

Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board
Regular Meeting
September 17, 2025

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 16, 2025 and was sent to the Clerks of the four municipalities, the State and the two counties.

ROLL CALL:

Jacob Hamilton - present
Robert Hathaway - present
Joseph Keenan - present
Rosemarie Maio - present
Judith McGrath - absent

Shawn Potillo - absent
Steven Rattner - present
Rudy Shlesinger - absent
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.

Tyler Perry, Life Scout with Troop 91 came forward and presented the Board with the numbers for his Eagle Scout project. There was a total of 301 hours spent by himself and his volunteers and he spent \$1,504.21 on materials for the project. The entire cost of the project, without any of the discounts provided, would have been \$3,304.21. He received discounts from Sacks Paint & Wallpaper, ABC Supply Co. and Lowes. Lowes sells material for Eagle Scout projects at cost. The total remaining from the amount of \$1,800 that the Board gave for the project is \$274.92. Mr. Wright suggested the Board donate the \$274.92 to the Boy Scouts. The Clerk reminded the Board that, although they can accept donations, they cannot make donations. Mr. Hathaway stated the members of the Board would like to donate the remaining funds to the Boy Scouts, but public laws prohibit them from doing so. Mr. Hathaway noted that Tyler went well beyond the Board's expectations and he thanked Tyler for his effort and hard work. Tyler gave the Board a check from Boy Scout Troop 91 in the amount of \$274.92. Tyler will provide the Board with the receipts. Chairman Riley offered to train Tyler on operating the harvester.

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. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Rattner, the Minutes of the August 20, 2025 meeting were approved on unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS: The following communications have been placed on file:

09-02-25 United States Liability Insurance Company - Renewal Certificate re: Public Officials Liability Coverage

09/10/25 Crazy Cans - Notice of unpaid invoice #3629 from Aug. 2024 in the amount of \$300 for container transportation (8/15/24-8/28/24) - (this was on the bill's list and approved at the Sept. 18, 2024 meeting)

On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Ms. Maio and carried by unanimous voice vote, the communications were accepted. The Clerk explained the communication from Crazy Cans is for a bill that was on the September 18, 2024 agenda which was approved; however, a check was never written.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Canal Society – There was nothing to report.

Musconetcong Watershed Association – There was nothing to report.

Site Plan Review/Stream Encroachment – There was nothing to report.

Lake Awareness – There was nothing to report.

Lake Management – Mr. Hathaway reported they have been harvesting without issues. Mr. Hathaway said that, with respect to the water chestnut, Glenn Sullivan issued his report and there is nothing new in the report. Mr. Hathaway expressed his opinion that the effectivity of the application is questionable. There are some seeds, it never did go to flower and it does appear to be dying, but the product SePro suggests it should have already been dead. Mr. Hathaway informed the Board that Glenn Sullivan offered to not deposit the check the Board tendered to him. Mr. Hathaway noted the effectivity of the chemical should go into next year and it was guaranteed work. There is evidence that it is done and he is not sure the results were as warranted. Mr. Hathaway stated he is not feeling good about this relationship with Glenn and he does not want his opinion of the relationship to affect the Board's decision, which is why he does not want to render his opinion on what they should do. Mr. Hathaway summarized the application was done and the water chestnuts are showing the effect of it. There has been a substantial fallout, but not a complete fallout. There are water chestnuts that the Board will have to harvest. Mr. Hathaway expressed his opinion that it does not look like it is supposed to. SePro represents that there will be a quick fallout with the product. Mr. Hathaway stated it is obviously affected, but not as the label indicates it should be. Mr. Hathaway asked the direction of the Board. Ms. Maio suggested that they pay for the application, but not for the material because it did not perform as it was supposed to. Chairman Riley said he has been on the harvester cutting the water chestnut and he sees a significant difference in what was there prior to the application and he sees a drop out of the water chestnut viability. There are no seeds on the water chestnut with the florets they are bringing up with the harvester. Chairman Riley said he cannot complete the clear out of the rest of the water chestnut with only two of them (Wayne and himself) operating the harvester. Chairman Riley noted that 90% of the water chestnut is dying, but he cannot get in the area to get the rest. Mr. Hathaway said the SePro label suggested it would all fall to the bottom. The Board discussed the application product, the results and whether to have Mr. Sullivan hold the check. Chairman Riley suggested the Board members go on the harvester and go through the water chestnut patch before they make a decision. Chairman Riley offered to take any member who wants to go out on the harvester. Mr. Hathaway has pictures that Mr. Sullivan sent him that he just forwarded to the Clerk, who will forward them to the entire Board. Chairman Riley stated this matter will be tabled and discussed at the next meeting, at which a decision will be made. Mr. Hathaway will inform Mr. Sullivan not to cash the check and let him know the Board wants to view the lake and then make their decision. Ms. Maio commented that the issue is whether or not the Board got what they paid for. Mr. Hathaway also reported that he has not yet effected the EZ Dock install and he will follow up on it. Mr. Hathaway said Mr. Hamilton has worked on the drawdown permit. We are due for a one-foot drawdown this year. The drawdown will begin on October 15th and must be fully drawn down by November 1st. It will be refilled on or about December 15th. Mr. Hamilton stated the permit begins September 15th and it is December 31st when it needs to be back up. Mr. Hathaway said they do not want to create an ice flow so he will work with Mr. Hamilton on this. Mr. Hathaway suggested the shoreline clean up in early December, but he will wait to see the weather and then coordinate it depending

