

**Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District  
Minutes of Management Committee Meeting  
March 10, 2022**

The meeting commenced at 7:33 PM on Zoom Conference Call (Meeting ID: 847 867 563; PW: 126054)

In attendance: Tommy Lee, District Chairman  
Brian Waterman, Member  
Terry O'Coin, District Treasurer  
Michele Cospers, District Clerk

**Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The previously distributed minutes of the February 17, 2022 meetings were offered for approval. A motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

**Clerk's Report**

See attached memorandum dated March 10, 2022 for Clerk's report of communications for the period of February, 17, 2022 to March 10, 2022.

**Treasurer's Report**

A Treasurer's Report dated 3/10/22 showed that the District had \$779,698.79 on deposit at Cornerstone Bank. Of this amount, \$668,560.37 was deposited in the money market account containing betterment payments. The report shows 4 deposits: \$16,720.38 from betterment collections, \$13,204.31 from betterment payoff (Schimke), \$1,717.96 from betterment payoff (Mason), and \$8,431.89 from better collections. The report shows one interest payment of \$96.56. The general funds checking account contains \$49,193.45. The reports shows one deposit of \$5,519.57 from tax collections. The report shows no payments. The dam stabilization account contains \$60,770.81. The report shows one interest deposit of \$6.99. \$1,174.16 was in the stabilization account. Mr. O'Coin is not requesting approval for a warrant.

*FY2021 Tax Payment Update*

92 proprietors pay tax to the District. 0 proprietors have paid in full, 89 proprietors have partially paid. 3 proprietors have not paid. Therefore, ~40% of tax payments have been collected. No further update this month.

*FY2020 Betterments Update*

Payments were due in the Fall of 2021. 93 proprietors were assessed betterments by the District. 13 proprietors opted to prepay; 27 betterments were paid off due to early payoff or home sale; and 1 proprietor completed all payments on schedule. Therefore, 52 proprietors are still making betterment payments. 49 proprietors have paid in full (\$60,880.20, 91%), and 3 proprietors have paid half. 2 proprietor have paid none. This payment profile is better than past years.

*Free Cash Certification*

Mr. O'Coin is in the process of creating all files needed for free cash certification.

## **Old Business**

### *Lake Clarity & Level Management Update*

The level of the lake is +8 inches over the spillway. The process of ice-out has been begun, and it is expected to be completed by April 1. The refilling process will begin in accordance with our OOC from the MA DEP.

### *Dam Maintenance*

A leak was heard and noted in early October 2020. After analysis by Lenard Engineering, it was concluded that the leak is confined to the cap, and it the same leak that we have noted previously. His suggestion is to the leave the leak alone for now since it not on the face of the dam. The leaking and dripping noise has also disappeared as the water was drawn down giving further evidence that the leak is from the top of the spillway. Since it is the concrete cap where the leak is located, the leak is not detrimental to the structure of the dam. The leak will need to be addressed, but it is not an immediate concern. Mr Lee will ask Lenard about remediation items to do to keep the dam in good condition; such as packing voids with dirt and planting grass in the Spring. The District will be looking for someone to mow the dam crest next summer.

### *Weed Treatment & Water Quality Monitoring*

The District re-established the on-call service with ESS Group. In addition to on-call service, ESS Group proposed a detailed mapping and subsequent targeted weed treatment in Spring 2022. The District needs to evaluate where the funds will be allotted in the FY2022 vs the FY2023 budget to address the weed mapping and treatment.

### *Tree Cutting and Tree Removal on Land Behind the Dam*

Several large trees fell into the stream behind the dam in October 2020. During high flow of water out of the lake, the trees in the stream prevent flow of the water through the stream. These trees should be removed and appear to be on National Grid's property. Eric George from the Forestry Department at Eversource evaluated the project. He thought there might be funds to move the trees from the stream. He also gave the District permission to fell and piece the trees on NEP property, which should save the District significant money and effort.

The survey plan was sent to the District by Mr. Waterman. He is drafting a proposal for the tree cutting and will have to the District prior to the next monthly meeting. He is working on drafts of permit applications for the tree cutting project as well. Currently, the area behind the dam has been staked and is well marked. Mr. Lee and Mr. Waterman will walk land within the next two weeks.

### *Refinancing the USDA loan*

The Board discussed the possibility of paying down the note with the Department of Agriculture, in part, as many proprietors have paid their betterments early or due to property transfers. All agreed that further research into the terms of the note would be the next best step. Mr. Carr is going to contact the USDA to determine the terms on the note.

## **New Business**

### *Annual Meeting Preparation*

The date for the annual meeting will be May 18, 2022. The Clerk prepared a save-the-date that was reviewed and will be sent by the end of March. The Clerk is preparing a draft of the warrant and at the motions to be reviewed prior to the next meeting.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was not recessed to go into executive session.

### **Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Management Committee was scheduled for 7:30 P.M. on Thursday, April 7 2022 by Zoom Meeting.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M.

A True Copy Attest:

Michele M. Cospers, District Clerk

**Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District  
Memorandum**

**Date:** March 10, 2022  
**Subject:** District Communications  
**To:** Management Committee  
**From:** District Clerk

District Clerk Michele Cospers reported the following communications for the period of February 18, 2022 to March 10, 2022. This memorandum will be attached to the March 10, 2022 Management Committee Meeting minutes:

- 2/22 The Clerk sent out the save-the-date for review
- 3/7 Sent the agenda to the Town of Leicester Clerk for posting