

Minutes of the Lake Hopatcong Commission

March 21, 2005

A meeting of the Lake Hopatcong Commission was held on March 21, 2005 at the Mount Arlington Municipal Building, Howard Boulevard, Mount Arlington, New Jersey. At 7:30 p.m., Chairman Ondish called the meeting to order.

Salute to the Flag: Chairman Ondish and all those in attendance joined in a salute to the flag.

Roll Call:

Present: Colleen DeStefano, Eric Grove, Richard Hodson, Walter Kerner, Wayne McCabe, Herman Volk, Richard Zoschak, Frank Hughes (Morris County Alternate), Patricia Rector (DEP Alternate), and Arthur Ondish

Absent: Elizabeth Gantert, Dave Jarvis, Kenneth Klipstein

Alternates Present: Robert Mitchko (Jefferson), Daniel McCarthy (7:35-Hopatcong), Brandon Phillips (Roxbury), John Risko (Sussex County)

With ten members present at Roll Call, Chairman Ondish declared a quorum.

Also present were: Steve Souza - Princeton Hydro
Helene Chudzik – Commission Legal Counsel

Communications

Mr. Zoschak noted a correction was needed in the title of the Mount Olive Resolution which objected to the stocking of the trout in Lake Hopatcong even though the resolution supported the stocking. Mr. Phillips stated Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board also passed a resolution. Chairman Ondish stated that Greg Keller of the Netcong Council approached the Commission. The Chair indicated he is waiting for a letter from Mr. Keller about the Lake Hopatcong Commission taking over Lake Musconetcong's harvester and working on Lake Musconetcong. Chairman Ondish stated if he receives a letter he will give it to Mr. Phillips to discuss with the Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board.

Treasurer's Report/Payment of Bills

Mr. Grove stated the Revised Bill List of \$27,047.66 was presented for approval. Chairman Ondish asked for any questions regarding the Revised Bill List. [A copy of the Bill List is available on file.] Mr. Grove stated the Bank of New York checking account

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had a cleared balance of \$25,000 and the JP Morgan Account had a register balance of \$460,782.91 for a total of \$483,713.62 in both accounts as of February 28, 2005. Mr. McCabe questioned the \$980.48 credit in the JP Morgan account. Ms. Macalle-Holly stated that JP Morgan merged with another financial institution and the consolidated their overlapping funds. The Commission fund earned a dividend and interest which is reflected in that amount.

Mr. Zoschak made a motion to move the Revised Bill List. Mr. McCabe seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:

DeStefano	Yes	Volk	Yes
Grove	Yes	Zoschak	Yes
Hodson	Yes	Hughes	Yes
Kerner	Yes	Rector	Yes
McCabe	Yes	Ondish	Yes

Motion carried 10 to 0.

Minutes of Meeting of February 22, 2005

Chairman Ondish asked for any comments or questions regarding the February 22, 2005 meeting minutes. Mr. Phillips stated on page one Frank Hughes should be listed as Alternate Commissioner for Morris County not Mount Arlington. Mr. Hodson made a motion to move the February minutes. Mr. Hughes seconded the motion. All those in favor signified by saying “aye” and those opposed by saying “no.” The motion carried with three abstentions (Kerner, McCabe, Zoschak).

Public Comment

At this time, Chairman Ondish opened the meeting for public comment. There being no public comment, Chairman Ondish moved to the next item on the agenda.

Old Business

Chairman’s Report

The Chairman stated that John Driscoll, working with Ms. Macalle-Holly and Mr. Clark, have been working on the website and the site includes the meeting minutes and links to the towns that are hosting the monthly meetings. Links need to be added for Jefferson and Hopatcong. There are also news article on the site. He asked if anyone had comments or suggestions to let him know or to contact Ms. Macalle-Holly. Mr. Ondish stated the material on the fertilizer will be on it. He also asked that the Commissioners send email to Ms. Macalle-Holly to let her know what contact information they want listed on the site. Mr. Hodson suggested the website be listed on the Commission letterhead and business cards. Dr. Souza stated that NALMS has a reciprocal

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arrangement if the NALMS link is listed on the Commission's site. Chairman Ondish stated that he would like to have a sign sponsored by the Commission posted on the fence in Landing by the Lake. Mr. Zoschak stated he would inquire about who should be contacted to post a sign there. The sign could indicate when a no-wake speed restriction is in effect. Chairman Ondish stated the sign issue would be discussed further at next month's meeting.

