



Minutes of the 4/16/2024 Meeting

The April meeting of the Lake Housatonic Authority was held as an online Zoom meeting.

Members Present

Ames, Scott (Oxford)
Behuniak, Paul (Seymour)
Blanchard, Sandy (Shelton)
Stahl, Mike (Derby)
Zitnay, David (Derby)

Members Absent

Evans, Chris (Shelton)
Fiedler, Andy (Derby)
Olson, Jim (Oxford)

Also present was LHAMP Chief, Brian Brainard and Asst. Chief Alex Commander.

The Chairman, Mike Stahl, called the meeting to order at 6:38PM

PUBLIC PORTION:

No public present.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

The minutes for the March 2024 meeting were presented to the board for approval.

Motion to accept the March 2024 meeting minutes as presented:

Motion: Behuniak Second: Blanchard Vote: Unanimous

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer, Sandy Blanchard, presented the April 2024 report. The only major expense to report was the annual weed survey in the amount of \$5,500. The certificate of deposit was rolled over another year and Scott Ames was added to the account.

Motion to accept the April 2024 Treasurer's report as presented.

Motion: Behuniak Second: Zitnay Vote: Unanimous

GUEST PRESENTATION:

None scheduled.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Patrol:

Chief Brainard reported the marine patrol academy was completed as of two weeks ago. The defensive tactics training will be on April 20th which will complete the new hire training. Returning officers will go for recertification on May 4th. One candidate dropped out of the academy. An additional boat handler was added to the roster. The up-to-date roster with payroll information was sent to the bookkeeper. The portable radios are due to arrive on April 29th. They will need to get holsters or some others means of holding them. He is still researching body cameras. The laser gun will go for recertification in the next couple of weeks. An order was submitted for uniforms to cover new officers.

Water Quality:

Scott Ames reported that testing will begin the last week of May.

Weed abatement:

Jim Olson was not in attendance but sent an email saying they were in the process of securing the new permits and all was on track.

Vessels and Equipment:

Both boats are already serviced and cleaned. They need to have the batteries re-installed. One ignition switch still needs replacing as well as one lock on the radio box.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

None at this time

OLD BUSINESS:

None at this time

NEW BUSINESS:

Marine Patrol Liability Insurance

Sandy Blanchard reported that the current provider for the LHAMP liability insurance has exited the business leaving us with no insurance for the new year. He will follow up to see what the last day of coverage on the old policy is as but as a safety precaution the patrol should not begin until a new policy is in place. He has been researching and will continue his efforts to secure coverage through a new provider before the start of the season.

DEEP Memorandum of Agreement

DEEP is still reviewing the memorandum of agreement and has not provided an updated draft at this time. The current agreement has expired. This will need to be resolved before the start of the season.

LHAMP 2024 Roster

Brian Brainard presented the updated 2024 LHAMP roster and requested the board hire the officers and boat handlers. The Chief Brian Brainard and the assistant Chief Alex Commander were already hired earlier in the year.

- Officer Philip Gangnath
- Officer Christine Gaskell
- Officer Ryan Caulfield
- Officer Jonathan Vakassian
- Officer Michael Mudry
- Officer Cameron Caulfield
- Officer Michael Simons
- Officer Renaldo Bretones
- Officer Javonte Ramos
- Officer Patrick Martin
- Handler Jason Ishum
- Handler Peter Lawler
- Handler James Palumberi
- Handler Kevin Dunn

Motion to hire the 2024 LHAMP roster as presented to the board.

Motion: Zitnay Second: Blanchard Vote: Unanimous

CORRESPONDENCE:

All correspondence received since February was presented to the board.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:

None at this time

AJOURNMENT:

The Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn the April meeting at 7:13 PM.

Motion: Behuniak Second: Blanchard Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Ames
Secretary – LHA

These minutes are subject to approval.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LAKE HOUSATONIC AUTHORITY IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024, VIA ZOOM MEETING.