

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT  
JANUARY 13, 2011**

**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 7:00 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	Neil Lynch (arrived 7:06)	Thomas Lahetta
Gerald Cowie	Cindy Kurpely	Jason Richardson
James Wright (arrive 7:12)	Rick Hutman	Dominic Ferritto
John Piwinski	Ernest Hartman	Jim Woodrum
Louise Grose		

**Absent:** Rita Canfield, Howard Born

**Also in Attendance:**

Dennis O'Toole, Attorney  
John Kniepper, Chief Utilities Executive ALMU  
Becky Haines, Special Projects Administrator ALMU  
Robert Berner, Executive Director

**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 the year. Dennis O'Toole, Attorney to the Board then opened the floor for nominations for President.

Election of Officers was conducted, according to the procedures of the by-laws, with the following results:

James McConnell, President  
Neil Lynch, Vice President  
Thomas Lahetta, Secretary-Treasurer

**Approval of Minutes:**

President McConnell announced that the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 9, 2010 had been mailed to all the trustees and called for any additions or corrections. It was moved by Dominic Ferritto, with a second by Louise Grose to approve the minutes as written. All voted yea. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

Rate Study – President McConnell turned the discussion over to Executive Director Berner who did a summary of the process the board has undertaken in studying the monthly rates for LORCO customers. He discussed the low turn out at the December public hearing and the additional request for public comments which

were placed in the Rural-Urban Record and the article in the Chronicle-Telegram. The board received copies of the comments from the public.

Ernie Hartman had some questions concerning the subsidies higher bill payers are making to lower bill payers.

Neil Lynch asked what recommendation the Executive Director had. Executive Director Berner responded that the board should not take action on the rate structure until additional billing cost information was available. Further discussion concerning the pros and cons of a flat rate continued. President McConnell concluded the discussion and indicated the board would continue to collect information and did not anticipate any action to be taken on rates until the March regular board meeting.

**New Business:**

President McConnell called for suggestions to set dates and times for the regular monthly meetings in 2011. The board was in agreement not to change the current time and dates. It was moved by Ernie Hartman, with a second by Jim Woodrum to designate the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. as the date and time for the regular monthly meetings. All voted yea. Motion carried.

President McConnell commented briefly on the joint meetings between the board officers and ALMU and noted the future meeting days and times has changed.

Attorney O'Toole updated the members on the settlement of the Environmental Review Appeals Commission suit.

Attorney O'Toole informed the members that the only pending legal issue is a single appropriation issue which he anticipates to be settled soon.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2011-01 for payment of payroll and bills was moved by Jim Wright, with a second by Cindy Kurpley, The motion was unanimously approved.**

Executive Director Berner reported on the payment of treatment cost to Grafton changing from every other month to monthly. He further discussed current efforts on developing sewers for Kipton Village and a meeting at the City of Oberlin with their Public Utilities Committee.

Executive Director Berner updated the members on the ramifications of the settlement agreement with the City of Elyria and the change in the Facility Planning Area process with NOACA. The change will add 58 new customers to the Phase I project.

Executive Director Berner informed the members of a conversation with Trustee Rita Canfield and a request from one of the LaGrange Township residents for repayment of the loan made to the Township Trustees Association for the feasibility study in 1997. Executive Director Berner relayed this information to the board and also indicated there had been no terms or conditions for repayment in this loan agreement when the loan was made.

Special Projects Administrator for Avon Lake Municipal Utilities, Becky Haines gave an update on the Phase-I construction. She indicated Fabrizi was working on finishing the main line on St. Rt. 82 in Eaton Twp. and will be completing this work the moving to contract 5B. Underground Utilities had material delivered to complete the contract extension on St. Rt. 82. She finished by reporting the pump station progress and informed the board all construction work is complete in the City of Elyria.

**Other Business:**

President McConnell called for any other business to come before the Board and asked the audience if they had any questions or remarks. No board members had any comments. Public comments were heard from:

Doug Linn, 13478 Indian Hollow Road, asked a question concerning the rate structure and usage.

Rick Krvick asked a question concerning where the tap fee money goes.

Mark Mayo, Capel Road in Eaton commented on the billing information not yet available and commended the board for not taking action until additional information is gathered.

**Adjourn:**

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Dominic Ferritto, with a second by Ernest Hartman to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. All voted yea. Motion carried.

The board will meet again in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 3, 2010 at the LORCO offices located at 22898 West Road, Wellington, Ohio 44090.

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President

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Secretary-Treasurer