Chairman Ondish stated he serves on the Raritan Highlands Compact that protects the Raritan watershed. They hired a part-time Executive Director and it works well for that organization. He spoke with Ken Klipstein and Senator Bucco about this issue and he asked the Commissioners to think about hiring a part-time Executive Director for the Lake Hopatcong Commission. He stated someone with the appropriate credentials is needed to work towards the Commission chartered direction. He also stated that the Commission could contemplate not replacing the full-time employees that left and bring in part time individuals. He stated this issue would be discussed at the next meeting. Mr. Volk suggested that a criteria be established to determine whether an environmental, administrative, managerial or planning background is necessary. Mr. Zoschak stated that a job description had already been done and may need some tweaking. Mr. Kerner asked that Mr. Grove investigate the budget implications. Ms. Macalle-Holly stated that after the last budget sub-committee meeting it was agreed to move forward with replacing two field staff position and asked if this should be put on hold. Chairman Ondish stated the Commission will look into getting part-time or seasonal employees.

Field Staff Report

Mr. Clark distributed a copy of his Field Staff report which is available on file. The Field Staff has continued to conduct the maintenance and repair of the equipment and is in the process of re-assembling the equipment. He discussed meetings with Frank Hughes to discuss the fertilizer issues and work done with John Driscoll on the website. He also discussed the PEOSH safety training classes attended by the staff. He stated Mr. Zoschak visited the Commission maintenance facility to observe the work being done. He stated the dump trucks were taken in for their annual service. Mr. Zoschak stated that the tour of the maintenance facility was "eye opening." He urged all Commissioners to go to the facility to see the maintenance work because even if you think you know what the equipment is subjected to, you should see the work done to keep the equipment up and running.

There was discussion about bringing the press to the maintenance facility. Mr. Clark and Chairman Ondish stated this would be difficult because the press has limited access to the Arsenal and the Commission has been asked not to call too much attention to the arrangement. Mr. Ondish stated arrangements have been made to have access to the maintenance facility on a year-round basis. This would enable the staff to maintain the trailers and trucks during inclement weather during the harvesting season. Chairman Ondish thanked Mr. Clark and the field staff for their care of the maintenance building because this was a key factor of why they welcomed the Commission to stay there.

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Emergency Response Vendor

Ms. Macalle-Holly provided a status on this issue and advised that the memo previously prepared by Mr. Clark was distributed again for the Commissioners' review. She also stated that the firm Mr. Clark had recommended in December was also included on the approved vendor list provided by the insurance company. She stated Resolution 05-04 Approving Emergency Response Contract with HMMTTC Response Incorporated was prepared for consideration. She reminded the Commissioners that it was a no-cost contract until the firm has to respond to an emergency. She stated that Counsel reviewed the Resolution. Mr. Kerner made a motion to approve Resolution 05-04. Mr. Zoschak seconded the motion. Chairman Ondish requested a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL:

DeStefano	Yes	Volk	Yes
Grove	Yes	Zoschak	Yes
Hodson	Yes	Hughes	Yes
Kerner	Yes	Rector	Yes
McCabe	Yes	Ondish	Yes

Motion carried 10 to 0.

Mr. Volk requested a memo for file be prepared to describe in more detail what is meant by based on proximity, company size and previous experience. The Chairman directed the staff to prepare the document.

