

Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board
Regular Meeting
November 16, 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.

OATH OF OFFICE: In Mr. Fasano's absence, the oath of office was not administered.

ROLL CALL:

Robert Hathaway – present
Joseph Keenan - present
Rosemarie Maio - present
Shawn Potillo - absent

Steven Rattner - absent
Rudy Shlesinger - present
Lester Wright - present
Earl Riley - present

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: There were no modifications to the agenda.

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. Wright the Minutes of the October 19, 2022 regular meeting were approved on majority voice vote. Ms. Maio abstained.

COMMUNICATIONS: : The following communications have been placed on file:
11-04-22 Theresa Dunay – River Park monthly oil/water separator inspection log (October)

On motion by Ms. Maio, seconded by Mr. Hathaway 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 nothing to report.

Lake Awareness –. There was nothing to report.

Lake Management –Mr. Hathaway reported that with help, including his sons, Chairman Riley, Wayne Swistak and Al Cook, they got the Jon boat out of the lake and all the equipment has been stored for the winter. Mr. Hathaway reported that after seeing the correspondence Chairman Riley received from Anika Andrews relative to the grant, he got Senator Bucco involved, who reached out to Senator Oroho relative to the communication. Mr. Hathaway expressed his opinion that the communication sounded like an accusation of impropriety which is why he involved the Senators. In the communication they were asking questions about the Board's previous grant for the hydro rake. Mr. Hathaway noted everyone understood what the Board was going to do and now they seem to have forgotten how it happened and that we cannot use the machine. There are people in this informational chain that have knowledge of what was said and done. Ms. Maio expressed her personal opinion that if the Board is turned down for this grant, they need to go to their respective municipalities, who created this Board and who the Board reports to, and have them contact the NJDEP about this. Mr. Hathaway expressed frustration and agreed if the Board is not awarded the grant, they should go to their respective

municipalities. Chairman Riley stated, on a positive note, he had a relatively honest conversation with Anika, who is new in her position. She was looking for information she was unaware of. She asked for specific items including how much we sold the hydro rake for, who it was sold to, banking information for the bank account where the proceeds of the sale are being held, itemized detail of purchases made with the proceeds, correspondence between the Board and DEP relating to the sale. Chairman Riley responded that to Anika providing the documents and informing her it was used equipment that the Board had for over four years and the Board sold it because of the change in NJDEP's interpretation of hydro raking so the Board could not use it as planned. Chairman Riley provided copies of the correspondence with the State granting authority for the Board to dispose of the equipment and giving the Board possession of the money. Chairman Riley noted everything was transparent and legal. Chairman Riley said he expressed to Anika the Board's frustration regarding use of the AM2000 informed her the Board designated those funds to do probiotic treatment which was unregulated at the time of the application. The Board purchased numerous items, i.e. MD Pellets, meter and 10 marker buoys, after which someone in NJDEP said they would not support it. Chairman Riley informed Anika the Board decided not to put that treatment in the lake. Chairman Riley said she informed him a decision on the award of the grant would not be made until after Thanksgiving. Chairman Riley stated he thinks they are looking at the money the Board has in the bank because we asked for a \$750,000 grant and if they see \$200,000 in the bank they may say, if they approve the Board's grant application, we will only get \$400,000 to \$500,000. Ms. Maio said how much money you have in the bank is none of their business. Chairman Riley said he is only speculating that is what they are thinking in Trenton. The Board agreed, the money in their bank account should have no bearing on this grant application. Mr. Hathaway stated he has not heard back yet about a meeting to discuss the micro experiment in the canal. Chairman Riley noted the Board has received no support from the NJDEP in years. Ms. Maio stated she feels four municipalities have more strength in terms of what the NJDEP will or will not do than the Board does. Mr. Hathaway agreed and suggested, if the Board is not awarded the grant, that each member bring this to their respective municipality. Chairman Riley also suggested involving the Senators. Chairman Riley noted a while ago, they purchased a stainless-steel cable for the Firemen's Challenge that did not happen. The cable he purchased for the buoys was too light. Two weeks ago, he and Wayne Swistak cut the cable and will change all of the cables on all the buoys to 1/4" stainless-steel cables.

Operating Budget – There was nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was emailed to the Board. Mr. Keenan noted the \$2.00 per month fee the bank was charging is still being charged. He spoke to the bank and they will discontinue charging the fee. Ms. Maio noted interest rates are increasing and asked if the Board would consider depositing the money in a higher interest-bearing account. Chairman Riley at the time, the long and short term CD's had the same interest rate. On motion by Ms. Maio, seconded by Mr. Hathaway and carried by the following unanimous roll call vote, the Board authorized Mr. Keenan to research and recommend a higher interest CD with Fulton Bank or another bank.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Hathaway – yes	Mr. Shlesinger- yes
Mr. Keenan – yes	Mr. Wright - yes
Ms. Maio – yes	Chairman Riley– yes

On motion by Mr. Hathaway, 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. Hathaway, 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
Postmaster – 100 stamps @.60 each	\$ 60.00

Lake Management Account:

JCP&L – electric at shed	\$ 6.05
Solitude Lake Management – Lake Management Services (November)	\$1,284.00

Debit-Credit Card:

Amazon – wire rope clamps for buoys	\$ 115.12
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Ms. Maio questioned the Solitude Lake Management bill. Mr. Hathaway noted this bill does not have a payment number on it and suggested they ask Solitude to enumerate what payment it is on each bill. Chairman Riley stated they have a 22-month contract, which was entered into last year. The treatments are completed. Mr. Hathaway noted the reason they did it this way was because they needed it to go over three budget years. The Clerk will contact Solitude and ask them to enumerate the bills and get an accounting of payments made.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Hathaway – yes	Mr. Shlesinger- yes
Mr. Keenan – yes	Mr. Wright - yes
Ms. Maio – yes	Chairman Riley– yes

OLD BUSINESS:

Grant Application – Ms. Maio questioned if the Board should ask the attorney, Cliff Lundin, to attend the December meeting, if they will be discussing the approach to take if the Board is not awarded the grant. Mr. Hathaway noted the Board discussed doing RFP’s for the application, which would need to be discussed with the attorney. The Board agreed to ask the attorney to attend the December meeting.

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

Laura Franek informed the Board she is still trying to get appointed as the State’s representative to the Board.

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

ADJOURNMENT: On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Ms. Maio, and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Horak, Clerk