Sherwood Forest Lake District

Prudential Committee Meeting

Date Saturday, November 12, 2016

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Becket Town Hall

557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Committee Members present: Dr. Howard G. Lerner (Chair), Stanley C. Taylor (Vice Chair), William F. Maier, Vernice D. Cowell, Joan M. Goldberg, Dennis B. Guerri and, William J. Osborn III and Clerk/Treasurer Robert T. Ronzio.

Committee Members absent: Nancy J. Fishell.

Public Present: None

Location: Becket Town Hall, 557 Main Street, Becket, MA 01223

Introduction - Dr. Lerner opened the meeting with a call to order at 10:02 AM and announced that parliamentary procedural rules previously adopted will regulate and conduct of the meeting in accordance with the provisions of the Open Meeting Law (OML), other pertinent Massachusetts general laws, the by-laws of the district and local customs and traditions. Mr. Taylor made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Open Meeting Law, Ms. Goldberg seconded, hearing no opposition, Dr. Lerner dispensed with the reading. Dr. Lerner asked if anyone present planned to record the meeting. Dr. Lerner stated that he was aware that the district clerk would record the meeting for Mr. Ronzio’s brother. Dr. Lerner noted that there were agendas on the table for all present. He again stated that the aforementioned guidelines are being followed to insure that the district complied with the General Laws of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Ronzio distributed copies of the agendas to those in attendance.

1. **Prudential Committee Members Comments and Announcements -** None.
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from Previous Meeting –** Tabled

**3. Dam Management –**

1. **Lancelot Lake Engineering Contract -** Dr. Lerner stated that Steve Skroka and Attorney Goodman have been working on the contract, and provided some detail regarding the changes. Mr. Ronzio added that the engineering firm, Tighe & Bond has an excellent reputation and a good working relationship with the Becket Conservation Commission. Prudential Committee members discussed the design contract and the eventual construction contract to include the cost for the demolition of the dilapidated house as part of the proposed bid package. Mr. Ronzio noted that removal cost shouldn’t exceed $10,000 given the demolition contracts recently awarded by the town. Mr. Taylor made a motion which authorized Dr. Lerner to sign the Tighe & Bond design contract for the District, Ms. Cowell seconded; Unanimous approval.
2. **Lancelot Lake Town Property Acquisition -** Mr. Ronzio stated that the District’s bid of $2500 has been accepted by the Board of Selectmen and the Select board agreed to delay the property transfer until the spring of 2017.
3. **Lancelot Lake Grant Application Award -** Dr. Lerner stated that the District was awarded a $52,500 grant by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for the design work for Lancelot Dam. Mr. Ronzio noted that the state had an award ceremony in the Eastern part of the state and had sent the District an invitation. Mr. Taylor made a motion which authorized Dr. Lerner authority to sign all grant forms for the District, Ms. Cowell seconded; Dr. Lerner abstained, all others present vote to approve, The motion passes.

Dr. Lerner noted that the District learned that there is now grant money available for dam repair projects. He felt that this may have some bearing on the Lancelot Lake project start date given that the grants are awarded in the fall of the year. Mr. Ronzio stated how much money receiving a grant could save the District. Mr. Taylor made a motion to delay the Lancelot dam construction project for one year, in efforts to secure additional grant money, Ms. Goldberg seconded. Prudential Committee members discuss. Dr. Lerner polls the committee for a vote, Unanimous approval.

1. **Little Robin Spillway Stop Logs (Con Com Permanent Order) -** Mr. Ronzio stated that he has discussed the repair process with Mallory Larcom, the Town's Conservation Agent.
2. **Emergency Action Plan - Contact Information Review -** Dr. Lerner noted this will be discussed later when Ms. Fishell returns.
3. **Conservation Commission Big Robin Certificate of Compliance** – Dr. Lerner noted that this has been put on hold for now.
4. **Lake Management** –Mr. Maier stated that there were some big weed issues on Big Robin this year. He noted however that once there is a cold snap, most of the problems will be resolved. He also reported that the bladder wart treatment plan was costly at almost $4,800.
	1. **SOLitude Report -** Mr. Maier reported that overall the year end report prepared by SOLidude came out very well. He indicated that he will send a complete electronic copy to all committee members for their review and that a summary will be posted on the District's website.
	2. Mr. Maier noted that the Becket Conservation Agent informed him that the District should consider going for a complete new DEP Order of Condition three-year application rather than ask for an extension of the current one. He explained the relative cost benefit of each option. Prudential Committee members discussed. Mr. Maier recommended going for three year as opposed to one year extension and the committee members agreed. Mr. Maier then made a motion to go with a new Order of Conditions three-year plan as it was the more economical option, Mr. Taylor seconded; Unanimous approval.
	3. Mr. Maier next discussed the current beach water-testing program and the cost associated with weekly testing. Mr. Ronzio noted that according to the Department of Public Health regulations the district would need to have two complete years without any nonconformance issues before it can request an optional testing regimen.
	4. **Ecosystem Consulting Svc - Flow Routing System for Lancelot & Big Robin Repair -** Mr. Maier stated the existing Flow Routing System is an excellent device which was designed for Big Robin and has worked well since its instillation over 20 year ago Mr. Maier stated that the prudential committee needed to authorize $2,800 to ensure that the system continued to function properly. He indicated that this is critically important which needed to be addressed immediately. Mr. Maier reminded the committee that he did save $800 by not having to treat for fragmites this year. Dr. Lerner suggested that the committee table the discussion for now and revisit it in the next few months since winter is coming and nothing could be done until the spring.
	5. **Weed Harvester Report -** To be discussed at a future meeting.
5. **Beach and Boat Management**