Division of Fish and Wildlife Proposed Coldwater Fisheries Management Plan

Chairman Ondish questioned if the Commissioners reviewed the letter that had just been received on the decision. Chairman Ondish commended Princeton Hydro and those involved such as the four towns, the Commission and the Freeholders. Mr. Ondish stated what was more troubling to him, as Ms. Macalle-Holly brought to his attention, that the Division was changing the category when the Commission was advised that they were not going to do so. Ms. Rector stated that the Division is absolutely not changing the category. Mr. Clark stated that Fish and Wildlife is definitely changing the category. Ms. Rector stated the surface water quality standards are not being changed so it will still be trout maintenance. Dr. Souza stated that there was some confusion because of the dual mechanism of categorizing the Lake. In F&W they categorize water bodies as trout suitable whether its trout maintenance or trout production, but it has nothing to do with the classification of Lake as it appears in N.J.A.C. 7:9B. Dr. Souza further explained that the classification would remain listed as a trout maintenance water body and all of the associated protections remain intact. Dr. Souza stated, however, that F&W determines if the Lake is suitable or not suitable for trout stocking. He indicated that next time this issue comes to the forefront; there will be a greater uphill battle.

Mr. Ondish stated that Morris County Freeholder Director Jack Schrier advised him that Morris County is going to make up the difference in the trout. When Director Schrier questioned how to go about it, Chairman Ondish suggested that he provide the money to

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the four towns around the Lake since the Commission is not in the fish stocking business. Mr. Zoschak suggested that the money be provided to the Knee Deep Club because the towns do not have the knowledge or equipment. Chairman Ondish stated that Director Schrier would contact Sussex County to discuss funding for trout stocking.

Dr. Souza stated there was another important element in the letter from DEP. It indicated there was a number of brood stock that will be introduced to the Lake. This is important because the larger fish have a greater likelihood of surviving and another benefit is the introduction of brown trout which have a higher tolerance. To summarize, Dr. Souza stated that although F&W is cutting back on the amount of trout stocked by 20%, they are introducing larger fish and stocking a higher percentage of brown trout which is more beneficial and the fish will be stocked earlier. Dr. Souza stated that Mr. Klipstein should be thanked for setting up the initial meeting with F&W. Chairman Ondish stated the Commission should send a thank you letter to Chairman Ellis and copy those on the list. Mr. Volk stated the Commission should consider what it can do to increase the purchasing of licenses to promote fishing at the Lake to increase F&W revenues.

There was discussion on the take a kid fishing campaign and other similar campaigns. Mr. Zoschak suggested that the PR committee look into this. Mr. Hughes stated that a statement about fishing could be included on the flyers being sent to the schools for fertilizers. Ms. Macalle-Holly stated that the fertilizer flyer had already been sent to the school superintendents for their approval and suggested that another flyer be sent on fishing. Chairman Ondish stated that in the future nothing should go out for distribution before the full Commission reviews it. Mr. Hughes stated that a lake-friendly fertilizer pamphlet was also being planned for the website.

Mr. McCarthy expressed concern over the change in designation of the Lake. He stated there is a need for the Division and Commission to work together on these issues. He stated that the Commission should put the infrastructure in place to work more closely with F&W.

Ms. Rector stated that Mr. Klipstein is arranging an internal meeting with F&W to discuss a few issues and the primary issue will be coordination with the Commission. There were suggestions such as developing a fishing brochure, including a link on the website to F&W and to further explore F&W program, Hooked on Fishing and Not on Drugs. Mr. Ondish asked that Mr. Hughes move these suggestions forward.

2005 Shared Service Agreement

Ms. Macalle-Holly reported that the Shared Service Agreement with Jefferson has been signed and returned. She stated that the Commission received an agreement from Mount Arlington. She further reported that Counsel Chudzik advised that it would be in the Commission's best interest if a Commissioner was designated to sign on behalf of the Chairman since he also serves as the elected Mayor of Mount Arlington. Resolution 05-05 has been prepared for the Commissioners' consideration. Mr. Grove provided a status on the Shared Services Agreement for 2005 with Sussex County which followed last

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year's format and to provide for additional training if necessary and included options for various projects.

