

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
LORAINCOUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT  
September 13, 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 7:01 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	Jim Wright	Thomas Lahetta
Dominic Ferritto	Cindy Kurpely	John Piwinski
Neil Lynch	Mary Beth Derikito	Rick Hutman
Jim Woodrum	Gerald Cowie	Rita Canfield
Jason Richardson	Bob Meilander	

**Absent:** Howard Born, Louise Grose

**Also in Attendance:**

Becky Haines, Special Projects Administrator ALMU  
Robert Berner, Executive Director

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

President McConnell added a Policy Committee Report following the Presidents report.

**Approval of Minutes:**

President McConnell announced that the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 9, 2012 had been sent to all the trustees. It was moved by Jim Woodrum with a second by Cindy Kurpely to approve the minutes as presented. All voted aye. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – President McConnell updated the board on a letter received from ALMU legal counsel regarding concerns with the financial forecast of the Phase I Project. He informed the entire board the Executive Committee met to address the letter and he responded with a letter to ALMU. He further explained he and Executive Director would be attending the October 1, 2012 meeting of ALMU to update them on current efforts.

President McConnell informed the board of ALMU Board President Whitmer's resignation. He did not believe that would affect LORCO's relationship with ALMU. He also informed the board of the request of the Executive Committee to have the Policy and Finance Committee review the rate structure and make recommendations. The Policy Committee met prior to tonight's board meeting and he requested John

Piwinski poled members of the Finance Committee and schedule a Finance Committee meeting.

**POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT** – Neil Lynch reported the Policy Committee met prior to tonight’s meeting. They reviewed two methods for calculating monthly user rates, a flat rate and a variable rate based on use. They reviewed existing rates and the effects of a rate increase. They recommended a variable rate based on consumption and left it up to the Finance Committee to determine what that rate should be. He concluded by informing the board the committee would meet again on November 8, 2012 to review vacant properties and homes not connected to Rural Water.

**LEGAL REPORT** – Dennis O’Toole reported there have been a number of residents who have not responded to the request to connect and that they are in non-compliance. He will be working with the county health department to take action. Mary Beth Derikito asked him if the retirement of Ken Pearce would have any affect and he did not believe it would.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-15 for payment of payroll and bills was presented. It was moved by Dominic Ferritto with a second by Jim Wright to approve the resolution. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2012-16 authorizing the executive director to enter into an agreement with Arcadis Engineering for a feasibility study to connect PheasantRunVillage to the Phase I Project was presented. It was moved by Tom Lahetta with a second by Jason Richardson to approve the resolution. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT** - Executive Director Berner reported on the financial report and indicated there would be adjustments made next month to line items which are close to going over budget for the year. He presented an amendment to the agreement with the State Auditors requesting additional funding to complete the 2011 audit. A motion was made by Tom Lahetta with a second by Jim Wright to approve the additional money be appropriated and paid. The vote was 13 ayes and 1 nay.

Executive Director Berner informed the board of the county health assessment and said it was available at [www.loraincountyhealth.com](http://www.loraincountyhealth.com) for a survey and comments. He presented the August totals for the Phase I project. He informed the board of his attendance at the September 12, 2012 county commissioners meeting. He observed the concern Amherst and SheffieldTownship residents have with being part of a sewer district that is controlled by the City of Lorain and their issue with raising the rates to residents outside the city to pay 200% of what residents within the city pay. He explained this shows the problem with having sewer districts that don’t have representation.

Executive Berner updated the board on progress with NOACA concerning clarifying the facility planning areas. He concluded by informing the board of his conversation and pending meeting with county administrator Cordes concerning sewer issues and informed the board of his bi-weekly meetings with Todd Danielson of ALMU.

## **The August report from ALMU:**

**825 homes are connected**

**1,010 customers were billed in July**

**Meter reading at pump station from July 18 – August 6 shows 5,397,500 gallons sent to plant for treatment.**

**Gallons of RLCWA 4,151,280**

**The treatment cost for August was \$12,951.99 per the contracted rate.**

**Wholesale rate \$3,445.56 Booked Amount \$9,506.43.**

**The August O & M expenses were: \$13,588.03**

*\$5,769.93 wages and benefits*

*\$3,560.16 office, billing expenses and utilities*

*\$75 Cellular/Gas allowance*

*\$885.94 Utilities*

*\$356.00 Operation and Maintenance*

*\$2,941.00 August Unemployment*

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

**Construction Expenses: \$23,200.00**

**Total Expenditures for August: \$41,788.03**

**Balance in Custodial Account: \$1,373,560.37**

**Booked Billable Hours for July and August: \$4,697.82**

Special Projects Administrator for Avon Lake Municipal Utilities, Becky Haines reported the assessments for 2012 have been completed and were filed last Friday by Rob Berner. There are 533 residents being assessed. The second half for 2012 has been paid with the exception of 12 people. She updated the board on the contractors progress and indicated; UUI has completed most of their punch list items, Elite stated last week and worked through Wednesday, DSE is coming next week and have scheduled a meeting with the county engineer to review road conditions.

Neil Lynch questioned the delinquent penalty for those who have not paid. Executive Director Berner responded the penalty would have to be added by LORCO since they submit assessment each year rather than a one time 20 year assessment.

### **Other Business:**

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

Carl Denk had 4 items:

1. He questioned non Rural Water customers and asked the board to consider language for customers who have rural water but also have another water source.

2. He informed the board of a circuit breaker problem with his grinder pump.
3. He questioned the Chestnut area easement and LORCO's requirement to relocate the transmission line if the developer wants to develop the property.
4. He questioned the capacity of the Indian Hollow sewer to connect Pheasant Run.
5. Questioned the Arcadis proposal.

Hearing no other public comments President McConnell requested a motion to enter into executive session.

A motion was made by Cindy Kurpely and Seconded by Mary Beth Derikito at 7:45 pm to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing pending legal action. The vote was 14 yes and 0 no.

The board returned to regular session at 8:15 pm. John Piwinski informed the board the Finance Committee would meet at 6:00 pm on October 11, 2012 prior to the regular board meeting.

**Adjourn:**

With no other business to come before the board a motion was made by Dominic Ferritto and Seconded by Cindy Kurpely to adjourn at 7:16 pm. All voted yea. Motion carried.

The board will meet again in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 11, 2012 at the LORCO offices located at 22898 West Road, Wellington, Ohio 44090.

---

President

---

Secretary-Treasurer