

**Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**February 15, 2023**

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 19, 2023 and was sent to the Clerks of the four municipalities, the State and the two counties.

**ROLL CALL:**

Laura Franek – present	Shawn Potillo - absent
Robert Hathaway – present	Steven Rattner - absent
William Hayden - present	Rudy Shlesinger - present
Joseph Keenan- present	Lester Wright - absent
Rosemarie Maio – absent	Earl Riley - present

**MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Additional bill 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. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Keenan the Minutes of the January 18, 2023 reorganization meeting were approved on unanimous voice vote.

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

- 01-18-23 Morris County Board of County Commissioners – Reappointment of Steven Rattner as County’s representative on the Board
- 01-27-23 Clifford Lundin – Board Investments
- 02-01-23 Sussex County Board of County Commissioners – Appointment of William Hayden as County’s representative on the Board
- 02-12-23 Theresa Dunay – River Park monthly oil/water separator inspection log (January)
- 02-10-23 New Jersey Herald – Affidavits of Publication re: annual meeting notice and award of contracts

On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Ms. Franek 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** – There was no report.

**Lake Management** – Mr. Hathaway reported that Chairman Riley is continuing to work on the grant. Chairman Riley informed the Board there is a meeting for the grant scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup> that he will attend. The meeting will be about what to fill out and how to fill out all the necessary information for the grant. Mr. Hathaway reported he will reach out to the Board about helping with the goose addling program. His plan is to begin surveying of the goose addling on March 1<sup>st</sup> and will go in 2 to 3-week intervals thereafter. Mr. Hathaway said he will compel Solitude Lake Management to do their survey as

things are already coming up. Mr. Hathaway stated they have settled all issues with Solitude regarding the billing and they have issued a credit to the Board. As of the last communication with them, the issue has been resolved. Chairman Riley noted the Board has a contract with Solitude that goes through September. Mr. Hathaway stated what was contracted for is this year’s herbicide treatment which was negotiated and agreed to and is a two-year contract. There are other services the Board needs to negotiate and discuss with Solitude. They will be under the bid threshold this year; however, next year they will most likely be over the bid threshold and will need to go out to bid. Chairman Riley stated the present contract has a monthly contract pricing and the credit given to the Board should cover the services for the next four to five months. There is a little over \$8,700 on the contract to be paid, which is four payments.

**CD Investment** – Mr. Keenan noted there was to be a resolution naming the depositories for the Board. The Clerk will reach out to the Board attorney and will place the resolution on the next meeting agenda. The depositories should be Fidelity and Fulton Bank, since Fulton Bank handles the Board’s checking account. Mr. Shlesinger stated brokerage firms have a much higher interest rate and better terms than banks. He would also recommend shorter terms due to the constant changes. Interest rates keep going up and they will not be going down anytime soon. Chairman Riley noted Fidelity’s rate today was 4.95%. Chairman Riley stated that anything the Board invests in must be insured. Chairman Riley noted the Board already approved a ladder structure on the investment.

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

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** The Treasurer’s Report was emailed to the Board. Mr. Keenan stated the report does not include the additional bill from the newspaper. The payment will show up on next month’s report. The Board’s net worth is \$226,947.65. On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Shlesinger and carried by unanimous voice vote, the Treasurer’s Report was accepted and placed on file.

**BILLS:** On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Shlesinger and carried by the following unanimous roll call vote, the bills on the bills list were approved:

Operating Account:

Ellen Horak - Clerk’s Monthly Compensation	\$ 550.00
Ellen Horak – Reimbursement of Expense (Cassette Recorder)	\$ 30.14
GateHouse Media New York Holdings, Inc.	\$ 98.18
(New Jersey Herald – annual meeting notice - \$21.45)	
(New Jersey Herald – award of contracts - \$12.09)	
(Daily Record – annual meeting notice - \$64.64)	

Lake Management Account:

JCP&L – electric at shed	\$ 4.09
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ROLL CALL:

Ms. Franek – yes	Mr. Keenan – yes
Mr. Hathaway – yes	Mr. Shlesinger - yes
Mr. Hayden - yes	Chairman Riley- yes

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Solitude Lake Management Billing – Chairman Riley stated the issue has been resolved. Mr. Hathaway noted Chairman Riley went back and forth with Solitude’s billing department and the issue is not resolved

to his and Chairman Riley's calculations. The Board has a credit memorandum from Solitude which shows a credit of about \$8,700, which should cover the remainder of the contract that expires this year.

Grant Application – Chairman Riley noted the Board was awarded the grant in the beginning of December and he has no idea when the Board will receive the money. One of the last communications he had from the grant office was that they were waiting until February 15 for the last day for everyone to submit their paperwork to get their grant. Chairman Riley said he completed and submitted the Board's paperwork last month. He is now waiting for a meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> to go over the grant documentation and what needs to be supplied to them as far as financial budgets and where the money is going to go. Chairman Riley noted that a lot of the grant recipients have salaried employees and none of that applies to the Board. The Board has no salaried employees as they are all volunteers. The only use of the grant money is for the purchase of equipment. Chairman Riley said he needs to look closely as how the grant office is defining subcontractors as it may include Aquarius since the Board is purchasing the equipment from them. Chairman Riley will work out all of the financial issues and get the Board the \$572,000 they were awarded. Chairman Riley will have more information at the next meeting. Mr. Keenan asked if the Board will receive a lump sum or be reimbursed as they purchase equipment. Chairman Riley responded that last time they received a lump sum, but he thinks for this grant, he will have to tell them when the Board will be purchasing a specific piece of equipment and then the Board will receive a check for the purchase. As soon as he has notification the Board has the money, he will call Aquarius and order the equipment. Chairman Riley said that prior to ordering the equipment, he would like Mr. Hathaway, Wayne Swistak and himself to go over all of the particulars on what they will be ordering with Aquarius.

**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 Ms. Franek, and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Horak, Clerk