

**Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District  
Minutes of Management Committee Meeting  
September 13, 2023**

The meeting commenced at 7:46 PM on Zoom Meeting (Meeting ID: 878 4261 1203  
Passcode: 949234)

In attendance: Tommy Lee, Chairman  
Richard Carr, Committee Member  
Jillian Spratt, District Clerk  
Terence O'Coin, District Treasurer

Absent: Brian Waterman, Vice Chairman

### **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The previously distributed minutes of the June Monthly meeting (6/14/2023) were offered for approval. A motion was made by Mr. O'Coin, and seconded by Mr. Carr and voted unanimously.

### **Clerk's Report**

Clerk's report of communications for the period of June 15, 2023 - September 13, 2023

- 6/15/2023 - Email exchange between Mr. Brian Waterman, Vice Chairman CMLWD and Anna Chase from TRC re: big leaf pondweed observed. Ms. Chase confirmed the weed was *Potamogeton amplifolius* (big-leaved pondweed) which is a native species. She provided a link for further information through the University of Florida:  
<https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/potamogeton-crispus/>
- 6/20/2023 - Town of Leicester Notification re: Parcel 28-A18 Release of Lien - Mr. O'Coin resolved.
- 6/21/2023 - Mr. Lee followed up with Sunshine Landscaping re: lack of mowing. Mr. Lee installed new locks and reset the lockbox so mowing could resume.
- 6/21/2023 - 6/22/2023 - Email notification from Nikki LaCrosse, Loan Assistant from the USDA re: annual insurance. Mr. O'Coin followed-up.
- 7/19/2023 - Mr. O'Coin received a call from Jim Reinke on Sargent Pond in Leicester, MA re: insurance policy. Mr. O'Coin followed up the call with an email containing contact information for Braley & Wellington.
- 8/1/2023, 8/4/2023, 8/12/2023, 9/8/2023 - Email from Mrs. Paula Stiles re: lake activity. Mrs. Spratt responded stating it will be discussed at the next meeting of the Management Committee.
- 8/2/2023 - Mr. O'Coin received an email from David Giannotti from the State Ethics Commission re: Conflict of Interest Law Training Seminars.
- 8/24/2023 - Email from Stephen Perry of Braley & Wellington re: quote and policy for annual insurance.

- 8/26/2023, 8/28/2023 - Email exchange between Mr. O'Coin and Mr. Nicholas George, Treasurer Collector, Town of Leicester re: Parcel 28A-E6.
- 9/1/2023 - Email notification from the MassDEP re: Newly Promulgated Regulations: Large Entity Reporting Requirement 310 CMR 7.41.
- 9/8/2023 - 9/13/2023 - Email between Mr. Brian Falk and Mr. Tommy Lee re: Release of Eminent Domain Award
- 9/10/2023 - Email forwarded from Ms. Michele Cosper, former CMLWD District Clerk re: USPS P.O. Box Annual Renewal.
- 9/11/2023 - Proprietor, Dan Turgeon of 26 Lake Shore Drive emailed Mr. Lee re: lake drawdown date. Mr. Lee replied stating that "The annual drawdown period is governed by the District's order of conditions issued by the Leicester Conservation Commission along with DEP. The drawdown period begins on November 1 each year and we begin to refill the lake on or about ice out. This period is subject to change every three years with the order of conditions as approved by DEP and LCC."
- Mr. O'Coin received correspondence with the Tax Collector re: parcel of land

