

## DENNIS WATER DISTRICT

### Board of Water Commissioners

Minutes of Meeting held

May 12, 2020

*Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.C. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners, May 12, 2020, at 10:00am that would have been normally held at the Dennis Water District, 80 Old Bass River Rd, South Dennis, MA 02660 will be physically closed to the public and conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right to attend this meeting can be found on the Town of Dennis's website at [www.town.dennis.ma](http://www.town.dennis.ma). For this meeting members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so by calling 712-770-5023 and enter the participant code of 364041: The meeting will be available for replay via Town of Dennis Channel 18. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post an audio recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.*

A meeting, having been duly posted, was held this date at the Dennis Water District, 80 Old Bass River Road, S Dennis and called to order by Paul F. Prue, Chairman at 10:01 PM. The meeting was conducted remotely via telephone conference call as posted in the agenda notice.

The Chairman conducted a roll call of its members finding that Water Commissioners Peter L. McDowell and Alan Tuttle were in attendance remotely. Also participating remotely was Superintendent David Larkowski and Clerk/Treasurer Sheryl A. McMahon,

#### ***Consider various scenarios for scheduling Annual District Meeting.***

Taking into consideration the limiting conditions imposed by the pandemic and Governor Baker's emergency orders of social-distancing and gathering limitations that may still be in effect for an undetermined length of time, the Board discussed various scenarios of conducting the Annual District Meeting. Still unknown is what the Town of Dennis Board of Selectmen are planning to do in terms of a venue and the number of people that will need to be accommodated. Ms. McMahon suggested that the Board consider discussing the possibility of holding the District Annual and the Town Annual in tandem. One possibility would be to post the meetings for the same time, have the moderator from either the Town of District open the meeting and then immediately recess it in order to open and conduct the business of the other entity. One of the rationales for meeting together was to minimize the times voters would need to gather and the need for the Town Clerk/Registrar to register people as attending. It is possible that the Town and the District may find the need to postpone their respective meetings to a future date beyond the end of the fiscal year. A motion made by Peter L McDowell ***to authorize Ms. McMahon to contact the Town of Dennis Board of Selectmen to see if the conducting of simultaneous annual meetings of the Water District and the Town could be arranged with the understanding that the protocol and procedures of said meetings would be under the agreement and authority of the moderators of both the Town and the District. The motion was seconded by Alan Tuttle. The motion passed by unanimous vote the Chair having called the roll as follows:***

***Peter L. McDowell "aye"***

***Alan Tuttle "aye"***

***Paul F. Prue "aye"***

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION: Possible Land Acquisition – 635, 635A and 636 Old Bass River Road.**

***At approximately 10:21 AM and on a motion made by Alan Tuttle and seconded by Peter L McDowell, the Board UNANIMOUSLY VOTED to enter into Executive Session in accordance with Mass. General Law Ch. 30A, Sec. 21(a) Reason #6: to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, located at 635, 635A and***

*636 Old Bass River Road, for the purpose of watershed protection as the Chair had declared that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the District and not to return to open session. The Chair called for the vote which is recorded as follows:*

*Peter L. McDowell “aye”*

*Alan Tuttle “aye”*

*Paul F. Prue “aye”*

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl A McMahon, Clerk