Mr. Zoschak thanked Sussex County for their assistance in Roxbury and Lake Musconetcong with the GIS inflow and outflows effort. Mr. Zoschak made a motion to authorize Commissioner Eric Grove to Enter into Approved Agreements with the Borough of Mount Arlington in Lieu of Commission Chairman and Mount Arlington Mayor Arthur R. Ondish. Mr. McCabe seconded the motion. [A copy of Resolution 05-05 is available on file.]

ROLL CALL:

DeStefano	Yes	Volk	Yes
Grove	Yes	Zoschak	Yes
Hodson	Yes	Hughes	Yes
Kerner	Yes	Rector	Yes
McCabe	Yes	Ondish	Abstained

Motion carried 9 to 1 (one abstention).

Commission Banking/Payroll Alternatives

Chairman Ondish stated that Ms. Macalle-Holly has been spearheading this effort at the Chair's request. Ms. Macalle-Holly provided the background on this issue as previously reported at last month's meeting. The goal was to find a banking institution that could provide reduced fees, higher interest rates and an arrangement for outsourcing of payroll. She stated that after last month's meeting, she contacted the three other banks since Bank of New York had made it clear that they could not provide any alternate arrangement. She stated that Bank of New York was very competitive; the Commission paid very little in fees and transfers were done from the JP Morgan Money Markets. The other three banks, PNC Bank, Skylands, Valley National, were asked to provide a "one page proposal." Ms. Macalle-Holly asked if the Commissioners had any questions on the banking/payroll matrix she put together based on the proposals received. [A copy of the matrix is available on file.] In response to Mr. Zoschak's inquiries, Ms. Macalle-Holly stated that Valley National Bank would reimburse up to \$1700 for the Commission's payroll cost and it was the most conveniently located. There was further discussion about the interest rates and services provided by each of the banks. Ms. Macalle-Holly stated Resolution 05-06 Transfer Commission Bank Account and Safety Deposit Box to {Bank to be Named} had been prepared. Kathryn Grier from Sklyands Community Bank in Roxbury and resident of Mount Arlington stated that Skylands is not requiring a \$25K minimum like Bank of New York requires. Skylands would invest the entire balance. She thanked the Commission and Dan McCarthy for the opportunity and stated that Skylands is locally held with a branch in Netcong and Port Jefferson. Mr. Kerner made a motion to switch to Valley National Bank per the draft resolution provided. Mr. Zoschak seconded the motion. [A copy of Resolution 05-06 is available on file.]

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ROLL CALL:

DeStefano	Yes	Volk	Yes
Grove	Yes	Zoschak	Yes
Hodson	Yes	Hughes	Yes
Kerner	Yes	Rector	Yes
McCabe	Yes	Ondish	Yes

Motion carried 10 to 0.

Ms. Macalle-Holly introduced Resolution 05-07 Establish Checking Account at {Bank of to Be Named} for the EPA Wetlands Grant. Mr. Zoschak made a motion to move Resolution 05-07 naming Valley National. Mr. McCabe seconded the motion. [A copy of Resolution 05-07 is available on file.]

ROLL CALL:

DeStefano	Yes	Volk	Yes
Grove	Yes	Zoschak	Yes
Hodson	Yes	Hughes	Yes
Kerner	Yes	Rector	Yes
McCabe	Yes	Ondish	Yes

Motion carried 10 to 0.

