



**Lorain County
Rural Wastewater District**
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MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

February 2011

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

By: Robert J. Berner

February is upon us. I love February. It is not only the shortest month but also the month with three significant holidays. February 2nd is Groundhog Day. Most farmers don't like groundhogs but, if old Buckeye Chuck doesn't see his shadow then we can look forward to a short winter. Next, all lovers like Valentines Day. February 14th is when Cupid comes calling. So, don't forget that special someone. Finally, Presidents Day February 21st. Remember Father George and Honest Abe on their birthdays. One other significant date, often overlooked, is February 5th. This was the anniversary of our nation's constitution.

What does any of this have to do with sewers you are asking? Not much but, it's February and there is not a whole lot to report. It is good sometimes to just reflect on the goodness around us and be thankful for the little things.

Now, let's get back to LORCO business. The progress on Phase I has been slow through the winter. Contractors are plugging away and are nearing completion of the collection system. There are just a few more weeks on sections of Avon Belden Road and Royalton Road just east of Avon Belden. Also, the extension of the sewer on Royalton Road east to the boarder of Columbia Township is under construction.

The pump stations and transmission line are progressing. We anticipate the pump stations to be completed by the end of April. The final stages of the transmission line should be done simultaneously. If all goes well and the weather cooperates, the system should be operational in May.

Residents should anticipate receiving the notices to connect sometime in May. In conjunction with this notice LORCO will be scheduling a public meeting in March in Eaton Township to discuss the procedures for connection and payment of the tap-in fee. We will let you know as soon as this meeting is scheduled.

Finally, the rate structure for LORCO customers is still being reviewed. We received considerable feedback from residents desiring rates based on consumption. The current rate structure is set up based on consumption. This issue will continue to be examined into February and March before the board makes a final decision. It should be noted, the portion of the sewer bill dedicated to treatment is a very small part of the bill. Most of the expenses associated with the sewer bill are dedicated to debt service and operating and maintenance (O & M). This makes it confusing sometimes for customers to understand why a user based bill is also equitable. The expense associated with debt and O & M are the same for all customers regardless of usage. The board has some difficult choices to make on this issue.

If you have questions about the current status of the project, please call 440-647-4882. Our office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, except Holidays.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

By: James McConnell

On behalf of the board of trustees of LORCO, I want to thank Mrs. Dorothy Collins for her dedicated service to the Board. She has faithfully served since 1998. I wish her the very best in retirement. She will be missed.