

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT  
MARCH 12, 2009**

**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 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

**Oath of Office:**

Dennis O'Toole, Attorney to the Board, gave the oath of office to the following members present: Robert Meilander (A), Kipton Village; Cindy Kurpely, Rochester Village; Thomas Lahetta, South Amherst Village and Neil Lynch, Amherst Township. These terms of office will expire March 27, 2012.

**Trustees in Attendance:**

Scott Grills	James Wright	Doug Edwards
Rick Hutman	Tom Steigerwald (A)	Ernest Hartman
John Piwinski	Gerald Cowie	Calvin Woods
Thomas Lahetta	Robert Meilander (A)	Cindy Kurpely
Neil Lynch	James McConnell	

**Also in Attendance:**

John Kniepper, Chief Utilities Director, ALMU  
Dennis O'Toole, Attorney  
Helen Haddox, Office Manager  
Fred Alspach, Executive Director

**Approval of Minutes:**

President McConnell noted that the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 12, 2009 had been mailed to all the trustees and called for any additions or corrections. It was moved by Ernest Hartman, with a second by Thomas Lahetta to approve the minutes as written. All voted yea. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

There was no old business to come before the board.

**New Business:**

President McConnell reviewed the draft minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held February 26, 2009. He advised the board that legal counsel is reviewing all of the LORCO staff positions in keeping with up to date regulations. It was moved by Ernest Hartman, with a second by Doug Edwards to update the job description of the Executive Director as recommended by the Executive Committee and legal counsel. All voted Yea. Motion carried.

President McConnell asked if any board member wanted to change their committee assignment for the current year. President McConnell declared the present list to be the assignments through March 31, 2010.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-4** It was moved by Scott Grills, with a second by James Wright, WHEREAS, the following have been submitted:

Payrolls disbursed on – 02/11/09 & 02/25/09	\$	2,238.04
Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation	\$	755.96
OPERS – contributions 01/24/09 – 02/20/09	\$	592.13
Village of Grafton – Wastewater Treatment	\$	586.32
North Coast Administrators – monthly health insurance	\$	526.66
Easement acquisition expenses for February	\$	219.00
First Merit – federal payroll taxes for February	\$	203.76
Verizon – landline	\$	104.82
LMRE – NISC monthly accounting software	\$	95.63
First Merit – monthly analysis fee	\$	57.85
LMRE – administrative contract for January	\$	7,174.94
Stumphauzer   O'Toole – legal fees for 01/05/09 – 02/04/09	\$	5,981.50
LMRE – rent for January	\$	250.00

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: 14 yea, 0 nay. Motion carried.

There was no legal report given at this time.

Executive Director, Fred Alspach, reminded the board that April 9, 2009 at 12:00 noon the bids for Contracts #1a through #3b would be open and announced at the Carlisle Township East Building on Grafton Road. GRW Engineers, Inc. will be in charge of the opening procedure. A copy of the legal notices was provided in the board packet. The Lorain Soil and Water Conservation District has two copies of all contracts and specifications in their possession and the review fee was paid. Several newspaper clippings were provided and the C.O.M.E.T. flyer was enclosed. In addition correspondence regarding replacement and maintenance costs of Household Sewage Treatment Systems in Lorain County was provided along with a report regarding cost of operating private home sewage treatment systems and cost for replacing failed systems. The Eaton Township Community Newsletter, provided today, has an updated news release within.

It was noted that Congresswoman Betty Sutton's office was provided with

numerous letters of support for the LORCO project per their request. Mr. Alspach explained the limited time that he and the office manager have to work with. Therefore, the Avon Lake Municipal Utilities has been contacted to assist with acquiring the balance of the private easement agreements. ALMU's Becky Haines will be the person working on these easements.

The January and February list of deposits, disbursements and deferrals was reviewed.

**Other Business:**

President McConnell opened the floor for questions and comments from the audience. Mr. Meilander, LORCO board member, voiced his displeasure at the remarks by Eaton Township resident Jeff Milum, published in the Rural-Urban Record, toward Kipton Village representative Dorothy Collins. Mr. Meilander indicated that he has known Mrs. Collins for many years and she was not at all deserving of such treatment. Mr. Meilander called for a written apology from Mr. Milum.

**Executive Session:**

It was moved by Ernest Hartman, with a second by Tom Steigerwald to go into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss personnel issues. A roll call vote was taken showing all 14 members present voted yea. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ernest Hartman, with a second by Scott Grills to return to regular session at 8:15 p.m. All voted yea. Motion carried.

**Adjourn:**

There will be no Executive Committee meeting scheduled for March.

With no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Tom Steigerwald with a second by Ernest Hartman to adjourn at this time 8:25 p.m. and meet again in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 12, 2009 at the LORCO offices, 22898 West Rd. Wellington, OH. All voted yea. The motion carried.

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President

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Secretary-Treasurer