Ms. Macalle-Holly introduced Resolution 05-08 Approving a Bi-Weekly Payroll Processing Contract {Company to be Named} for Commission Employees. Ms. Macalle-Holly stated that information from the payroll companies was included in with the banking materials. Mr. Zoschak made a motion to move Resolution 05-08 naming Paychex as the company. Mr. Hughes seconded the motion. In response to Mr. Zoschak's inquiry, Ms. Macalle-Holly indicated she had not worked with Paychex previously. She stated she as suggest by Ms. DeStefano, she contacted John Blonski. Mr. Blonski indicated that North Jersey Water Supply was not conducting a full evaluation of payroll vendors at this time. Ms. Macalle-Holly stated, based on her research, the two major players in the payroll processing were ADP and Paychex. She also met with a representative from McBee Payroll, but indicated their reporting capabilities did not appear to be at the same level as Paychex. Chairman Ondish stated Paychex is well established and put forth a good proposal. Ms. Macalle-Holly stated that Valley National would pick up the payroll costs proposed by Paychex. [A copy of Resolution 05-08 is available on file.]

ROLL CALL:

DeStefano	Yes	Volk	Yes
Grove	Yes	Zoschak	Yes
Hodson	Yes	Hughes	Yes
Kerner	Yes	Rector	Yes
McCabe	Yes	Ondish	Yes

Motion carried 10 to 0.

Princeton Hydro Report

Dr. Souza stated the Commission should send a thank you to the Knee Deep Club because they provided a tremendous amount of data on the trout stocking issue. He stated he had prepared a Fertilizer Brochure that was distributed and could be modified as needed. He also included some other issues the Commission is addressing and soil testing. He also provided it in electronic format to Ms. Macalle-Holly. Mr. Ondish thanked Dr. Souza for getting the brochure done right away.

Dr. Souza reviewed the memo Dr. Lubnow prepared for the Commission. [A copy of March 21, 2005 memo is available on file.] The memo focused on the (1) work being done on the 319 grant application revision; (2) advising the Commission to seek the Governor's nomination to submit a grant application for the EPA Targeted Watershed Grant Program; and, (3) status on the US EPA Wetland Grant.

Dr. Souza stated the current version of the 319 would include projects that address the total phosphorous load entering the lake. It appears that DEP wants to fund the project and the sites selected would be the worst contributors to the Lake that are primarily the areas around Crescent Cove and a sub-watershed in Jefferson Township.

Dr. Souza stated that the EPA Targeted Watershed Grant Program requires the Governor's nomination. If the nomination is received, the application must be submitted by mid-May. He indicated that he and Dr. Lubnow discussed submitting an application for the projects that appeared to be shelved by DEP 319 grant. He stated PH would prepare a grant application for the Commission's consideration by the next meeting. He suggested in the mean time to lobby DEP and the Governor's office to get a nomination. Dr. Souza stated that the criteria for the Targeted Watershed Grant have more latitude in terms of what can be applied for. Dr. Souza stated he would put together a summary of the proposed grant application for the Commission to consider.

In response to Ms. DeStefano's inquiry about doing the 319 projects in Hopatcong and only one in Jefferson, Dr. Souza stated the bottom line was that DEP looked at the worst contributor to the Lake. Ms. Rector the sites selectedNJ would significantly reduce the overall stormwater contribution. She further stated that the rationale was to look at how to achieve a measurable improvement. Dr. Souza stated that Hopatcong, on a per site basis, is contributing the greatest amount of phosphorous load so it makes sense just on a technical scale to focus on these areas. Ms. DeStefano stated that Jefferson took the heat for being the worst contributor because it has the largest shoreline and to learn that almost all the money is going to Hopatcong, she needs to understand why so she can explain it to Jefferson. She stated that the two municipalities that contribute the most should both be addressed. Dr. Souza stated that the technical data definitely supports the selection of the sites starting with the worst on the list. Dr. Souza agreed with Ms. DeStefano's statement that by selecting these sites, you could address a larger contribution of phosphorous to the Lake than doing the proposed projects in Jefferson.

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Mr. McCabe asked where the Commission's competition would be to get the Governor's nomination for the EPA grant. Dr. Souza stated he was unsure of who the competition would be in Region 2 which includes Northern New Jersey, New York and Puerto Rico.

