

BILLS: On motion by Mr. Rogalo, seconded by Mr. Rattner 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
Selective Insurance Co. – premium installment payment	\$3,722.00
New Jersey Herald – legal notice (June meeting time change)	\$ 10.20
Lake Management Account:	
JCP&L – electric at shed	\$ 3.76
Ag Choice – disposal 1 load (30 cu yds)	\$ 210.00
Solitude Lake Management – lake management services (June)	\$3,000.00
Solitude Lake Management – lake management services (July)	\$3,000.00
West Chester Machinery – parts	\$ 169.60
Solitude Lake Management –Task 1 (DEP permit application) and Task 2 (35 acre herbicide treatment)	\$4,650.00
Solitude Lake Management – Task 3 (shoreline area treatment)	\$1,750.00
Solitude Lake Management – Task 4 (post-treatment survey)	\$ 350.00
Ray Guyre – reimbursement of expenses (part)	\$ 8.16
Ag Choice – disposal 1 load (30 cu yds)	\$ 210.00

ROLL CALL:

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

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Riley noted at the last meeting he was asked to reach out to the Stanhope Fire Department to talk about the sale of the boat the Board donated to them. Chairman Riley said he sent an email and never received a response. He waited two weeks then called and left a voice mail message and still received no response. Chairman Riley will continue to reach out to the Fire Department.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Riley stated the quarterly report for the hydro rake was just completed but needs to be signed by Mr. Keenan before it can be submitted. Chairman Riley also completed a voucher for \$3,000 requesting payment to the Board for his preparation of the past 3 quarterly reports.

Mr. Rattner said he has been asked to see if there is any interest in the area to participate in an informational session on the Clean Stormwater and Flood Reduction Act (Rain Tax Bill). He already spoke to Morris County. The area they want to look at is the Lake Hopatcong Watershed and to do individual towns. Mr. Rattner stated he is just informing the Board, not as a Board, but if anyone would be willing to participate and listen.

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

Anthony Riccardi, Stanhope Councilman, asked the date treatment was done on the Roxbury and Stanhope shorelines. Chairman Riley responded treatment was done on July 9th. Mr. Riccardi noted mention of the algae bloom in Lake Hopatcong and the DEP testing today on Lake Musconetcong and he wants to bring to the Board's attention that the ordinances in place for the four towns surrounding Lake Musconetcong have varying degrees of fertilizer restrictions (i.e. Byram does not include Lake Musconetcong). Ms. Maio said this is outside the realm of this Board. Chairman Riley explained this is an advisory planning board. When someone around the lake wants to do construction and they have to

go to the individual town planning board, this Board receives a copy of the plans and provides comments, if any, to that planning board. That is the extent of this Board's authority. Mr. Riccardi also said, as an FYI, the distance of applying fertilizer is only ten feet from the water.

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

ADJOURNMENT: On motion by Mr. Rogalo, seconded by Ms. Maio, and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Horak