**a. Beach and Dam Mowing plan for summer 2017 -** Dr. Lerner stated that he will be getting the bid package together by January and that he would like to include the removal of more brush in the contract.

**b. Beach Areas - Expanded Brush Removal -** Dr. Lerner stated that no further work will be done this season, but this may be added to the Invitation for Bid (IFB) for next spring.

**6. Property Acquisitions/Donations -** Mr. Ronzio stated that there is another proprietor has contacted the district regarding the procedures for donating property. He reported that all property taxes are current and Attorney Goodman is working with the property owner heirs to complete the transfer.

**7. District Office Plan**

**a. Electrical Service Inspection -** Mr. Ronzio indicated that an electrical inspection is needed before **Eversource Energy** will reconnect the power to the building. Mr. Ronzio noted that Mr. Cowell husband is a licensed electrician who has worked with the town’s electrical inspector and is willing to meet with him as long as there are no state ethic’s issues. Mr. Ronzio informed the committee that Attorney Goodman researched the matter and as long as Mr. Lamontague donates his time there are no issues.

**b. Storage of Lake & Road District Equipment and Supplies -** Mr. Ronzio stated that he met with the Liability Insurance Inspector and that all went well. Mr. Maier asked Dr. Lerner when the district can expect to have the building up and running, Dr. Lerner indicated that it may be 2 to 3 years before the needed remodeling work could be accomplished. Dr. Lerner confirmed that there would be storage space for the weed cutter as that was in the plan from the beginning.

**8. Website & Reporting Monthly Activity**- Ms. Cowell reported that the district website was visited 157 times during the month, many of them being new hits. She stated that there were no new emails or correspondence. Ms. Cowell requested that she be given a summary of the grant award so it could be posted on the website.

**9. Opt-Out Requests -** Mr. Ronzio stated there are no new requests.

**10. Any Other Business to come before the Committee -** Mr. Ronzio noted that the computer which he uses solely for district business needed to be repaired repair and it cost approximately $500 to get it back in service. Mr. Maier made a motion to reimburse Mr. Ronzio for the cost of the repair, Mr. Taylor seconded; Unanimous approval.

**Catch & Release Policy** - Mr. Maier stated that he would like to research what it may take to implement a **Catch and Release** **Policy** and for all five (5) lakes. Dr. Lerner advised the committee that doing a feasibility study is a good idea, but any policy of this nature should be added to the Annual District Meeting warrant so the proprietors could vote for its approval or rejection. Committee members briefly discussed and agreed that enforcing any policy of this nature could be difficult.

**11. Public Input-** None

1. **Review Correspondence -** Read and reviewed.
2. **Warrants #4 FY2017 -** Dr. Lerner presented the warrant as prepared, and provided an explanation of items listed where needed. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the warrant as presented, Mr. Maier seconded; the warrant was approved unanimously and passed along for Committee member's signatures.
3. **Adjournment –** Mr. Maier made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Taylor seconded. Unanimously approved. The meeting is adjourned at 11:50 AM.

**Schedule:** Next meeting Saturday, December 10, 2016 at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Robert T. Ronzio

Clerk & Treasurer

Sherwood Forest Lake District

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Dr. Howard G. Lerner (Chair)

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Stanley C. Taylor (Vice Chair)

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Nancy J. Fishell

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Vernice D. Cowell

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William F. Maier

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Dennis B. Guerri

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 William J. Osborn III

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Joan M. Goldberg