

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT
March 8, 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 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

Oath of Office for Alternates:

The following alternates were administered the oath of office by Executive Director Berner:

Adam Mourton – Rochester Township
Kathryn Frombaugh – Rochester Village

Trustees in Attendance:

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

James McConnell	Jim Wright	Thomas Lahetta
Adam Mourton	Cindy Kurpely	Tom Steigerwald (A)
John Piwinski	Neil Lynch	Jim Woodrum
Jason Richardson	Mary Beth Derikito	Rita Canfield
Bob Meilander		

Absent: Rick Hutman, Howard Born, Louise Grose

Also in Attendance:

Becky Haines, Special Projects Administrator ALMU
John Kniepper, Special Projects Coordinator ALMU
Robert Berner, Executive Director

Call for Changes or additions to Agenda:

Two items were added to the agenda:

Added Resolution 2012-05 – Request for an FPA Change
Added Addendum to Executive Director Employment Agreement

Approval of Minutes:

President McConnell announced that the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 2, 2012 had been sent to all the trustees. It was moved by Tom Lahetta with a second by Jim Woodrum to approve the minutes as presented. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - President McConnell presented the committee assignments for 2012-2013 with no changes made to most committees but did add Jason Richardson to the Policy Committee. He explained the reason for the Executive Committee assignments. He updated the board concerning the meeting he attended at ALMU with Exec. Dir. Berner and explained the goal was to keep the line of communications open.

President McConnell asked for a motion authorizing the transfer of funds from the 5/3 Bank Account with funds deposited by contractors who committed to taps to the Phase I Project needed to be included in the custodial account held jointly by ALMU/LORCO. Motion was made by Cindy Korpely and seconded by Tom Lehetta, all voted aye.

President McConnell introduced the addendum to the Executive Director's Contract. The addendum included all the items discussed at the prior meeting. A motion was made by John Piwinski and seconded by Tom Steigerwald to approve the addendum, the vote was all ayes.

LEGAL REPORT – None

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-04 for payment of payroll and bills was presented. It was moved by Bob Meilander with a second by Jim Woodrum to approve the resolution, the motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-05 authorizing the Executive Director to pursue a change in the Designated Management Agency and Facility Planning Area for a portion of Columbia Township was presented. Jim Wright moved to authorize the resolution with a second by Tom Lehetta. The vote was 13-0 approving the resolution.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Executive Director Berner reported on the financial report and indicated treatment to Grafton was for two months. He updated the board on the process of transmitting board packets electronically. He further informed the board the State Auditor's office started the bi-annual audit on Monday. He then welcomed the newly elected officials who had been invited to attend an orientation prior to the board meeting.

Executive Director Berner informed the board he met with the Mayors of Lorain and Amherst in continued discussions on regional treatment authority. He presented a written report on the January totals for the Phase I operations summarizing the information received from ALMU. He informed the board of the issue of the expiration of the \$5,000 tap-in fee. He further explained the necessity of Resolution 2012-05. He concluded by informing the board of his pending vacation days.

Neil Lynch requested the monthly report on the Phase I operations be made available on the projector for future meetings. He also questioned the difference between the water meter readings and the readings at the pump station. Exec. Dir. Berner explained there is a two month delay between the billing readings and the actual sewer usage at the pump station.

Special Projects Administrator for Avon Lake Municipal Utilities, Becky Haines reported the bid opening last month for the lateral project on Royalton and Robson Roads did not yield any acceptable bids as they were all more than 10% above the engineer's estimate. She indicated the project was re-bid with bid opening on March 12, 2012 at 12:00 noon with a revised engineer estimate.

She informed the board of construction contract closeouts with discussion on remaining work to be completed. She informed the board of the change orders due to design errors and omissions.

Other Business:

President McConnell called for any other business to come before the Board and asked Becky Haines if she had any further comments on the meter reading issue raised by Exec. Dir. Berner and she indicated she agreed with his analysis. John Kneipper commented he wanted to check the accuracy of the pump station meter.

Neil Lynch asked for clarification on the total counts for connections, customers and total who have not responded.

Jason Richardson asked about the possibility of extending the \$5,000 tap-fee for existing homes to a date to coincide with the Health Department letter.

Linda Morrison raised the issue of allowing tap fees to be permitted on the tax duplicate for collection.

Neil Lynch asked what the impact of extending the \$5,000 tap fee. Exec. Dir. Berner responded it would not significantly impact the financial forecast.

After lengthy discussion it was moved by Neil Lynch and seconded by Cindy Korpely to:

“Extend the tap-in fee sunset date for existing users of \$5,000 to coincide with the 90 days from the letter sent by the Health Department making the new date April 18, 2011 and allowing those people to pay their tap-in fee through their taxes if they pay the first year principal and interest payment of \$398.22 up front and further authorizing a letter be mailed to those who have not yet paid their tap-in fee be sent to all who have not made arrangements for payment.”

Motion was unanimously approved.

A second motion was made by Cindy Korpely and seconded by John Piwinski to refund to those who have paid the higher tap-in fee the difference between the \$5,000 tap-in fee and the new fee. All voted aye.

Rita Canfield commented future projects should learn from the information we have learned and LORCO should not repeat some of the needed changes being made.

President McConnell then asked the audience if they had any questions or remarks.

Carl Denk reported a grinder pump failure reported by one of his neighbors. He was concerned about the contact number for ALMU. John Kniepper responded the grinder pump failure call was responded to and repaired within 1 ½ hours.

Linda Morrison asked about the west side of Hawke Road being served as a result of the FPA change. She also asked if updated user agreements would be sent out with the letters. She concluded her comments by commenting on the need to update the LORCO web page.

Jim Wright asked for clarification on the 200' rule.

Adjourn:

With no other business to come before the board a motion was made by Tom Steigerwald and Seconded by Cindy Korpely to adjourn at 8:15 pm. All voted yea. Motion carried.

The board will meet again in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 12, 2012 at the LORCO offices located at 22898 West Road, Wellington, Ohio 44090.

President

Secretary-Treasurer