

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES, NJ
LAKES MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Monthly Meeting Minutes – Quick Notes
Minutes for April 7, 2026 at 7:30 PM - Zoom

1. Call to Order

A monthly meeting of the Lakes Management Advisory Committee was held on April 7, 2026 on Zoom teleconference. It began at 7:30 PM and was presided over by chairperson Derek Jackson.

2. Attendees

Voting Members in attendance: Debra Dewing, Lucien Foster, Andy Hilton, Derek Jackson, Wayne Roth, Mike Russo

Non-voting Members in attendance: Tom Menard (Borough Council Liaison), Jackie Bay (Environment Commission Liaison), Gwyneth Buckley (Student Representative), Scott Minitier (Student Representative)

Members not in attendance: Alpesh Amin, Jason Miner, Nikki Riley, Mitchell Stern (Borough Manager), Kelsey Dages (Student Representative), Maxwell Hollick (Student Representative)

Guests in attendance: None

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on March 3, 2026 was made by Wayne Roth. The motion approved unanimously.

4. Borough Management Report

Report was presented by Derek Jackson on behalf of Mitchell Stern.

There remains some uncertainty regarding what vendor will service the lakes in 2026. Tigris appears to no longer be servicing our area. Several former employees of Tigris who worked with us are exploring other options and may potentially be able to provide services to the borough once those plans are finalized. There were discussions about/if how we can find and hire a vendor in a timely manner. Ready Scout LLC and Aqualink were mentioned as potential vendors. We should also reach out to the Highlands.

5. Old Business

Resident Communications and Social Media Campaign – The goal is to build a community of good stewards of our lakes by educating them about the challenges that exist in our lakes' environment and best practice actions for all residents to preserve the lakes. Kelsey and Scott have expressed a desire to get involved. Charlotte and Samantha Hirschfield are working with the Environmental Commission. Jackie will connect Wayne with the EC students and Scott. Scott will look for additional volunteers in the student body. There will be investigation as to whether there is a group that we can align with in the middle school. There is a nature club in Wildwood School (run by Jackie).

There have been conversations between members of the committee, Borough Council and Borough staff about a potential plan gap between the Princeton Hydro Grant Scope and the need for a Lake Restoration Plan originally presented to the Borough Council in 2023 and 2024. These potential gaps need to be confirmed and understood with the help of Princeton Hydro. If the understanding is that there are gaps, we will need to present them to the Council along with a list of items that will be needed to fill the gaps and create a Lake Restoration plan. Tom Menard shared we would ideally share some next steps for Council consideration in the planning and budgetary processes. Tom will help us get time with Mitchell and Princeton Hydro to better educate the group on potential steps required to create a Lake Restoration Plan. Derek will send a note to Mitchell including Tom, Debra, Wayne and Mike.

6. New Business

It was noted that the water at the Birchwood Dam water level appears to be at the top of the boards. However, the overall water level appears down from its normal high-water mark. There was a discussion of whether a board can be added to the dam to raise the water and allow diving this summer. This will also be brought to Mitchell.

7. Announcements

Next meeting May 5, 2026

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.