Mr. Hodson stated that the sites selected for the 319 grant would give the State more reduction per dollar and that is why they were picked. Ms. Rector stated that the sites selected were based on data. Ms. Rector asked Dr. Souza to circulate to the Commissioners the complete list of proposed projects that includes the amount of phosphorous that might be reduced. These could be used as possible projects to be considered as mitigation projects. Dr. Souza stated that if any municipality has not completed their mitigation plan yet, they should contact his office for specific site locations.

Dr. Souza discussed another EPA grant he is pursuing that could benefit Lake Hopatcong in a round about way. The grant would develop a model for New Jersey Piedmont Lakes. A component of the grant would be a trophic-state model and a remote sensing component using satellite imagery to forecast algae blooms and weed growth in water bodies.

He also stated that NALMS is having a mid-year conference during the end of April and he will be conducting a stormwater management conference for Lakes. Some of the issues he will be discussing in a national forum are issues that pertain to Lake Hopatcong and other urbanized Lakes. NALMS is focusing on stormwater issues in urban Lakes.

Chairman Ondish asked if the Commission is keeping track of permits to associations to put pellets in the Lake. Mr. Clark and Dr. Souza estimated that the Commission receives approximately 30 permits and cover less than 15% of the Lake. Mr. Clark described the process he has in place regarding the treated areas around the Lake. Chairman Ondish asked if there were any records from when the entire Lake was treated with pellets approximately 30 years ago. Dr. Souza questioned what type of herbicide was used. Chairman Ondish asked Dr. Souza if he had any spare time to look back at the records to see what was done. Dr. Souza stated he would look into it, but for the most part, for a lake of this size, one needs to be very careful with chemical applications in terms of the amount of nutrients that are released by the plants as they die off. Dr. Souza stated that Reward is the most commonly used herbicide in the Lake. Mr. Clark stated that many of the Lake areas that are treated annually for milfoil or pondweed open the door for the growth of tape grass. By eliminating the other weeds, you are allowing more tape grass to grow and no herbicides kill tape grass. Dr. Souza stated that with the harvesting approach, you maintain competition for space and it makes it more difficult for the tape grass to take over. Chairman Ondish asked Mr. Clark to bring in the map with the pesticide application.

New Business

Lake-Friendly Fertilizer Outreach Initiative

Mr. Hughes reported on the type of lake-friendly fertilizer signs to be used and that 50 have been ordered for the stores that state “we sell” and another 50 signs to be placed on public land that state “please use.” The flyers will be distributed to the schools by April 7th. Other literature has been prepared for the website. He also stated that a contest for the school for a drawing of the phosphorous monster is being considered. Mr. Hughes stated the project will, within the next few weeks, be in line and on target. Chairman Ondish stated he spoke with some newspapers, Channel 12 and Channel 55 about the project. Chairman Ondish stated the Mount Arlington patrol officers would stop any fertilizer truck to see what they are using. They will complete a police report and send it to the Zoning Officer who will cite them if they are not using phosphorus-free fertilizer. Mr. Kerner suggested that a decal be designed for a landscapers’ truck stating they use lake-friendly fertilizer. Chairman Ondish stated many ideas could be used to expand the project for next year.

Commission Lease Office Renewal

Chairman Ondish reported that he had discussion with Tom Valiante regarding the Commission lease. The first lease was month-to-month because of all the unknowns with the Commission. There was a 10% annual increase in the lease because he preferred having a long-term lease. Chairman Ondish stated that Ms. Macalle-Holly brought this issue to his attention. The Chair stated Mr. Valiante agreed that if the Commission signed a three-year contract with him with a 90-day escape on the third year, he would reduce the increase by 5% each year. In response to Mr. Zoschak’s inquiry, Chairman Ondish stated the Commission is paying about half for the space that is being charged for other spaces, but he was unsure if the 5% rate increase was in line. Counsel Chudzik asked to review a copy of the lease before it was signed. Ms. DeStefano stated she would want to know what the going rate is for commercial space. She also asked if there were any further discussion with the State about office space for the Commission and possible arrangement with Lee’s Park. Chairman Ondish stated that he would have the lease drawn up and asked Ms. DeStefano and Mr. Zoschak to check on commercial rates. He stated he is 100% behind finding a permanent home, but does not think it will happen that quickly because of the financial crisis. He stated that Senator Bucco is still working with the State Police on the Lee’s Park facility.

