

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT
September 10, 2020**

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. Board president Kurpely called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Roll Call (Board secretary-treasurer Wesemeyer):

Will Schlechter		Michael Koch	√	Neil Lynch	√
Doug Gardner		Karol Cornelius	√	Jim McConnell	√
Jerry Cowie		Rick Hutman	√	Andy Gulish	
Jed Lamb		Cindy Kurpely	√	Del Roig	√
Carl Wesemeyer	√	Tom Lahetta		Jim Wright (arr. 7:03)	√
		Tom Berry	√	Jim Woodrum	√

Also in Attendance:

Eugene M. Toy, Executive Director

Changes to agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved by Roig, with a second by Berry to approve August 13, 2020 regular meeting minutes. Voice vote for approval was unanimous.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

President's Report:

Read prepared statement regarding roles and responsibilities of board members. See last page of these meeting minutes.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-33 Approval of non-LMRE & RLCWA-related August deposits and payments. It was moved by Berry, with a second by Koch to approve the resolution. Roig asked question about Allied Pump Rental invoice. Toy answered. The vote was as follows: 11 Yeas. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-34 Approval of RLCWA-related August payments. It was moved by Koch with a second by McConnell to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: 9 Yeas. 0 Nays. Kurpely and Wesemeyer abstained. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-35 Approval of LMRE-related August payments. It was moved by Koch, with a second by Berry to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: 10 Yeas. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Executive Director Report:

1. Liens for unpaid sewer charges filed today with Ashland County auditor. Cover time period from 8/1/19 through 7/31/20. \$82,026.49. Last year we filed \$88,449.24. Collected \$18,457.41 in 2020.
2. Woods of Eaton – sanitary sewer Permit to Install (PTI) has been approved via self-certification process by LORCO sanitary engineer, Jack Gaydar. Submitted to Ohio EPA and is currently under review by Ohio EPA NEDO (Twinsburg). Phase 1 is 52 lots.
3. Timber Creek – Russell/Ryan subdivision in Eaton Township. 52 lots. Have sold 10 homes. 4 currently under construction. Working through some issues with inspections and stormwater discharge to the sanitary sewer.
4. Cinnamon Lake – CDBG-RPIG grant approved by Ohio Development Services Agency. Nominating form in to Ohio EPA WPCLF. Worst case, should be \$750,000 loan – 0% for 30 years. Best case – principal forgiveness. Should hear back by mid-October.
5. Brentwood Golf Course – possible zoning application submitted to Eaton Township for residential development west of the clubhouse.
6. Jonathan Palmer – 34 acres at NW corner of Reed & Dye. Splitting up into 5 building sites. Not aware of any subdivision plans.
7. Columbia Township flow agreement – no update to report. Still being reviewed/considered by Avon Lake Regional Water.
8. Received phone call this week from person wanting to know when Phase 1 area rates are going to go down. The caller had noticed building taking place in the Timber Creek subdivision and claimed people were promised rates would go down as more customers were added. Discussion followed among various board members. McConnell recalled discussion during public meetings about rates but does not remember anything about a promise that rates would go down. The general consensus was that consideration could possibly be given to decreasing rates when the 30-year Phase 1 debt was paid off or when the number of customers reached approximately 2800 (currently approximately 1200).

Other Business:

None.

Adjourn:

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Koch and seconded by Berry to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 pm and meet again on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 7:00 pm. Voice vote to approve was unanimous.

President

Secretary-Treasurer

LORCO President's Report

09/10/2020

Gene was recently interviewed for a newspaper article, and the fact that LORCO is beginning to get attention from the press again reminded me that we have several newer members on the Board who might not remember all the press attention that we have received in the past. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you all of your duties and responsibilities to LORCO when it comes to representing LORCO in a public forum.

First, and most importantly, Gene is the spokesman for LORCO the organization. As President, I am spokesman for the Board. If you are asked to discuss LORCO's position on a topic, please refer the question to either Gene or myself. Please feel free to express your opinion, but please make sure that you make clear that you are providing your opinion and not necessarily the opinion of LORCO or of the Board.

Please don't use statements like, "LORCO feels that..." or "The Board thinks that..." In order to control the message that LORCO puts forth to the public, it is important that we allow our spokespeople to provide the public face for the organization.

Feel free to reference any approved minutes or other documents that are part of the LORCO public record.

We are lucky at the moment to be enjoying a positive public image, but that hasn't always been the case. In order to ensure that we keep the message as positive as possible, I ask that you follow these simple tips in order to allow LORCO to continue in a positive direction with the media.