

**Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board
Regular Meeting
May 20, 2026**

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 22, 2026 and was sent to the Clerks of the four municipalities, the State and the two counties.

ROLL CALL:

Jack Degroot - present	Judith McGrath - present
Jacob Hamilton - present	Shawn Potillo - absent
Robert Hathaway - present	Steven Rattner - present
Joseph Keenan - absent	Rudy Shlesinger - present
Rosemarie Maio - present	Lester Wright - present
	Earl Riley - present

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: Additional communication and bill listed.

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

Yonnie Guyre, Landing resident, asked if the Board will be having the fishing derby this year. Chairman Riley responded that they will be holding the fishing derby on Father's Day which is June 21st. Ms. Guyre asked what the cost of the trophies would be. The LMCA paid the cost of the trophies last year and will do so again this year. Chairman Riley responded that they were about \$100 last year and should be no more than \$150 this year. Ms. Guyre also asked if the Board will be spraying the lake this year. Chairman Riley responded in the affirmative. Ms. Guyre asked, if Byram Cove is not part of the Board's spraying, how many acres is it. Mr. Hathaway said the Board has a contract to address the water chestnut and the chemical they are using is not listed on the LMCA's permit. The contractor is authorized to treat only 15 acres in Byram Cove for water chestnut. Mr. Hathaway noted that the Board treats the parks and the LMCA treats the shorelines, with the exception of the shorelines of the municipal parks, which the Board treats. Mr. Hathaway said that due to the application by the applicator last year, it had to be done twice, but he does not anticipate them to overrun the 15 acres. The cost is about \$700 per acre. Mr. Hathaway stated the map for the application has not been decided yet. He is thinking about a similar pattern as done last year.

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

ACTION ON MINUTES: Chairman Riley noted corrections to the minutes. On page 4 the minutes reads: Chairman Riley said before the harvester can be put in the water, "there is about 50 hours of maintenance that needs to be done" and it should say "the scheduled 50 hours maintenance on the harvester needs to be performed." On page 5 under Board's Website reads "Chairman Riley asked the Board to approve the Treasurer wiring the final payment of \$5,000 to 4Bits." The amount should be \$3,350 not \$5,000.

On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Wright, the Minutes of the April 15, 2026 regular meeting were approved, as amended, on majority voice vote. Ms. Maio abstained.

COMMUNICATIONS:

04-16-26 Morris County - Memorandum of Understanding and Purchase Order in the amount of \$8,142.50 re: 2026 budget contribution

- 04-16-26 Daniel Shaw, Nisivoccia - draft of Program Specific Audit Report re: Grant
- 04-22-26 Daniel Shaw, Nisivoccia - final Program Specific Audit Report re: Grant
- 04-27-26 Internal Revenue Service - IRS Notice CP 2100A re: 2024 incorrect payee name/tin number
- 04-28-26 Byram Township - Purchase Order in the amount of \$2,296.19 re: 2026 budget contribution
- 04-30-26 Netcong Borough - Purchase Order in the amount of \$13,597.00 re: 2026 budget contribution (\$10,397.00: \$1,767.90 less than requested); herbicide treatment (\$800.00) and goose addling (\$2,400)
- 05-06-26 Arek Mateusiak - Board's website
- 05-07-26 Byram Township - check in the amount of \$2,296.19 re: 2026 budget contribution
- 05/13/26 Stanhope Borough - Purchase Order in the amount of \$22,050.78 re: 2026 budget contribution (\$21,300.78) and herbicide treatment (\$750.00)
- 05-18-26 Morris County - signed Memorandum of Understanding and check in the amount of \$8,142.50 re: 2026 budget contribution

