

# DENNIS WATER DISTRICT

## *Board of Water Commissioners*

Minutes of Workshop Meeting held

December 20, 2010

A meeting, having been duly posted, was held this date at the Dennis Police Station, 96 Bob Crowell Rd, S Dennis. The meeting was called to order by Paul F. Prue, Chairman at 10:31 AM. Also in attendance were Charles F. Crowell and Peter L. McDowell and the following District official:

Sheryl A McMahon, Clerk & Treasurer

David Larkowski, Superintendent

### ***Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) determination for wind turbine siting:***

The FAA had denied the siting identified in the District's Wind Power Feasibility Study as being in excess of 300 feet above sea level as a hazard to navigation for Chatham Airport.

Harwich having been approved while Dennis has been denied has raised some issues as to why one site and not the other when they are so similar. Mr. Larkowski has requested further determination by FAA for Dennis.

Joining the meeting was Mark Zielinski and Maggie Downy representing the Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative (CVEC). Mr. Zielinski provided an overview of projects that CVEC has been involved in recently. The Town of Brewster has been the model for what they were trying to achieve with the construction of wind turbines for municipalities. Harwich began the project but stopped just short of authorizing the construction funding. Brewster's project is now before the Planning Board. CVEC is also involved in photovoltaic projects mostly on community landfills.

Mr. Zielinski went on to say that CVEC has expended considerable funds on legal, documentation, engineering, grant applications through the Clean Energy Center. If CVEC were to partner with the Dennis Water District on a wind turbine project, the District would have to assume the early development costs.

Mr. McDowell outlined his understanding of the project. Ms. Downy stated that the cost of development is essentially the same whether the District does it or CVEC. The difference is in the possibility that CVEC can provide attractive financing options. CVEC would also own and operate the turbine and the District would have the benefit of significantly reduced electric rates as well as receive an annual rental fee for the site.

Discussion ensued between the Commissioners and the CVEC representatives. The pro forma considers P90 as a capacity factor and takes into consideration downtime for maintenance downtime. The documents used between the entities would have to be "iron clad". Mr. McDowell expressed a concern that if CVEC was to build the turbine for the District, then it would exclude the Town of Dennis from participating and building a turbine on District property. Ms. Downy did not agree.

Mr. Larkowski asked what the power purchase agreement might be like because until now all the District has known is what Harwich had anticipated getting with a CVEC build/own project.

Obtaining the Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) from Old Kings Highway Regional Historic District Committee (OKH) was discussed. Mr. McDowell said that the District needed to provide drawings to file an application with OKH for the COA.

There was a brief discussion about the possibility of a "Siting Board" being created that would abbreviate the permitting process for any turbine 2MW or more. This process would eliminate the need to file with OKH.

Chairman Prue then recognized various persons in the audience so that they may ask questions and express their views. Issues raised related to the possibility of nearby properties losing property value, impacts to conservation lands and environmentally sensitive areas, and even a concern about concrete being used in the turbine foundations.

***Reserve Fund Transfer Request:***

Ms. McMahon explained that the District had received an invoice for the payment of unemployment benefits. She explained that the District does not pay unemployment insurance and is instead on a pay-as-you-go arrangement. The District does not appropriate funds on an annual basis for the payment of unemployment benefits because the incidence of terminating an employee is rare and generally unexpected. Therefore, a request is made to transfer the funds from the FY 2011 Reserve Fund. On a motion made by Peter L. McDowell and duly seconded, the Board ***UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to transfer the amount of \$1,092 for Unemployment Benefits.***

On a motion made by Peter L. McDowell, and duly seconded, the Board ***UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 AM.***

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl A McMahon, Clerk