

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
LORAINCOUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT  
July 12, 2012**

**Call to Order:**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lorain County Rural Wastewater District was held at the LORCO offices, 22898 West Road, Wellington, Ohio. President McConnell called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

**Trustees in Attendance:**

Secretary-Treasurer Lahetta called the roll with the following trustees shown in attendance:

James McConnell	Howard Born	Thomas Lahetta
Dominic Ferritto	Cindy Kurpely	John Piwinski
Neil Lynch	Mary Beth Derikito	Louise Grose
Bob Walrod		

**Absent:** Jim Wright, Rick Hutman, Gerald Cowie, Jim Woodrum, Rita Canfield, Bob Meilander

**Also in Attendance:**

Dennis O'Toole, Legal Counsel  
Becky Haines, Special Projects Administrator ALMU  
Robert Berner, Executive Director

**Call for Changes or additions to Agenda:**

President McConnell noted there would be an executive session.

**Approval of Minutes:**

President McConnell announced that the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 14, 2012 had been sent to all the trustees. It was moved by Cindy Kurpely with a second by Mary Beth Derikitoto approve the minutes as presented. After discussion, all voted aye. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

Executive Director Berne presented emails and information form Linda Morrison disputing her first tow sewer bills. Linda Morrison spoke to the board and contended her first bill was for a negative 18 days and her second bill was described as a bill from April 18 to May 4 and should have only been for 17 days. She also raised the issue of people being connected and not receiving monthly bills. Neil Lynch inquired if she had knowledge of specific people who are connected and not being billed to provide the information to the LORCO. Mrs. Morrison further added shed did not believe the bills are correct and the board should "bring in Ridachi" to audit the bills.

Becky Haines responded the bills sent out in May and June to people who are not yet connected were minimum bills for the entire month based on the certification date of the system. Once people connect, their bills will be based on usage from their date of connection and pro-rated based on water usage.

Jim McConnell asked the board if they had any reason to pursue the billing issue any further. No board members responded. The board took no action on Linda Morrison's complaint.

**New Business:**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – President McConnell had not report and reminded the Board of the invitation from LMRE to attend their annual meeting on July 24<sup>th</sup> from 4-6:30 pm at the Lorain County Fair Grounds.

**LEGAL REPORT** – Mr. O'Toole informed the board of the recent change in the law allowing elected officials to serve on 6119 board and reiterated this does not absolve them of ethical requirements should a conflict exist between their elected position and action taken by the board they serve.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-12** for payment of payroll and bills was presented. It was moved by Mary Beth Derikito with a second by John Piwinski to approve the resolution. Neil Lynch inquired concerning the FOP donation. Executive Director Berner responded this was a long standing donation. He agreed with Mr. Lynch to end any further donations in the years to come. The motion was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-13** adopting a temporary budget for 2013 was presented. It was moved by Dominic Ferritto with a second by Tom Lahetta to approve the resolution. The motion was unanimously approved.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Executive Director Berner reported on the financial report and indicated no real significant issue. He explained the temporary 2013 budget and that it mirrored the 2012 budget. In December the budget can be amended to reflect any new projects or goals the board might have. He updated the board on his visits to member communities and noted all 16 communities have been visited. He then presented the June Phase I totals (See Below)

He informed the board of the pending property and casualty insurance renewal. He requested competitive quotes from other companies and recommended the board switch insurers to the Ohio Plan. Last year's premium with Neace Lukens was \$4,651 and the Ohio Plan premium is \$2,500 with all the same coverage and limits. A Motion was made by Cindy Kurpely and seconded by Mary Beth Derikito to move insurance to the Ohio Plan. Motion was unanimously approved.

He further informed the board he was hoping to have information back from Arcadis Engineering for the proposal on a feasibility study and estimated cost proposal for connecting Pheasant Run Village to the Phase I project but they were delayed and should have it by the next meeting. He informed the board he will be taking vacation from July 23 to July 27 but is staying locally and would still be attending the LMRE Meeting.

**The June report from ALMU:**

**770 homes are connected**  
**974 customers were billed in May**  
**1,021 customers were billed in June**

**Meter reading at pump station from May 18 - June 18 shows 3,409,700 gallons sent to plant for treatment.**

**Gallons of RLCWA (Not available at time of meeting)**

**The treatment cost for June was \$7,433.15 per the contracted rate. Wholesale rate \$2,830.05 Booked Amount \$4,603.10.**

**The June O & M expenses were: \$12,759.20**

*\$2,732.47 wages and benefits*

*\$2,251.43 office, billing expenses and utilities*

*\$25 Mobile Equipment*

*\$160.74 Equipment Maintenance*

*\$100.00 Operation and Maintenance*

*\$7,489.50 May and June Unemployment*

**LORCO received \$15,000 per Cooperative Agreement**

**OWDA Debt Service Payment \$830,753.01**

**Total Expenditures for June: \$858,512.21**

**Balance in Custodial Account: \$1,648,776.12**

Special Projects Administrator for Avon Lake Municipal Utilities, Becky Haines had two items. First, she updated the board concerning having their inspector going to each house with a grinder pump and placing a sticker on the electric box and providing them with a letter on the dos and don'ts of what can go down the drain. Second, she updated the board on the Royalton and Robson Road project. The project is expected to be certified next week with E-one certifying grinder pumps. The video of Royalton Road sewers will be done on Monday with the engineer reviewing on Tuesday then certifying.

Jim McConnell asked why there were only 4 connections last month. Ms. Haines said contractors have slowed down on the calls for inspections.

Jim McConnell also inquired on the Rural Water readings and the pace of Elite's restoration work and Ms. Haines replied she would provide the readings, it was an oversight. She further added Elite will be back beginning in August and they met with other contractors on the Punch List items.

Bob Walrod asked if DiGioia will be out.

Mr. Haines replied they will be out per their schedule

Jim McConnell was concerned very little pressure seems to be placed on the contractors to complete the restoration work. He stated he is "more than a little disappointed in the punch list that does not seem to get punched."

### **Other Business:**

President McConnell called for any other business to come before the Board. Hearing none, he moved to audience participation.

Carl Denk raised a question concerning billing and also was concerned about the one month lag on water readings and sewer bills. He concluded with his concern over well water customer billing.

Linda Morrison asked about the Rt 82 project and certification date. She also was concerned about the pace of restoration.

Bob Walrod asked about an alarm at a pump station on N. Reed Rd. going off on June 28<sup>th</sup>. He said a resident called the emergency number and could not get through so they called the sheriff who did get through to ALMU.

Having no addition comments from the audience President McConnell asked for a motion to go into executive session to discuss potential litigation. It was moved by Cindy Kurpely and seconded by tom Lahetta to go into executive session at 8:10 pm. The vote was 10 yeas and 0 nays. Motion carried.

The board returned to regular session at 8:43 pm.

**Adjourn:**

With no other business to come before the board a motion was made by Dominic Ferritto and Seconded by Howard Born to adjourn at 8:44 pm. All voted yea. Motion carried.

The board will meet again in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 9, 2012 at the LORCO offices located at 22898 West Road, Wellington, Ohio 44090.

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President

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Secretary-Treasurer