

**Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District
Minutes of Management Committee Meeting
November 12, 2020**

The meeting commenced at 7:36 PM on Zoom Conference Call (Meeting ID: 847 867 563; PW: 126054)

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

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The previously distributed minutes of the October 8, 2020 were offered for approval. A motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to accept the Minutes.

Clerk's Report

See attached memorandum dated November 12, 2020 for Clerk's report of communications for the period of October 9, 2020 to November 12, 2020.

Treasurer's Report

A Treasurer's Report dated 11/12/20 showed that the District had \$681,087.79 on deposit at Cornerstone Bank. Of this amount, \$559,079.88 was deposited in the money market account containing betterment payments. The report shows three deposits of \$34,553.93, \$15,928.43, and \$15,004.49 (from one betterment payoffs and betterment receipts) and interest payment of \$84.18. The general funds checking account contains \$90,272.92. The reports shows three deposits of \$321.50, \$5,782.68, and \$2,569.44 from tax receipts. The reports shows two payments of (1) \$851.29 for water testing billing from ESS Group, and (2) \$21.45 for mailing the Fall newsletter. The dam stabilization account contains \$30,588.06. The report shows one interest deposit of \$12.51. \$1,125.42 was in the stabilization account. Mr. O'Coin requested and was granted approval for Warrant 231.

FY2020 Tax Payment Update

92 proprietors pay tax to the District. 84 proprietors have paid in full (\$27,658.50 paid / 92 %), and 5 proprietors have paid half (\$1,029.80 paid). 3 proprietors have not paid (\$272.63 unpaid). Therefore, ~96% of tax payments have been collected. Payments were due in February and May, so this collection profile is inline with past years.

FY2021 Tax Payment Update

92 proprietors pay tax to the District. 0 proprietors have paid in full (\$0 paid / 0 %), and 82 proprietors have paid half (\$7,742.94 paid). 10 proprietors have not paid. Therefore, ~27% of tax payments have been collected. Collections are just beginning.

FY2020 Betterments Update

Payments were due in the Fall of 2020. 93 proprietors were assessed betterments by the District. 13 proprietors opted to prepay; 21 betterments were paid off due to early payoff or home sale; and 1 proprietor

completed all payments on schedule. Therefore, 58 proprietors are still making betterment payments. 10 proprietors have paid in full (\$17,681.64.60 / 17.2 %), and 44 proprietors have paid half (\$31,782.87). Therefore, 60.3 % of betterment payments have been collected. 4 proprietors has paid none. This payment profile is in profile with last year. Furthermore, collection are still on-going.

Old Business

Lake Clarity & Level Management Update

The lake level was just below the spillway just prior to starting the drawdown. As usual, the drawdown is being conducted this fall following our order of conditions from the MA DEP. The drawdown started on Sunday, November 1. The upper channel was opened, but the lower gate valve remains closed. Draw down is going smoothly even given the number of trees that were taken down during the storm in mid-September. There was concern that the trees would block flow of water through the stream beyond the dam.

The algae is disappearing from the lake and water is clarifying, but the lake is high in nutrients. The District received the formal report from ESS group regarding their analysis of samples taken in early August. The report was posted to the website in mid-October. Literature on the identification, removal, and proper disposal of water chestnut will be included in the Spring 2021 District newsletter.

Dam Maintenance

The dam crest has been mowed, but the trimming needs to be done more completely. The District will possibly look into finding a new landscaper to mow and trim around the dam. The District will get quotes for mowing the dam closer to Spring.

Spring Newsletter

The District is planning to mail everyone a copy of glossy leaflet on the Water Chestnut and nutrient lowering topics along with the Spring 2021 Newsletter / Save-the-Date.

Tax Classification Hearing

The tax classification hearing was conducted on November 12, 2020 at 7:32 pm. The legal ad was printed in Worcester T&G and ran October 29, 2020.

New Business

Tax Classification Hearing

The tax classification hearing will be scheduled for November 12, 2020 at 7:30 pm. The legal ad will be submitted to the print edition Worcester T&G to run October 29, 2020.

Leak in the top of dam - Dam Repairs

A leak was hear 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 needs to be addressed, but it is not an immediate concerns. 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.

Executive Session

The meeting was recessed to go into executive session at 8:13 pm

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Management Committee was scheduled for 7:30 P.M. on Thursday, January 14, 2020 by Zoom Meeting.

Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

A True Copy Attest:

Michele M. Cospers, District Clerk

**Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District
Memorandum**

Date: November 12, 2020
Subject: District Communications
To: Management Committee
From: District Clerk

District Clerk Michele Cospers reported the following communications for the period of October 9, 2020 to November 12, 2020. This memorandum will be attached to the November 12, 2020 Management Committee Meeting minutes:

- 10/9 Report from ESS Group was provided to the District
- 10/15 Sent Fall Newsletter to District Proprietors either by mail or by email distribution
- 10/18 Phone call from John True of the Leicester Snow Mobile Club regarding trees down behind the dam
- 10/21 Communication regarding algae at NW side of lake from Jan Parke and Rich Carr
- 10/27 Communication between District Management Committee members regarding trees that fell down behind the dam and a suspected leak at the dam.
- 10/28 Phone call from John True of the Leicester Snow Mobile Club regarding his communication with Conservation Commission regarding tree clean-up behind the dam and trees still potentially blocking stream.
- 10/30 Communication from Lenard Engineering regarding observation of potential leak at dam
- 11/1 Upper channel opened 100%. Lower gate is closed.