Opposition to Senate Bill 1895/Assembly Bill 3538 to amend “Dam Safety Act and Support for Senate Bill 2177/Assembly Bill 3612 – Appropriates moneys for laons for dam restoration and repair

Mr. Zoschak stated in the interest of time, he would make a motion to oppose the first bill [Senate Bill 1895/Assembly Bill 3838] and support the second bill {Senate Bill

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2177/Assuembly Bill 3612]. Ms. DeStefano seconded the motion. The Chair asked that resolutions be drafted.

ROLL CALL:

DeStefano	Yes	Volk	Yes
Grove	Yes	Zoschak	Yes
Hodson	Yes	Hughes	Yes
Kerner	Yes	Rector	Abstained
McCabe	Yes	Ondish	Yes

Motion carried 9 to 1 (one abstention).

Public Comment

Chairman Ondish opened the meeting for the second round of public comment.

John Kurzman, resident of Lake Hopatcong, inquired about the distribution plan for the fertilizer flyer. Mr. Ondish stated it would be on the website. Mr. Kurzman suggested there be a link to each of the town's fertilizer ordinance. Mr. Kurzman questioned how residents would know what lake-friendly fertilizer is. Ms. Macalle-Holly described her efforts to obtain graphics that clearly show how the fertilizer bag explains phosphorous-free fertilizer. Mr. Kurzman suggested that the boating regulations be distributed to the marinas and place it on the website. Chairman Ondish stated he would provide a copy for the website. Mr. Kurzman also suggested placing a banner or flag on the bridges for the no-wake conditions. The Chair stated he is planning to have a meeting with the State Police to discuss the issue. Mr. Kurzman asked if there was something different about the Lake level this year. Mr. McCarthy stated that a float by his ramp moved 3-1/2 feet. He has been using the ramp for 15 years and has never seen that before.

Bill Clark addressed the trout issue on the Lake. He stated he was extremely grateful that Lake Hopatcong was not eliminated from being stocked. Throughout all the meetings he attended, water quality and trout holdover capabilities were not an issue and that it was strictly an economic decision. However, at the Fish & Game Council meeting on March 8, the Council reclassified the Lake because of water quality and trout holdover capability. He stated that there were originally only two choices being considered, either to stock or not stock Lake Hopatcong. He questioned where the third choice came from and stated it was upsetting to him. Mr. Clark stated that over \$30K in trout stamp sales are attributed to Lake Hopatcong and if anything, they should be increasing the amount of trout stocked in Lake Hopatcong.

Mr. Hodson discussed the airboat purchased by Fire Company #2 for \$49.7K that they raised. The airboat will be used primarily for rescue on the Lake. The ceremony to accept the airboat is scheduled April 16th. Mr. Hodson asked Counsel Chudzik to work on the issues for the by-laws and he will do the same. The next by-laws meeting will be held prior to the Commission meeting on April 18th at 6:30 in Roxbury.

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Mr. Kurzman asked how to let people know that their fishing licenses should be purchased in Lake Hopatcong area. Chairman Ondish suggested that the Knee Deep Club take on this issue.

Dan McCarthy directed his comment to Mr. Grove stating he observed the Sussex County vacuum truck on Maxim Drive repeatedly today. He hopes that what they are cleaning up off the roads can be quantified and put into the TMDL calculation.

Mr. Zoschak made a motion to adjourn at 10:15 p.m. Mr. Kerner seconded the motion. All those in favor signified by saying "aye" and those opposed by saying "no." There being a unanimous "aye" the motion was carried.

Submitted by: Donna Macalle-Holly