

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT  
JANUARY 10, 2019**

**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. Board vice president Lynch announced that board officers Korpely and Brubaker were unable to attend the meeting due to work commitments. Lynch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Trustee Roll Call (by Executive Director Toy):**

Will Schlechter	√	Michael Koch	√	Neil Lynch	√
Doug Gardner		Karol Cornelius	√	Jim McConnell	√
Jerry Cowie	√	Rick Hutman		Patti Brubaker	
Jed Lamb	√	Cindy Korpely		Del Roig	√
Tom Steigerwald	√	Tom Lahetta		Jim Wright	
		Tom Berry	√	Jim Woodrum	√

Tom Steigerwald introduced Carl Wesemeyer. Steigerwald will be relocating out of Grafton Township. Wesemeyer spoke briefly. Tim Adams is currently Grafton Township's alternate LORCO board representative and has indicated a desire to not continue. Wesemeyer has been appointed alternate and will be taking Steigerwald's position at the March LORCO board meeting.

**Also in Attendance:**

Eugene M. Toy, Executive Director; Carl Wesemeyer, Grafton Township

**Election of Officers:**

In accordance with Article IV, Section 1 of the LORCO Bylaws, election of officers is to take place at the first meeting of each year. Board vice president Lynch announced that communications had been received from both Cindy Korpely and Patti Brubaker indicating a willingness to serve as board officers if appointed and elected. Lynch then asked LORCO Executive Director Toy to handle the election of officers.

The floor was then opened for nominations for the board office of President. Motion was made by Jed Lamb with a second by Will Schlechter to nominate Cindy Korpely to the position of President. Toy asked for other nominations. Being none, McConnell moved that nominations be closed, and a unanimous ballot be cast in favor of the nomination. Seconded by Schlechter. Voice vote to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of the nominee was unanimous.

The floor was then opened for nominations for the board office of Vice President. Motion was made by Del Roig with a second by Tom Steigerwald to nominate Neil Lynch to the position of Vice President. Toy asked for other nominations. Being none, Lamb moved that nominations be closed, and a unanimous ballot be cast in favor of the nomination. Seconded by Woodrum. Voice vote to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of the nominee was unanimous.

The floor was then opened for nominations for the board office of Secretary-Treasurer. Motion was made by Karol Cornelius with a second by Jim McConnell to nominate Patti Brubaker to the position of Secretary-Treasurer. Toy asked for other nominations. Being none, Lamb moved that nominations be closed, and a unanimous ballot be cast in favor of the nomination. Seconded by Schlechter. Voice vote to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of the nominee was unanimous.

**Changes or Additions to the Agenda:**

None

**Approval of Minutes:**

It was moved by Cowie, with a second by Roig to approve December 13, 2018 regular meeting minutes. Voice vote for approval was unanimous.

**Old Business:**

Lynch announced that an envelope was being passed around for voluntary retirement gift donations and asked Toy to show the plaque recently purchased in memory of former LORCO executive director Fred Alspach. As previously approved by the LORCO board, the conference room in which LORCO meetings are held will be named in Fred's honor with his wife and family invited to attend an upcoming ceremony to be held during a LORCO board meeting.

**New Business:**

None

**President's Report:**

None

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-1 Approval of non-LMRE & RLCWA-related December deposits and payments.** It was moved by Steigerwald, with a second by Lamb to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: 11 Yeas. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-2 Approval of RLCWA-related December payments.** It was moved by McConnell, with a second by Koch to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: 10 Yeas. 0 Nays. Lamb abstained. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-3 Approval of LMRE-related December payments.** It was moved by Lamb, with a second by Roig to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: 10 Yeas. 0 Nays. McConnell abstained. Motion carried.

**Executive Director Report:**

1. As previously reported to the board, attended 11/6/18, 6 pm Avon Lake Regional Water board work session in order to give a LORCO activities update. Requested continuation of cooperative agreement payment in 2019 at \$8,500 per month. Discussed this with LORCO finance committee chair and reduced amount was part of 2019 revenue budget passed at the last meeting. Requested motion, second, and voice vote approving 4<sup>th</sup> addendum to Cooperative agreement. Motion made by Schlechter and seconded by Steigerwald. Question by Lamb about repayment of monthly cooperative agreement payment. Answered by Toy. Voice vote to approve was unanimous

2. 1/2/19 email from Todd Danielson. Avon Lake Regional Water rates increasing 7/1/19 from \$6.07/1,000 gal to \$6.98 and to \$8.03 for bills issued after 7/1/20. Increases apply to both in-town and out-of-town customers. LORCO Phase 1 and Barrington rates are currently \$50.60/first 2,000 gallons and \$7.70/each 1,000 gallons after. Cinnamon Lake rates are currently \$44.84/first 2,000 gallons and \$7.45/each 1,000 gallons after. Requested finance committee meeting to review increases and discuss potential changes to rate structure. McConnell will set up a committee meeting.
3. Deferred debt payments authorized at 12/13/18 meeting were mailed out on 12/19/18. \$5,000 checks were cashed by Eaton Township on 12/26; New Russia Township on 12/28; Carlisle Township on 1/3; and Elyria Township on 1/8. Check to Squire Sanders was cashed on 12/27. Check to LaGrange Township has not yet been cashed.
4. Received two customer complaints this week about high bills due to excessive water use. One was a running toilet that entered the system and was not discovered/fixed in a timely manner. Other was a potential outside leak that may not have entered the system, but customer provided no documentation.

#### 311.08 – Leaks and High Usage

Monthly billings are based on 100% of the water metered through the applicable water provider. In the event a customer has a leak in their service line between the meter vault and the residence where no water goes through the LORCO collection line, an adjustment can be considered. The billing for wastewater would be determined taking into account prior history and average usage. In order to be considered for a potential billing adjustment, customers will be required to provide contractor or supply invoices; photographic documentation of leak location and repairs made; and agree to an inspection by a LORCO representative or agent.

5. Attended 12/21/18 NOACA Water Quality Subcommittee meeting. City of Elyria Grafton Road FPA change request was pulled from the agenda by NOACA Executive Director Grace Gallucci. She is attempting to set up a meeting with Lorain County to learn more about the nature of the county's objection to the FPA change. Next WQS meeting is in March.
6. Have been in communication with KE McCartney regarding the negotiations for a Columbia Township flow agreement. LORCO comments were provided to KEM in December. KEM meeting today with County to go over KEM's suggested revisions based on LORCO comments. Expect communication from KEM within the next week or two.
7. Made a tap recently on the east side of Hawke Road. Flow agreement requires tap to be made by LORCO/Avon Lake Regional Water and included in the cost of the tap fee. Total tap fee is \$8,000. Due to required construction methods, contractor cost was almost \$10,000. Communicated with KEM to suggest alternative language where LORCO would retain \$4,000 Capital Recovery Fee and charge a tap-in fee of either actual cost +10% or else waive the tap-in fee and have the property owner contract directly with the contractor. LORCO/Avon Lake Regional Water would receive an administrative fee to cover inspection costs. KEM was going to discuss the issue with the county and then get back with LORCO.