

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT
September 12, 2007**

Call to Order –

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lorain County Rural Wastewater District was held at the Old East Carlisle Elementary School located at 1959 Grafton Road, Elyria, Ohio 44035. President Jim McConnell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

Trustees in Attendance –

Barbara Harper	Thomas Lahetta	John Piwinski
Jim Wright	Doug Edwards	Dominic Ferritto
Jim McConnell	Gerald Cowie	Dwaine Clinker
Neil Lynch	Dorothy Collins	Scott Grills
Joseph Knoble		Dennis Schumaker

Also in Attendance –

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

Absent – Rick Hutman and Ernest Hartman

Approval of the Minutes –

President McConnell noted that the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 9, 2007 were mailed to all board members and called for any corrections or additions. It was moved by Barbara Harper with a second by Dominic Ferritto to approve the minutes as written. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Old Business –

Executive Director Fred Alspach reported on the coordination effort of staff to meet the conditional agreements of FirstMerit Bank, USDA-Rural Development, and Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) before the loan closing, which is scheduled to take place in mid December. The bid specifications and plans are being finalized and it is anticipated the project will be advertised in October with a forty five day period for contractors to obtain plans, review and prepare their bid documents.

New Business –

President McConnell stated that he was in receipt of a letter from Wellington Township announcing the resignation of board member Don Wittmer. Township officials will notify LORCO at a later date with his replacement but until that time Dennis Shumaker, who serves as the alternate, will continue to attend.

A motion was made by Jim Wright with a second by Scott Grills to accept the resignation of Don Wittmer as Wellington Township's representative on the LORCO board. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Resolution 2007-15 was moved by Doug Edwards with a second by Barbara Harper;

WHEREAS, Don Wittmer, who represented Wellington Township had served the LORCO Rural Wastewater District faithfully, and;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED and the following hereby recognized.

"RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION"

TO

Don Wittmer

On behalf of the Lorain County Rural Wastewater District, I wish to extend our sincerest gratitude in the effort that you have put forth in support of the LORCO concept.

It is with this kind of support that projects, like LORCO, have and will become valued utilities that raise the level of comfort and health to a higher plain for rural Lorain County residents.

It is also with great appreciation that because of your dedication and effort and others like yourself, LORCO will be recorded in history as one of the most important enhancements to the rural way of life in Lorain County.

All voted yea. Motion carried.

A meeting had been held on September 6, 2007 at the LORCO office with Carlisle Township resident Carl Denk, Executive Director Alspach, Administrative Assistant Haines, Carlisle Township Trustees Jim Wright and Bob White, and GRW Engineers Bob Smallwood and Kurt Zehnder (via telephone). Discussion was focused on design concerns posed by Mr. Denk and were readily addressed by the engineers. It was also agreed that the conceptual map on the LORCO website generally reflect only areas in which we are going to serve.

Attorney O'Toole reported the LORCO-Grafton Village treatment agreement has been amended and approved by both the Grafton Village Council and the LORCO Board to include the four homes on the east side and the four homes on the west side of Grafton Road immediately north of the Grafton corporation limits. The first tap on the east side has been paid for and construction has been scheduled. LORCO is simply the sewer bill collector for these eight homes and by doing so the homes will remain in Eaton Township and sewer service can be provided.

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-14 Be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of the LORCO Rural Wastewater District that it was moved by Scott Grills and seconded by Jim Wright WHEREAS, the following have been submitted:

Payroll 7/29/07 – 8/11/07	\$	1,443.27
Payroll 8/12/07 – 8/25/07	\$	1,443.27
FirstMerit – analysis fees for July	\$	40.45
FirstMerit – analysis fees for August	\$	37.28
LMRE – NISC monthly fee – June	\$	92.97
LMRE – NISC monthly fee – July	\$	92.97
Rural Urban – environmental ad	\$	459.00
NRWA – membership renewal	\$	25.00
FirstMerit – Visa	\$	44.59
Unicef – custom cards	\$	107.25
Verizon Telephone – August	\$	50.91
WSOS CAC – final installment on environmental study	\$	3,500.00
OPERS – August contribution	\$	849.20
Ohio Rural Water Association – membership renewal	\$	50.00
Village of Grafton – bimonthly treatment expense	\$	145.60
FirstMerit – federal deposit for August	\$	948.21
LMRE – September rent	\$	250.00
LMRE – Administrative Contract for September	\$	7,036.43
Radachi & Co. – July accounting services	\$	1,044.00
Stumphauzer & O’Toole – July legal services	\$	858.50
Stumphauzer & O’Toole – August legal services	\$	5,847.50

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.

All voted yea. The motion carried.

Executive Director Alspach reviewed the weekly staff reports, correspondence, and relative news articles and the events since the last board meeting. He stated that the Floyd Brown Group is prepared to begin the rate study upon notification from our office. Staff is concentrating their efforts on the

completion of items included in the “letter of conditions” as required by the lenders before the anticipated closing in December. In addition, work has begun on securing easements and finalizing the necessary national, state, and local permits.

Administrative Assistant Haines thanked the members who participated in the LORCO booth at the Lorain County Fair and spoke of the many conversations in which residents were relieved and reassured with factual information regarding tap fees, installation expenses, and construction.

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) permits are in the final review stages with design concerns addressed by staff and engineers. We expect to have confirmation on these permits soon. The CSX Transportation Permits have been received and staff is working on executing their documents. A request was made to the Lorain County Engineers office for them to submit their comments for review so that we may be able to address their issues while awaiting the Ohio EPA Permit to Install.

Other Business –

President McConnell called for any further business to come before the board before opening the floor to the audience.

Questions about sewers fielded from the audience were about the landowner’s responsibility, construction, and tap fees. President McConnell explained the LORCO Solidarity Policy and how it applies to providing service.

Carlisle Township Trustee Jim Wright explained the proposal of Home Rule and benefits to the residents. This issue will be on the November ballot in Carlisle Township.

Adjourn

With no further business to come before the board, it was moved by Scott Grills with a second by Jim Wright to adjourn at this time 8:00 PM and meet again in regular session at 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 11, 2007 at the LORCO offices located at 22898 West Road, Wellington, Ohio. All voted yea. Motion carried.

President

Secretary Treasurer

