

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT  
February 8, 2007**

**Call to Order –**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lorain County Rural Wastewater District was held at the LORCO office, 22898 West Road, Wellington Ohio. President McConnell called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

**Trustees in Attendance –**

Douglas Edwards	Ernest Hartman	Barbara Harper
Don Wittmer	Thomas Lahetta	Neil Lynch
Jim McConnell	Joseph Knoble	John Piwinski
Amy Szmania		Dwaine Clinker

**Also in Attendance –**

Fred Alspach, Executive Director  
Becky Haines, Administrative Assistant  
Dennis O'Toole, Legal Counsel

**Absent –** James Wright, Scott Grills, Rick Hutman, Dominic Ferritto, and Dorothy Collins

**Approval of the Minutes –**

President McConnell noted that the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 11, 2007 were mailed to all board members and called for any corrections or additions. It was moved by Thomas Lahetta with a second by Don Wittmer to approve the minutes as written. All voted yea. Motion carried.

**Old Business –**

Executive Director Alspach reported that the application for the USDA Rural Development Guaranteed Loan Commitment has been thoroughly reviewed by the Massillon District office and will be submitted to the State office for their review before going to Washington DC. This is anticipated to take approximately four to six weeks and upon receipt of the commitment arrangements can be made to move forward with the loan closing.

**New Business –**

President McConnell reported he has not had an opportunity to speak with Elyria Township Trustees regarding their lack of representation at monthly board meetings. He hopes to have a more definitive answer by the next board meeting regarding the issue at hand.

A thank you card had been received from the Born family in recognition of the sympathy expressed by the LORCO staff and board members after the passing of Ed Born.

Lorain Medina Rural Electric Co-op (LMRE) Board of Trustees, with which LORCO has a contractual agreement for a portion of the Executive Director's wages and benefits, reviewed the time dedicated to LORCO and requested an increase in the percentage of wages and benefits currently established. A motion was made by Barbara Harper with a second by Ernest Hartman authorizing an increase in LORCO's percentage of Fred Alspach's wage and benefits to 75% retroactive to begin with January 2007. The vote resulted in 10 yeas and 1 abstention (James McConnell). The motion carried.

Policy Committee Chairman Lynch reported that a meeting had been held earlier in the evening to consider changes to LORCO's Fiscal Policy regarding a uniform service rate and tap fees throughout the entire LORCO service area. Executive Director Alspach and Attorney O'Toole were authorized at that meeting to review and present suggested language modifications at the next committee meeting scheduled for March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Attorney O'Toole updated the members on Public Records Law regarding notes members take during the meeting. These notes are not considered public record but should they be remitted to the LORCO office they do become public records.

**Resolution 2007-02** Be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of the LORCO Rural Wastewater District that it was moved by Thomas Lahetta, seconded by Don Wittmer, WHEREAS, the following have been submitted:

Payroll 12/31/06 – 01/13/07	\$	1,419.23
Payroll 01/14/07 – 01/27/07	\$	1,419.23
LMRE – NISC monthly fee	\$	92.96
Verizon Telephone – January	\$	50.75
OPERS – January contribution	\$	840.54
First Merit – Visa	\$	50.98
GRW Engineers, New Russia feasibility study	\$	1,400.00
WSOS CAC – Environmental Study	\$	4,500.00
Ohio Underground Protection Service – locate fees	\$	30.00
LMRE – January rent	\$	250.00
LMRE – Administrative Contract for January	\$	6,664.77
Radachi & Company – December accounting fees	\$	2,987.00
Stumphauzer & O'Toole – January legal fees	\$	400.00

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

- 1) That in anticipation of receiving permanent construction funding with a financing guarantee from the USDA-Rural Development, the LORCO Rural Wastewater District may be required to expend or incur cost for planning and/or fees for the purpose of making capital improvements to their wastewater collection facility,

which costs expended or incurred will be considered a part of the total USDA/Rural Development construction loan and the LORCO Rural Wastewater District may claim such costs as reimbursable expenses through the loan.

- 2) That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board of Trustees concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board of Trustees, and that all deliberations of the Board of Trustees and of any of its committees resulting in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Revised Code of Ohio.

Vote resulted as follows: 11 yea 0 nay. Motion carried.

Before presenting his administrative report Executive Director Alspach stated that today we received word from several members that they did not receive their board package in the mail and had called the office. It was determined that the members with Wellington mailing addresses received theirs but those who had different zip codes did not. He requested that if members do not receive their packages before the meeting to contact the office so that duplicate packages can be made.

He then continued with a review of the weekly staff reports, correspondence, and relative news articles

Administrative Assistant Haines reviewed the 2006 and 2007 Cash Flow Deferral Statements and reported the year end documents have been submitted to Radachi & Company CPA's for their review and comments before closing the fiscal year.

She continued with a recommendation from Staff to become members of the Coalition of Ohio Regional Districts (CORD) which is comprised of water and wastewater districts formed under Chapter 6119. After brief discussion a motion was made by Barbara Harper with a second by John Piwinski to submit the membership application and \$150.00 fee. All voted yea. Motion carried.

#### **Other Business –**

President McConnell called for any further questions or comments from the audience.

Brief discussion from Eaton Township Trustee, Linda Morrison, regarding scheduling LORCO meetings at the township facilities during 2007 so that residents can be present to have their concerns addressed and learn more about the project. This issue will be revisited subsequent to better funding information from USDA.

**Adjourn**

With no further business to come before the board, it was moved by Ernest Hartman with a second by Don Wittmer to adjourn at this time 7:55 PM and meet again in regular session at 7:00 PM on Thursday, March 8, 2007 at the LORCO office located at 22898 West Road, Wellington. All voted yea. Motion carried.

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President

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Secretary Treasurer