

Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board
Regular Meeting
March 19, 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	Shawn Potillo - present
Robert Hathaway - present	Steven Rattner - present
Joseph Keenan - present	Rudy Shlesinger -present
Rosemarie Maio -absent	Lester Wright - present
Judith McGrath - present	Earl Riley - present

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA: Additional bill and revised bill 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. Wright, the Minutes of the February 19, 2025 meeting were approved on unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS: The following communications have been placed on file:

- 02-24-25 Selective Insurance - Updated Commercial Liability Insurance Policy (removed 1989 backhoe & includes all new equipment)
- 02-27-25 Saint Cesario Society Inc. - check in the amount of \$100 re: donation to the Board
- 03-07-25 Fidelity Investments - Monthly Investment Report (2/1/25-2/28/25)
- 03-13-25 Mountain Landscape Contractors - Estimate of Services re: demo and disposal of floating docks

On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Mr. Rattner 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 no report.

Lake Awareness – There was no report.

Lake Management – Mr. Hathaway reported the Board Attorney solicited three vendors for quotes for the herbicide treatment and he received two quotes. Mr. Hathaway said he recommends advancing one of the quotes with the caveat that a multi-year contract is desirable. Mr. Hathaway said they may want to recast the quotes as a three-year contract and take another month to award or they can do a multi-year contract next year if the Board prefers to act on the quotes received now. Mr. Hathaway noted the Board's Attorney, Mr. Bryce, is present and will speak about the quotes later in the meeting. Mr. Hathaway also reported that, under the authority of Chairman Riley, he used his company's staff to

install the mast at the two points. The first one at Barney's Way to receive the line drop for the cable, repaired the electrical pole and u-vaults and at the Allen Street location they anchored another 16-foot pole secured to the shed which will be solely for the camera. A bill was submitted by Mountain Landscape Contractors for that work and is on the bill's list. Mr. Hathaway noted the work that needed to be done was more than volunteers could handle. Mr. Hathaway also spoke about a recent incident where an individual fell through the ice in front of his house and which he assisted in the rescue. Mr. Hathaway noted the first responders arrived quickly with the ice rescue gear. The individual was pulled safely out of the lake and was unscathed. Mr. Hathaway praised the great job done by the first responders. Mr. Hathaway stated the surrounding towns sent out a message afterwards about the ice being unsafe. Mr. Hathaway reported two of the cameras are working at Barney's Way and the cellular camera on Allen Street will be in operation within the next two weeks. Mr. Hathaway noted there was discussion on whether they should have the conveyor moved and he said there is some work to be done before they can harvest weeds. They need to make a gangway to get from the boat to the conveyor. Mr. Hathaway noted they no longer have docks. Mr. Hathaway said he submitted a proposal from his company to demolish and remove the docks. Mr. Hathaway said the Board should give consideration that they need to have some form of platform for the harvester operators to access the harvester for their safety. Chairman Riley agreed, noting when accessing the harvester via the exit conveyor if it is wet, is extremely dangerous. Chairman Riley stated there have been two accidents by operators who accessed the harvester across the conveyors. Chairman Riley recommended having at least one dock for access from the land onto the harvester. Mr. Hathaway explained that they had two docks because, at the time, they had two harvesters. They were borrowing the State's harvester. The one dock was in between the two harvesters, but you need to have the Jonboat ready in case there are problems, which there have been in the past. Since the Board only has one harvester, it can be on one side of the dock and the other side for the Jonboat. Mr. Hathaway suggested an EZ Dock System because the ice runs underneath it. This is the system Netcong Borough installed. On motion by Ms. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Potillo and carried by unanimous voice vote, the Board authorized Mr. Hathaway to obtain a quote for an EZ Dock System.

Operating Budget – Mr. Wright questioned why bills are listed under the Lake Management Account and whether funds are transferred. Mr. Keenan explained that there is one bank account and all bills are paid through that account. Chairman Riley noted Mr. Wright has been having a difficult time gaining access to Fulton Bank and Fidelity Investments. Fidelity Investments requires a nine page document be completed to remove Mr. Keenan's name from the account and to put Mr. Wright's name on the account. Chairman Riley noted that as of today, neither Mr. Wright, as the Board's Treasurer nor Ms. McGrath, the Chair of the CD Investment Committee has access to the Fidelity accounts. Mr. Wright stated Fulton Bank's representative has been working with him to get his name on the Fulton account.

