# Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District Minutes of Management Committee Meeting January 20, 2010

The meeting commenced at 7:40 P.M. at 1 Maple Glen Lane, Leicester.

In attendance: Paul Dufresne

Tommy Lee

Richard Johnston, Clerk Terry O'Coin, Treasurer

#### Minutes of Previous Meetings

Previously distributed Minutes of the Management Committee meeting on November 4, 2009 were offered for approval. A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to accept the Minutes as written.

### Clerk's Report

Mr. Johnston reported the following correspondence since the last Management Committee meeting:

- 11/27 thank you letter from Clerk to Robert Hevert
- 12/30 Court Order regarding interest
- Court Judgement dated 1/5/10
- 1/7 letter from Clerk to DeSimone advising that District does not wish to appeal jury verdict
- 1/15 letter from Clerk to Spencer Savings Bank regarding eligibility for NOW account interest
- 11/24 meeting results that were posted on-line

## Treasurer's Report

Mr. O'Coin presented a Treasurer's Report dated 1/20/10 that showed the District had \$18,093.48 on deposit with the Spencer Savings Bank. The only entry of note was a \$1,000 payment to the District's audit firm.

Mr. O'Coin also sought and received approval for Warrant number 136.

He reported that he sent the required 1099 forms to Ernest DeSimone and Oakland Landscaping along with a required form to the IRS. Mr. O'Coin also distributed copies of the audit report and management letter from Scanlon & Associates for the fiscal year ending 6/30/09.

### Old Business

# District Tax Update:

Mr. Johnston advised that, with the exception of a minor delay in obtaining Board of Assessors approval, the process of preparing the tax package and gaining DOR approval went smoothly and quickly. The Tax Collector's Office expeditiously sent out district tax bills on January 7. The first half payment is due February 8 and the second half payment will be due on May 1, 2010. Tax Increase Communications:

Mr. Johnston encouraged the people in the Tax Collector's Office to refer member calls regarding the extraordinary increase to him. Only three members that did not attend the Special Meeting on 11/24/09 called. Mr. Johnston thoroughly explained the reasons for the Special Meeting and Supplemental Budget. Each member expressed concern regarding their ability to pay the three fold increase and each was assured that the higher budget leading to this increase was a one-time event.

### Draw Down Update:

Mr. Johnston reported that, as of the current date, the lake was 30 inches below the spillway elevation. The lower gate remained closed and water was flowing through the spillway channel. An unusual ice condition was observed at the dam. There was water on top of the ice, which is not unusual following melting and rain. What was very unusual was that there were 19 inches of water on top of the ice at the dam. It was speculated that the ice was somehow frozen to and anchored to the lake bottom.

## Loan Closing Update:

The closing on the Commerce Bank line of credit was delayed several times while the bank and its attorney collected necessary information. The closing was currently scheduled for the week of January 25. In response to a question, Mr. Johnston advised that each of the expert witnesses with outstanding invoices had been notified of District plans to pay two-thirds as soon at the line of credit money became available and the remaining one-third as soon after the start of the following fiscal year as possible.

### **Upcoming Warrant Approval:**

Mr. O'Coin and Mr. Johnston advised that it would be necessary to seek Management Committee approval of a Warrant sometime before the next scheduled Management Committee meeting to pay outstanding bills once the line of credit money becomes available.

#### **New Business**

## Clerk's Expenses:

Mr. Johnston shared a request for reimbursement for the period July 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009 and noted that, at \$1,162, was exceptionally high due to more than \$750 in travel and other expenses associated with preparing for and conducting the recent trial.

#### Draw Down Permit:

It was agreed that the District should seek Conservation Commission approval to continue its weed control draw down program. Mr. Johnston was asked to prepare the necessary paperwork.

## **Executive Session**

The meeting was recessed for a period of time to discuss current and future actions pertaining to the matter of Central Water District Associates v. the District.

#### Next Meeting

The next regularly meeting of the Management Committee was scheduled for 7:30 P.M. on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at 1 Maple Glen Lane, Leicester.

# <u>Adjournment</u>

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M..

A True Copy Attest

Richard D. Johnston District Clerk