

Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board
Regular Meeting
October 19, 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 - absent
Shawn Potillo - present

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

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: Additional 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. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Rattner the Minutes of the September 21, 2022 regular meeting were approved on majority voice vote. Mr. Potillo abstained.

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

- 09-29-22 Notice to Property Owners – Northwest Construction LLC re: variance for increase in lot coverage over previously granted at 9 Valley Road, Stanhope
- 10-03-22 Notice to Property Owners – JAS Group Enterprise Inc. re: subdivision and site plan for 494 Residential units at Trade Center East, Continental Drive, Mt. Olive
- 10-05-22 Theresa Dunay – River Park monthly oil/water separator inspection log (September)

Mr. Keenan noted the large development to be constructed on Continental Drive, Mt. Olive. On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Keenan and carried by unanimous voice vote, the communications were accepted.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Canal Society – There was no report.

Musconetcong Watershed Association – Mr. Rattner reported today and tomorrow the State will be holding stakeholder meetings before they issue new wetland flood protection rules. They are increasing the flood plain by about two feet higher and they are proposing a 500-foot buffer. Mr. Rattner reported there was a presentation on the HABs in the river from Hopatcong down to the Delaware which compared this year to 2021. The comparison showed this year was a terrible year. The temperatures have been extremely high. The seven-day rolling over rarely went below 74.4 degrees. Mr. Rattner also reported there will be an open house at the Asbury Mill this Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Mr. Rattner informed the Board they have a committee for Reel Hackettstown trying to get the minority community involved. Mr. Rattner noted the reports refer to this minority group as Latinx.

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

Lake Awareness – There was nothing to report.

Lake Management –Mr. Hathaway reported his two sons removed all the buoys from the lake. It does appear the Board will need to do some modifications of their system. Many of the cables are rotted and some of the buoys floated away. Mr. Hathaway reported the harvester was removed from the lake, with some challenges that arose and were not anticipated which included the need to purchase a cable for the electrical system which turned out to be a project. Mr. Hathaway said, in the absence of the Board receiving a grant for new equipment, this harvester will need work prior to next season. Mr. Hathaway also reported they did not remove the Jon boat prior to the present large lake drawdown so the removal of the Jon boat will have to wait. Mr. Hathaway said his sons volunteered to take the Jon boat out, which he may let them do. Chairman Riley noted the Jon boat is still on the ground. As the lake level increases, it will be easier to remove. Mr. Hathaway stated the lake was drawn down more than they had planned, but it is a benefit to the Board’s agenda that it went down lower. Chairman Riley reported he inspected the new shed to make sure it had not been vandalized. Chairman Riley also reported the dumpster was emptied and the Board should be expecting a bill from the Morris County MUA for disposal of the weeds. Chairman Riley commented that during his tenure on the Board there were years they pulled 2 million cubic yards from the lake per year and this year it was about 100 cubic yards. This year they did not even fill one container. Chairman Riley noted the Board will continue the herbicide treatment.

Operating Budget – There was nothing to report.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The Treasurer’s Report was emailed to the Board. The report does not include the two additional bills. 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. Keenan 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
Lake Management Account:	
JCP&L – electric at shed	\$ 4.09
Solitude Lake Management – Lake Management Services (September)	\$1,284.00
Solitude Lake Management – Lake Management Services (October)	\$1,284.00
Solitude Lake Management – Lake Management Services (September)	\$ 900.00
Intrepid Carting & Hauling – transportation 30-yard container	\$ 300.00
Princeton Hydro – final review of SAGE application	\$ 252.00
Debit-Credit Card:	
Discount Tire Centers – 2 tubes installed in Jon boat trailer tires	\$ 50.00

ROLL CALL:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. Hathaway – yes | Mr. Rattner - yes |
| Mr. Keenan – yes | Mr. Shlesinger - yes |
| Mr. Pottillo – yes | Mr. Wright – yes |
| | Chairman Riley - yes |

OLD BUSINESS:

Grant Application – Mr. Keenan asked the status of the grant application. Mr. Hathaway responded the application was received and it was reported the Board received a score of 75 out of 100. Chairman Riley stated the funds available under the grant were \$10 Million Dollars statewide of which \$1 Million was dedicated to Lake Hopatcong and \$1 Million was dedicated to Greenwood Lake, leaving \$8 Million

Dollars for the rest of the State lakes. There was a request for \$28 Million Dollars. Chairman Riley said he contacted Princeton Hydro and asked what the score means. He was told that is the percentage chance of the Board getting the funds requested, contingent upon he scores of the other lakes throughout the State. Chairman Riley will inform the Board as soon as he receives notification.

NEW BUSINESS:

2023 Budget – Mr. Keenan prepared the 2023 budget for the Board’s review. Mr. Keenan noted the 2023 budget remains exactly the same as the past two years. Mr. Keenan also provided a page showing the budgeted versus actual for this year through October. Chairman Riley expressed concern with the insurance line item amount. Mr. Keenan noted the Board’s insurance policy runs from May to May. Chairman Riley suggested they look to see how much the harvester is insured for because the harvester is no longer worth what it was originally insured for. The Board reviewed the budget presented. On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Wright and carried by the following unanimous roll call vote, the Board approved the 2023 budget as presented.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Hathaway – yes	Mr. Rattner - yes
Mr. Keenan – yes	Mr. Shlesinger - yes
Mr. Pottillo – yes	Mr. Wright – yes
	Chairman Riley - yes

The Board instructed the Clerk to send the 2023 budget request to the two counties and four municipalities. The Clerk will also respond to Morris County’s request for additional information, including the Board’s mission statement and the Board’s goals and objectives.

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.

DISCUSSION:

State Appointment – Chairman Riley asked Laura Franek, present in the public, if she has heard anything on her appointment to the Board. Ms. Franek responded in the negative, but informed the Board there is a new Administrator of State Parks, Rebecca Fitzgerald, who just started in the position this week. Ms. Franek will go through the Administrator to push for her appointment.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Wright, and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Horak, Clerk