Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board
Regular Meeting
August 19, 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 - absent
Jacob Hamilton - absent
Robert Hathaway - present
Joseph Keenan - absent
Rosemarie Maio - absent
Judith McGrath - present
Shawn Potillo - present
Steven Rattner - present
Rudy Shlesinger - absent
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.

Rich Perry, Stanhope resident, said he looks forward to members of the Board attending Tyler's Eagle Scout Court of Honor and he asked if the Clerk had the laminated pictures from his Eagle Project. The Clerk gave Mr. Perry the pictures, adding that copies were made for the Board's file.

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. Rattner, seconded by Mr. Wright, the Minutes of the July 15, 2026 meeting were approved on majority voice vote. Mr. Potillo abstained.

COMMUNICATIONS:

07-27-26 Notice to Property Owners - Site Plan and Conditional Use Application for Cannabis Retail at 177 Route 183, Stanhope
07-27-26 Notice to Property Owners - Freshwater Wetlands Application re: Blk 11802, Lot 1, Stanhope (Old Sparta Road LLC)
08-17-26 Roxbury Township - check in the amount of $13,843.14 re: 2026 budget contribution ($13,093.14) and herbicide treatment ($750.00)

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 that Canal Day will be held on August 22, 2026.

Musconetcong Watershed Association – Mr. Rattner reported they are approaching their 20th anniversary celebration and expect a large party. No date has been set yet. Mr. Rattner noted there are a lot of activities that are listed on their website.

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

Lake Awareness – There was nothing to report.

Lake Management – Mr. Hathaway reported there is a bill on the bills list from Lake Management Sciences that he would like to table because there is some acreage at the back of the lake that the applicator feels would damage his boat if he were to go there and the Board has not received any credit for the area not treated. Mr. Hathaway noted that in the past when there were water chestnuts in these areas, they have been treated with backpack sprayers. Mr. Hathaway said he is not able to pressure this contractor to do a thorough job. There is some acreage between 3 to 5 acres untreated and the Board is entitled to a credit for those acres and that is a lot of florets that will wash into the lake. Mr. Hathaway said he had told this contractor that in the past it was done by backpack sprayers, but now that message is not being well received. The contractor said that 90% is a good result. Mr. Hathaway expressed his opinion that the Board should only pay 90%. When you do 100%, the Board will pay 100%. Mr. Hathaway suggested not paying the bill and let the contractor come to him. Chairman Riley agreed. If you leave 3 to 5 acres of water chestnut, when they go through their life cycle, next year there will be 10 to 20 acres of water chestnut. Mr. Hathaway stated there will be a 2-foot drawdown this year and when out of the water, water chestnut seeds will die. Mr. Hathaway expressed his frustration and said he does not like the personal interaction he is getting with this contractor. He would like to hold the bill for a month in the hope the contractor will come and open a dialogue with him. If the contractor does not reach out to him, he will reach out to the contractor. The Board agreed to table the bill from Lake Management Sciences. Chairman Riley stated the contractor gave a quote to treat the lake. The original estimate was approximately 3- acres at $600 per acre. Chairman Riley said that in the interim, because of the contractor's delay in doing the second treatment, he and Wayne Swistek went out and cut about 5 to 10 acres so the contractor did not have to treat all he quoted. Mr. Hathaway said he instructed the harvester operators to remove everything not effectuated by the treatment. Chairman Riley said they need to renegotiate what this vendor is owed. Mr. Hathaway expressed his opinion that this issue should disqualify this vendor in the future. Mr. Hathaway also reported that some of the teeth on the harvester broke and the repairs will be made tomorrow. The jon boat has been repaired. The jon boat has a trickle charger that was set up and has some nominal charge. The equipment the Board had was reused. Chairman Riley said the bill for the work should be added to the bills list. Chairman Riley read a texted version of the bill from Michael Sheridan as follows; "Install equipment provided by LMRPB battery, solar charger, bilge pump and any needed accessory equipment necessary to enable automatic bilge pump system for LMRPB Jon boat, Labor $250. It was agreed that the bill from Michael Sheridan for $250 will be added to tonight's bills list. Mr. Hathaway spoke about the recent firework shows that had some kind of disconnect with the vendor. The Board has been allowing these types of firework displays and usually he gets a call from the vendor, but this year the calls came to him from Chairman Riley who, on the camera, saw the vendor at the site. Chairman Riley agreed there was a disconnect this year. In the past the vendor would set up on Friday before the Saturday show, but the past two times they came in on Wednesday and started putting their equipment on the property and blocking the Board's equipment. Mr. Hathaway says he always inspects the site before the vendor comes and after they leave. Mr. Hathaway said this only has to do with the vendor, not the two Societies or Netcong Borough. Mr. Hathaway suggested that next year they lock the gate and make the vendor ask him to let them in. The Board agreed. Chairman Riley said that in the end, everything was rectified but a locked gate would be appropriate. Mr. Hathaway also reported he spoke to Mr. Hamilton and this year is the year for the 2-foot

drawdown. The dates will be similar to last year. They will begin the drawdown sometime by October 15th and will fill it back up sometime by December 15th and they will be sensitive to ice floats. Mr. Hathaway commented that the lake is in great shape. Mr. Hathaway noted there is a bill on the bills list from Omni Outdoor, which is for 15 weights he ordered for the buoys. The bill on the bills list from Sportsman Marina is for the repair to the dock. Chairman Riley stated that Jefferson Recycling charged $799.69, but it should be $750. Chairman Riley gave them the Board's tax exempt certificate and they have issued a credit for the sales tax. There was also a duplicate charge in July and they have issued a credit for one of the charges.

Operating Budget – There was nothing to report.

CD Investment – Mr. Wright noted there is over $157,000 in the Fidelity money market account. Mr. Wright expressed his opinion that the money should remain in the money market account. Chairman Riley agreed that all investments should remain where they are.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was emailed to the Board. 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. Potillo, seconded by Mr. Hathaway and carried by the following unanimous roll call vote, the Board approved the bills on the Bills List, as amended:

Operating Account:	
Ellen Horak - Clerk's Monthly Compensation & Stipend for Preparation of Financial Reports	$ 650.00
United States Liability Insurance Company - Public Officials Liability	$ 406.25
Selective Insurance - Commercial Liability Ins. Installment Payment	$ 1,955.00
USA Today Media Corp. - legal notice re: 2026 legal notices 2x's	$ 14.26
Lake Management Account:	
JCP&L – electric at shed	$ 12.19
Dixon Bros., Inc. - diesel fuel	$ 743.40
Michael Sheridan - equipment installation on Jon boat	$ 250.00
Debit/Credit Card:	
Optimum - internet service	$ 30.00
Jefferson Recycling - July 17, 2026	$ 799.69
Jefferson Recycling - August 3, 2026	$ 799.69
Omni Outdoor	$ 351.70
Sportsman Marina	$ 890.32

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Hathaway - yes	Mr. Rattner - yes
Ms. McGrath - yes	Mr. Wright - yes
Mr. Potillo - yes	Chairman Riley - yes

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

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. McGrath and carried by unanimous voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Horak

Ellen Horak, Clerk