Ms. Maio noted the communication received from the Borough of Netcong and said it is unheard of that a town would not fully fund their percentage of the budget and she asked what the Board is going to do about it. The Clerk said she spoke to Netcong's Administrator about the shortage and he said the amount was the recommendation of the finance committee based on a percentage reduction. Mr. Hathaway said he will ask the Council at the next meeting because this is contrary to discussions they had when he was on the Council. There was not a percentage across the board of all accounts. Chairman Riley said the Board will challenge Netcong's contribution. Mr. Hathaway recommended the Board send a bill to Netcong for the \$1,767.90 they shorted the Board. Chairman Riley suggested asking them to come to the Board's next meeting and explain why they did not fully fund their budget percentage. Ms. Maio expressed her opinion that if they do not pay their full amount, they should not get the full services of the Board. Chairman Riley was not in favor of reducing services to Netcong and said he wants to know what they need from the Board to facilitate the payment and he is willing to listen to why they are doing this. Chairman Riley said they need to accept the communications, but that does not mean they accept the amount from Netcong. After a brief discussion, the Clerk was asked to send a letter to the Mayor and Council of Netcong and ask them to send a representative to the Board's next meeting to explain why this was done and what needs to be done for them to pay the full amount. Mr. Hathaway will also attend the next Mayor and Council meeting in Netcong. On motion by Mr. Rattner, seconded by Ms. McGrath and carried by unanimous voice vote, the aforesaid communications were accepted.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Canal Society – Ms. McGrath reported the Canal Society will have a celebration for the 250th anniversary on June 27th. Details will be coming out soon.

Musconetcong Watershed Association – There was no report.

Site Plan Review/Stream Encroachment – There was no report.

Lake Awareness – Ms. Maio reported the fishing contest will be held on June 21st. Flyers for the fishing contest were distributed to the Board members. Chairman Riley said a letter was sent to Ramsey's for their donations and he will contact John Rogalo to see if the Sportsmen's Federation will again donate \$200 to be used for prizes. Chairman Riley said he contacted the trophy provider today and he is waiting to hear back from them. Chairman Riley noted the flyer lists State Parks as a co-sponsor so they do not need a permit. Last year the LMCA paid for the trophies.

Lake Management – Mr. Hathaway reported the harvester is in the water. Wayne Swistek harvested by the dam for a better presentation for Memorial Day viewing. Chairman Riley spoke about an issue they had with the equipment. Mr. Swistek stopped for a short break and when he tried to start it up again, the battery was dead. He jump started it and got it running and harvested as much as he could. When he went to the conveyor to unload it, the paddlewheel was not operating. Chairman Riley said Mr. Swistek called him and he then called Aquarius. It was like the computer stopped and when they turned it off and then back on, it worked. Aquarius does not know what happened. Mr. Hathaway also reported that Chairman Riley spent time at the shed and they identified materials that can be donated to the Hopatcong Commission because the Board can no longer use them with the new equipment. Chairman Riley said the spare parts for the new machine and the spare parts for the old machine are not compatible. Ms. Maio questioned selling the spare parts. Mr. Hathaway said these items have nominal value and it would be better to donate them for fostering goodwill with the Hopatcong Commission. Chairman Riley agreed and reminded the Board about the time the Hopatcong Commission loaned them a harvester for two years. Chairman Riley said he would like to donate the spar parts to an organization that is maintaining water quality. On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Ms. McGrath and carried by unanimous voice vote, the Board agreed to donate the spare parts from the old harvester that they no longer have use for to the Lake Hopatcong Commission. Mr. Hathaway also reported that the buoys have been placed on the lake. There are a few hazards that are not marked. Mr. Hathaway suggested that the Board consider, when the buoys are collected, that they enable some type of software system to map where the hazards are and make that part of the project. Mr. Hathaway reported they also addled the goose eggs and counted ten spawn that made it through. They addled 35 eggs. Netcong will be undertaking the goose round-up which will happen several weeks away. Mr. Hathaway said the herbicide application asked about by Ms. Guyre is being done by Lake Management Sciences. Mr. Hathaway said he has authorized the selection of the chemical and the map will be similar to last year's map. The application is scheduled for early next week depending on the weather. Mr. Hathaway said that due to the recent early warm weather, he anticipates they will likely have to put algaecide in the lake to address the algae bloom. He also thinks they will likely have a lesser water chestnut issue than last year. Chairman Riley reported on the weed disposal and said he has contacted Jefferson Recycling and they would prefer to haul the Board's container and do the disposal at a single price. He expects to hear their price within the next couple of days but he does not think they have a choice because Jefferson Recycling is the only one willing to do it. The Board has to agree to their price because if not, they have no place to take the weeds. Mr. Hathaway noted that the disposal cost is already in the budget.

