

**Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District  
Minutes of Management Committee Meeting  
February 23, 2011**

The meeting commenced at 7:35 P.M. at 1 Maple Glen Lane, Leicester.

In attendance: Paul Dufresne

Tommy Lee  
Wayne Ridley  
Richard Johnston, Clerk  
Terry O'Coin, Treasurer

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Minutes of the previously distributed Management Committee meetings on January 19, 2011 were offered for approval. A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to accept these minutes as written.

Clerk's Report

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

- 1/20 mailing of 112 newsletters to members and non-abutter Friends of Cedar Meadow Lake regarding upcoming ice fishing derby
- 1/22 letter from Clerk to Commerce Bank covering latest set of audited financial statements
- 1/29 invoice from R. H. White Construction
- 2/14 telephone call to Clerk from Attorney General's office in response to request to dissolve Cedar Meadow Lake Association
- 2/16 letter from Clerk to Attorney General's office covering copy of requested Articles of Organization for Association
- 2/16 letter from Clerk to member Richard Carr covering requested law suit information
- 2/17 invoice from Attorney DeSimone
- Abutters notice from ZBA concerning approved plans to build a house at 61 Lakeview Drive

Treasurer's Update

Mr. O'Coin presented a Treasurer's Report dated 2/23/11 showing that the District had \$16,855.30 on deposit in the Spencer Savings and Commerce Banks. He pointed out that the balance in the District's checking account, which he planned to close upon the maturing of a Certificate of Deposit with the Spencer Savings Bank, was down to \$189.56. This report also contained \$1,321.70 in tax revenue received from the tax collector's office which continues to issue checks on a monthly basis as promised. He also sought and received approval for Warrant #147. This Warrant included final payments to the District's expert trial witnesses.

Mr. O'Coin explained that there was very little left in the Dam Repair and Maintenance account and that it would be necessary to transfer funds from the Reserve Account to pay the just received invoice from R. H. White Construction in the amount of \$10,265.78. Following discussion, a motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to transfer \$10,000 from the Reserve Account to the Dam Maintenance and Repair Account.

Mr. O'Coin went on to explain that the District budget relied upon the line of credit from

Commerce Bank to fund expenses until receipt of FY11 tax revenue. \$15,000 had already been borrowed through this \$30,000 line of credit. He recommended the borrowing of an additional \$5,000. A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to borrow an additional \$5,000 from the line of credit.

### Old Business

#### Dam Repair:

Mr. Johnston discussed the invoice from R. H. White along with the accompanying test boring data from Soil Exploration Corporation, the drilling subcontractor. This data revealed that the dam was 18 to 20 feet in height above the original sand and gravel soil. The fill above the original soil was made up of fine and coarse sand, fine gravel, cobbles, small boulders and inorganic silt (clay). The effectiveness of the repair work will not be known until the lake is refilled in the Spring. Mr. Johnston reported encouraging observations. Since the work was performed, there was no apparent leakage through the dam when the water levels were down 30 to 33 inches below the spillway elevation. He, however, pointed out that heavy snow cover below the dam could be concealing leakage.

There was discussion about future repair options in light of the water levels within the dam revealed during the drilling. Water was found to be at the same elevation as the lake level on the lake side of the dam. Water levels on the downstream side of the dam were observed at 5 feet below the lake water levels. Mr. Johnston theorized that this, and the sound of water flowing down within the dam structure, confirmed his suspicion that water was entering the dam and finding its way up and over internal barriers. One possible solution would be to dig a trench down through the center of the upper crest of the dam between the spillway and gatehouse and to fill this with impervious clay material. Another possible solution involved the use of a particular type of coal cinder that had been used successfully to prevent the flow of water into dam structures. Mr. Johnston plans to meet with John Kelly of R. H. White Construction at the dam as soon as the snow cover melts to determine the effectiveness of recent repair work and to discuss additional measures if necessary.

#### Draw Down Update:

Mr. Johnston reported that he cut through the ice and fully closed the low level outlet on 1/29. It was very unusual that it was necessary to keep the gate 100% open to keep water levels down this late into the winter. Water levels during the month of February have remained at approximately 32 inches below the spillway elevation as approximately one inch of water flowed through the spillway channel.

#### Tax Update:

Mr. O'Coin described submitting the District's tax package to the Department of Revenue on-line for the first time. He and Mr. Johnston described the delays in gaining approval of the Assessors and gaining certification of the District's free cash from the DOR. Mr. O'Coin commented about how well the DOR's gateway and tax package software worked once other approvals were obtained. The tax package received final DOR approval on 2/23. Principal Assessor John Prescott agreed to immediately send the commitment paperwork to the Tax Collector's Office. Tax Collector Deb Kristoff promised to get the bills out ASAP, and would split between two bills if possible.

#### Ice Fishing Derby:

Jeremy Lloyd reported through Mr. Johnston that the ice fishing derby went very well, particularly as a first-time effort. Nearly 50 people signed up and \$750 was collected in entrance fees and donations. The only expense incurred was to pay \$150 to clear snow to allow parking along Lakeview Drive. Jeremy signed up participants in front of his home at the south end of Lakeview Drive and member Shane Schemke signed up participants at the north end of Lakeview Drive. The largest fish caught was a 2 pound 6 ounce bass. All the kids that participated received a prize.

### New Business

#### Weed Control:

Mr. Johnston discussed a newspaper article describing the efforts of the Quabog and Quacumquisit Lake Association to experiment with various methods of controlling Eurasian Milfoil and Fanwort. Our District has successfully controlled Milfoil but is having difficulty controlling the Fanwort that is spreading in the coves on the north end of the lake. Mr. Johnston plans to follow the work of the Quabog and Quacumquisit Lake Association and to report the results to the Management Committee.

#### Fish Kill:

There was also a recent newspaper article summarizing an interview with Lee Lyman of Lycott Environmental regarding possible fish kills. Mr. Lyman warned the abutters to shallow area lakes and ponds that the thick ice and snow cover experienced this winter would prevent the light needed for plant growth to penetrate to the lake bottom to enrich lake vegetation. The dying vegetation would consume excess levels of oxygen, and this could result in the death of many fish due to the lack of oxygen.

### Executive Session

The meeting was recessed to discuss ongoing and future legal actions regarding the matter of Central Water District Associates v. the District.

### Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Management Committee was scheduled for 7:30 P.M. on Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at 1 Maple Glen Lane, Leicester.

### Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M..

A True Copy Attest:

Richard D. Johnston  
District Clerk