



Minutes of the 4/15/2025 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)
Olson, Jim (Oxford)
Stahl, Mike (Derby)

Members Absent

Evans, Chris (Shelton)
Fiedler, Andy (Derby)
Zitnay, David (Derby)

Also present was LHAMP Chief Brian Brainard.

The Chairman, Mike Stahl, called the meeting to order at 6:41PM

PUBLIC PORTION:

No public present.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

There was no meeting in March. The minutes for the February 2025 meeting were presented to the board for approval.

Motion to accept the February 2025 meeting minutes as presented:

Motion: Behuniak Second: Blanchard Vote: Unanimous

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The treasurer, Sandy Blanchard, presented the April 2025 treasurer's report. All finances are in order. The only activity was a donation from the New Haven Rowing Club.

Motion to accept the April 2025 Treasurer's report as presented:

Motion: Olson Second: Behuniak Vote: Unanimous

GUEST PRESENTATION:

None scheduled.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Patrol:

Chief Brian Brainard reported he is still working on the quote for the additional portable radios. Unfortunately, the LHA cannot buy from the same vendor as the state as they are not the assigned distributor for the LHA. Paperwork would have to be completed to release the current vendor. This will be explored over the wintertime, but for now the current vendor will have to be used.

The Chief noted that three officer candidates have dropped out. One officer candidate dropped out due to the swim test, one was injured at their day job, and one has personal reasons.

DEEP is no longer offering the defensive tactics course. However, they do offer a firearms safety course. The course could be modified to concentrate on mace & baton. The officers would not be certified to carry firearms and that is not the intent. The intent is to get the defensive tactics portion covered.

The Chief noted that he had most of the equipment needed for the officers. He would have to purchase one baton and mace. There will be a need for new uniforms as well as life jackets and recharge kits for them.

The Chairman asked for a motion to authorize the purchase of equipment, uniforms, and life jackets.

Motion to authorize the purchase of equipment, uniforms, and life jackets:

Motion: Olson Second: Behuniak Vote: Unanimous

Water Quality:

Scott Ames reported that the updated quote was received. Testing will resume next month.

Weed abatement:

Jim Olson reported that the weed survey was completed, and he would like to get it published on the LHA Facebook page. The challenge for this season is a new hybrid weed that the current chemistry is not effective against. A permit has been applied for a third chemistry to combat this new weed in the areas of the Indian Well Park swimming area and in front of Wholand. He is also exploring getting a quote for a weed harvester to operate for two days in these areas and to transport the cut weeds away. He will contact the Derby Recreation camp to try to coordinate the treatment dates with them.

Vessels and Equipment:

The Chairman reported the boats are both at the Marina for servicing. Oil changes were completed on both boats. One battery was replaced. New hour meters were installed in both. One boat has a bad fuel sending unit that still needs to be addressed.

Sandy Blanchard noted that the porta potty would be delivered before Memorial Day weekend.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

None at this time

OLD BUSINESS:

New LHAMP holiday pay

The board previously voted on and approved the two times standard pay rate for holiday pay at the last meeting. There was further discussion about the holiday pay. It was decided that to qualify for holiday pay, the officer had to also work the 2nd day of the weekend. Only the day of the holiday would be at the 2X holiday rate, the second day would be standard rate. So, if a holiday falls on a Saturday, they will get paid the 2X for Saturday and would have to work that Sunday at the normal rate.

NEW BUSINESS:

LHAMP Sergeant Position

The Chief had previously proposed adding a Sergeant position to the LHAMP roster and presented Officer Michael Simons to the board for the position. There was some discussion by the board members on the purpose of the position and the benefits of it. The board will vote on the position and appointment of Officer Simons, but the Chairman asked the Chief to put together a description for the position and how this new position would benefit the LHAMP, in particular taking load off the Chief. And the bylaws would need to be amended.

Motion to promote Officer Michael Simons to Sergeant:

Motion: Behuniak Second: Olson Vote: Unanimous

Vessel Safety Check Stickers

The Chief had previously proposed a program that consisted of a voluntary inspection and issuing a sticker that could be displayed on the vessel showing it had already been inspected. This would reduce the number of times a boat would be stopped for a safety check. The board already approved the program previously. The Chief presented sample stickers to the board for their review and approval.

Motion to accept the sticker design as presented and authorize the purchase of:

Motion: Blanchard Second: Behuniak Vote: Unanimous

Speed Limit Buoys

The Chief had previously suggested the implementation of speed limit buoys. The board had previously agreed it was a good idea. He asked for permission to purchase the buoys. The Chairman asked for a motion to authorize the purchase of the buoys.

Motion to authorize the purchase of the buoys:

Motion: Behuniak Second: Olson 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 7:312PM.

Motion: Olson 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 20, 2025.