Operating Budget – There was nothing to report.

CD Investment – Mr. Shlesinger reported that rates will remain the same for a while.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was emailed to the Board. On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Degroot, 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 & Stipend for Preparation

of Financial Reports	\$ 650.00
Murphy McKeon, P.C. - Retainer/General re: legal services (RFP's)	\$ 225.00
Murphy McKeon, P.C. - Mtg attendance and draft resolution	\$ 225.00
AB Stamp & Sign, LLC - Name Plate for Jack Degroot	\$ 16.00
USA Today Media Corp. - legal notice re: 2026 legal notices 2x (April)	\$ 21.28
Nisivoccia - preparation of program specific audit report	\$ 5,000.00
4Bits (Arkadiusz Mateusiak -creation of Board's website (via wire transfer)	\$ 3,350.00
Lake Management Account:	
JCP&L – electric at shed	\$ 14.26
Lake Management Services - Installment #1 of 2026 contract	\$27,167.50
Michael Sheridan - goose addling (\$225) and buoy placement (\$250)	\$ 425.00
Debit/Credit Card:	
Optimum - internet service	\$ 55.00
Amazon - 8-quart dispenser for harvester engine oil	\$ 30.09
Amazon - battery powered grease gun and grease for gun	\$ 132.17
Tractor Supply - engine oil for harvester	\$ 47.97
Lake's End Marina - Yamaha Outboard repair	\$ 489.84

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Degroot - yes	Ms. McGrath - yes
Mr. Hamilton - yes	Mr. Rattner - yes
Mr. Hathaway - yes (abstained from Michael Sheridan's bill)	Mr. Shlesinger - yes
Ms. Maio - yes	Mr. Wright - yes
	Chairman Riley - yes

OLD BUSINESS:

\$572,000 Grant Specific Audit – Chairman Riley reported the grant specific audit was submitted to the NJDEP and he has heard nothing back from them.

Board's Website - Chairman Riley reported the website has been completed and the site looks phenomenal. Arek did a great job. Chairman Riley said they are going to change the domain from GoDaddy to the domain the web developer suggested. The Board is paying \$30 per year at Go-Daddy and the other charges only \$11 per year. Mr. Hathaway noted that they also get an email with the new domain. Chairman Riley said he continues to be in contact with Arek and is very impressed with his work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Hathaway said he received an estimate from Michael Sheridan for a project he and Chairman Riley feel needs to be done. The Board received additional solar panels from the camera issue. The solar panels can be used to trickle start the battery for the Jon boat. The Jon boat gets used infrequently and the battery dies. One of the solar panels can trickle the battery. Mr. Hathaway read Mr. Sheridan's estimate as follows: Proposed Services: install equipment provided by the LMRPB battery, solar charger, bilge pump and any needed accessory equipment necessary to enable automatic bilge pump system for LMRPB Jon boat. Labor \$250. Mr. Hathaway expressed his opinion that this is a very reasonable proposal and the

Board should move forward. On motion by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Shlesinger and carried by the following majority roll call vote, the Board approved the proposal by Michael Sheridan in the amount of \$250.00.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Degroot - yes	Ms. McGrath - yes
Mr. Hamilton - yes	Mr. Rattner - yes
Mr. Hathaway - abstained	Mr. Shlesinger - yes
Ms. Maio - no	Mr. Wright - yes
	Chairman Riley - yes

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

Yonnie Guyer, Landing resident, said the fishing contest flyer says trophies and prizes will be awarded and she asked about the prizes. Chairman Riley said they spend \$200 on prizes such as fishing poles, lures, tackle boxes, etc. and Ramsey's donates two fishing poles and lures that are worth about \$50. The Sportsmen's Federation donates \$200 that is used to purchase the prizes. Chairman Riley noted that every child that comes to the fishing contest leaves with some sort of prize and the Elks Club provides breakfast and volunteers. Chairman Riley said they take photographs of some of the participants and post them on the website. This year participants will be given a release to have signed when they register. Ms. McGrath will prepare the release to be signed.

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 Mr. Wright and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen Horak, Clerk