### **Treasurer's Report**

A Treasurer's Report dated 9/13//23 showed that the District had \$207,051.94 on deposit. \$38,588.66 was on deposit in the checking account. The report shows 2 deposits from tax collections in the amounts of \$5,219.38 and \$6,186.36; 1 payment of \$66,426.13 to the USDA for Loan Payment 10; 1 payment of \$105.00 to Release of Lien for Charles St. parcel 28-A18 (behind dam); 1 payment of (525.00) for Treasurer's Bond premium FY24; 1 payment of (195.00) for Legal expenses-FY24; 1 payment of (36.80) for New Checks; and 1 payment of (7,365.00) for Insurance premium 2023-2024. Of this amount \$106,377.53 was deposited in the Money Market account containing betterment payments. The report shows 2 deposits from Betterment collections in the amounts of \$1,854.41 and \$1,469.77; 2 Betterment payoffs in the amounts of \$16,947.19 and \$1,095.56; 3 interest deposits in the amounts of \$3.91, \$4.45 and \$4.51; and the transfer of funds in the amount of \$0.11 from the checking account due to an accounting error with the USDA Loan payment amount. The dam stabilization account contains \$60,908.07. The report shows 3 interest deposits in the amounts of: \$7.51, \$7.76 and \$7.76. \$1,177.68 was in the stabilization account.

Mr. O'Coin is seeking approval for Warrant #254. A motion was made by Mr. Lee and seconded by Mr. Carr and voted unanimously.

### **Tax Payment & Betterment Payment Updates**

92 proprietors pay tax to the District. Mr. O'Coin reported 4 paid partially, 88 paid in full. To date, 99.36% of annual taxes have been collected. There was 1 recent betterment payoff. 48/48 paid in full. 100% of planned collections to date.

### **Old Business**

### **Lake Clarity & Level Management Update**

Mr. Lee reported the lake rose in elevation approximately 10 inches with the last rainfall. In an abundance of caution with the impending weekend storm, including high winds, the lower gate valve was opened in the morning of 9/13/2023 and water levels have now receded by approximately 4 inches. Water levels will continue to be monitored. The lower gate valve will be closed on Sunday, September 17, 2023 should the lake water levels be at normal levels.

### **Dam Maintenance and Dam Crest**

Mr. Lee walked the Dam and Dam Crest earlier today (9/13/2023). The Dam crest was nicely trimmed and mowed. Mr. Lee reported that he continues to be concerned with the downstream trees especially where the lower dam valve drains. The Management Committee will discuss trimming trees once the tree canopy falls.

### **Weed Treatment & Water Quality Monitoring**

The Management Committee reported no changes or updates to report at this time.

### **New Business**

- Tax Classification Hearing:
  - The Tax Classification Hearing will be held prior to the start of the October Monthly meeting of the CMLWD Management Committee on October 11, 2023 @ 8PM. Mrs. Spratt will be placing the Notice of Public Hearing in the Worcester Telegram & Gazette.
- Concerns from Proprietors:
  - Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. Stiles of 400 Rawson Street emailed the CMLWD Management Committee regarding concerns of floatation apparatuses and fishing activity at the Rawson Street bridge over the course of the summer months. Mr. Lee described the photographs sent and summarized the proprietors' concerns. Mr. Lee also provided the Management Committee with brief history and background information about the previous buoys and signage that had been in place. Proprietors are reminded that the mission of the CMLWD and Management Committee is to manage the quality and clarity of the lake, and the maintenance and safety of the dam. The CMLWD and Management Committee do not have jurisdiction over the behavior or activities of others. Proprietors are reminded that any questionable or unsafe behaviors should be reported to the authorities. Mr. Lee will follow up with Mr. and Mrs. Stiles.
- Release of Eminent Domain Award:
  - Mr. Lee summarized the recent email from Mr. Brian Falk of Merrick O'Connell regarding release of funds held in escrow. Of the \$15,000 being held, 67.5% has already been legitimized in eminent domain taking. Mr. Lee made a motion to release the remaining 24.3%. The district would continue to hold Robert Johnson's 10% share until information on that partner can be obtained as advised by Mr. Falk. Motion was seconded by Mr. Carr and voted unanimously.
- Dam Inspection:

- Mr. Lee proposes opening a discussion with Lenard Engineering and scheduling an inspection of the dam. This item will be on the agenda for the October Meeting of the CMLWD Management Committee when Mr. Waterman can be present.

### **Executive Session**

The regular meeting of the management committee was recessed 8:14PM for an executive session.

### **Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Management Committee is scheduled for **8:00 P.M. on Wednesday, October 11, 2023** by Zoom Meeting. Please note the time change.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Carr voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 P.M.

A True Copy Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jillian Spratt".

Jillian Spratt, District Clerk