on the weather outlook. Chairman Riley noted the buoys must be removed from the lake. Mr. Hathaway stated Michael Sheridan said he will do it. Michael is a Netcong resident who expressed an interest and he knows how to operate the machine. Chairman Riley noted that this person has no affiliation with Mr. Hathaway. Mr. Hathaway said he would like the Board to document all of the hazards on the lake. Chairman Riley suggested that it be done after the drawdown. Mr. Hathaway would like to be involved in this. Chairman Riley would also like to help mark the hazards. Chairman Riley noted they should have a gps to mark the hazards. Mr. Hathaway noted a GPS is not expensive and he suggested purchasing a water-proof, hand held GPS unit which would cost about \$100. Ms. Maio stated the town's emergency management coordinator, Wayne Anthony has a GPSs and she suggested asking if the Board could borrow it.

Operating Budget – Mr. Wright stated the Board has not received any funds from Roxbury Township or Sussex County. All the other towns and county have paid. The Clerk will send a reminder letter to Roxbury and Sussex County.

CD Investment – Mr. Wright reported there are no additional updates since the last meeting. Mr. Shlesinger noted they have a CD expiring next month on the 23rd and another one on November 26th. Chairman Riley said they will decide at the next meeting what to do with the CD expiring next month since the date is after the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was emailed to the Board. Chairman Riley noted the total cash value the Board has is \$193,173. This is the most solvent that this organization has ever been. On motion by Mr. Hathaway, 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. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Rattner and carried by the following unanimous roll call vote, the Board approved the bills on the Bills List:

Operating Account:

Ellen Horak - Clerk's Monthly Compensation	\$ 550.00
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Lake Management Account:

JCP&L – electric at shed	\$ 12.55
Crazy Cans - container transportation (8/20/25 invoice #6480)	\$ 300.00
Crazy Cans - container transportation (8/20/25-9/3/25 invoice #6571)	\$ 300.00

Debit/Credit Card:

Optimum - internet service	\$ 40.00
Eurofins Environmental Testing Northeast, LLC - lab testing of weeds	\$ 597.00

ROLL CALL:

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

OLD BUSINESS:

\$572,000 Grant Agreement – Chairman Riley reported he has been submitting the required reports and the last financial report he sent would have brought them up to date for one last report. The NJ SAGE did not update from our last report so this report was rejected. Chairman Riley is in the process of writing a report from January 1, 2025 through October 31, 2025. Initially when he filled out the grant request he put in a \$50,000 in-kind match. The in-kind match is \$29.65 per hour per volunteer hours. He included the Board members' hours, the harvester operators' hours and the LMCA hours. After receiving that report, the State said the only viable hours are the harvester operators' hours, so out of the \$50,000 match, the most the Board will see is \$31,000. Chairman Riley noted they will be light on in-kind hours and they have exceeded the in-kind cash match. Chairman Riley will submit the final report by the end of October. Chairman Riley said he is on-line working on this grant at least one to two times per week, and informed the Board that this is the last grant he will work on.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

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. Maio and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Horak, Clerk