CD Investment – There was no report. Chairman Riley said Mr. Wright and Ms. McGrath will need to complete the information required by Fidelity in order to be put as custodians of the accounts.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was distributed to the Board. Chairman Riley noted Mr. Keenan was using Microsoft Money to prepare his Treasurer Reports; however, that system is antiquated so Mr. Wright does not have access to that system. Chairman Riley said Mr. Wright should create his own reporting structure using his system. Mr. Hathaway agreed, adding Mr. Wright should choose the system he would like to use and the Board will pay for it. On motion by Mr. Hathaway, seconded by Ms. Maio, and carried by unanimous voice vote, the Treasurer's Report was accepted and placed on file.

BILLS: Chairman Riley stated the bill from Mountain Landscape Contractors in the amount of \$1,500 for the demo and removal of the floating docks will be removed from the bills list. The work has not been performed yet. On motion by Mr. Rattner, seconded by Wright 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	\$ 550.00
A B Stamp & Sign, LLC - name plate re: Jacob Hamilton	\$ 16.00
Murphy McKeon Inc. - contract solicitation to vendors and review of quote Ready Scout	\$ 90.00

Lake Management Account:

JCP&L – electric at shed	\$ 4.92
Mountain Landscape Contractors - prep work for installation of security cameras	\$ 865.00
BSA Troop 91 - materials for Eagle Scout Project	\$1,800.00

Debit/Credit Card:

Optimum - internet service	\$ 41.29
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ROLL CALL:

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

Mr. Hathaway abstained from the vote on the bill from Mountain Landscape Contractors in the amount of \$865.00.

OLD BUSINESS:

\$572,000 Grant Agreement – Chairman Riley reported he had to resubmit and clarify a few changes because they exceeded the budget numbers in the grant for the harvester. They are not waiting for the remaining \$122,000 to close out the grant. Chairman Riley noted the State withholds 10% until everything is closed. Chairman Riley stated the end of this month is the end of the first quarter of this year and he will be submitting the required progress reports.

RFP's for Herbicide Treatment - Chairman Riley noted the Board's attorney, Jim Bryce was asked to solicit quotes from the vendors they solicited last year for the herbicide treatment. They received a quote from Ready Scout and Lake Management Sciences. Lake Management Sciences is the contractor the Board used last year and is the contractor that the LMCA uses. Mr. Hathaway stated Lake Management Sciences is operated by Chris Hanlon and they did a stellar job last year. Mr. Hathaway said Ready Scout is operated by Glenn Sullivan who was the previous contractor of record for about fifteen years and who he also had a great experience with. Mr. Hathaway said there is a synergy to using Lake Management Sciences because there would be only one operator on the lake; however, they were not the low bidder James Bryce, the Board's attorney came forward and stated technical RFP's were not sent out. This is an extraordinary unspecifiable service so the Board is not bound by any of the normal procurement laws. Mr. Bryce said he solicited three quotes and received a quote from two of the entities. Mr. Bryce

reviewed the quotes with the Board and the differences in price. Mr. Pottillo asked if they could renegotiate with Lake Management Sciences. Mr. Bryce responded that they could, adding it is at the Board's pleasure if they want to try to negotiate the prices. Chairman Riley asked if it would be wise to go back to both of the vendors and ask for pricing for a three-year contract. Mr. Bryce responded that he does not recommend doing that because if you are going to get into a multi-year award, it could become more of a source of auditing oversight. The Board agreed they would not seek a multi-year contract this year. Mr. Pottillo expressed his opinion that since they have negotiating power, they should try to negotiate the amounts. Mr. Hathaway said he would be comfortable with suggesting to Lake Management Sciences that they have to meet the other price; however he would not feel comfortable asking Ready Scout to negotiate the amount. After a brief discussion it was agreed that if there is resistance from Lake Management Sciences to negotiate their price, the Board will award the contract to Ready Scout; however, if Lake Management Sciences meets Ready Scout's price, they will award the contract to Lake Management Sciences. Mr. Hathaway stated there is a huge value added to the Board by using the same vendor as the LMCA. The Board asked Mr. Bryce to contact Lake Management Sciences and ask if they would meet the low bid amount.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mountain Landscape Contractors' Proposal - Chairman Riley noted there is work needing to be done to demolish and dispose of the docks and Mountain Landscape Contractors submitted a quote of \$1,500 to do the work. Chairman Riley recommended authorizing Landscape Contractors to do the work. On motion by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Ms. McGrath and carried by the following majority roll call vote, the Board authorized Mountain Landscape Contractors to demolish and dispose of the docks for an amount not to exceed \$1,500

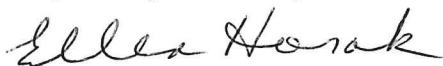
ROLL CALL:

Mr. Hamilton - yes	Mr. Pottillo - yes
Mr. Hathaway - abstain	Mr. Rattner - yes
Mr. Keenan - yes	Mr. Shlesinger - yes
Ms. McGrath - yes	Mr. Wright - yes
	Chairman Riley - yes

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 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen Horak, Clerk