

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT
June 14, 2012**

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.

Trustees in Attendance:

Secretary-Treasurer Lahetta was absent so Executive Director Berner called the roll with the following trustees shown in attendance:

James McConnell	Jim Wright	Rick Hutman
Gerald Cowie	Cindy Korpely	John Piwinski
Neil Lynch	Jim Woodrum	Rita Canfield
Mary Beth Derikito	Louise Grose	Bob Meilander
Jason Richardson (Arrived at 7:37)		

Absent: Howard Born, Thomas Lehetta, Dominic Ferritto

Also in Attendance:

Becky Haines, Special Projects Administrator ALMU
Robert Berner, Executive Director
John Kniepper, Project Administrator ALMU

Call for Changes or additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

President McConnell announced that the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 10, 2012 had been sent to all the trustees. It was moved by Cindy Korpely with a second by Mary Beth Derikito to approve the minutes as presented. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Executive Director Berner presented two items. The first was a request from two home owners to receive the lower tap-in fee of \$5,000 due to circumstances presented to the board. The first case was due to the property being a rental property and the mail was not forwarded while at the same time the person was recovering from surgery in a nursing home. The second was due to the owner believing his home was over 200' from the road right of way and the measurement was not confirmed until after the fee was increased. A motion was made by Rita Canfield and seconded by Bob Meilander to grant the approval of the lower fee subject to the first home owner providing proper documentation to support their claim. The motion was unanimously approved.

The second item was a request to revise the policy concerning the requirement to pay off tap-in fee assessments in full prior at property transfer. Executive Director Berner presented the financial case for why LORCO should allow

the transfer of the assessment along with the hardship case caused by some sellers. The history of the rational was discussed with Neil Lynch and Cindy Korpely commenting. Jim McConnell explained the financial rational. After discussion it was moved by Cindy Korpely and seconded by Jim Woodrum to allow home owners to pass on the tap-in fee assessment to the new home owner if the new home owner agreed to the assessment. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – President McConnell informed the Board of the invitation from LMRE to attend their annual meeting on July 24th from 4-6:30 pm at the Lorain County Fair Grounds and have a table display. He asked for volunteers to work the table with Executive Director Berner to answer any questions presented by LMRE consumers. He further commented on HB 507 which was passed by the legislature and is awaiting the signature of the governor. The bill allows for elected officials to serve on 6119 boards.

LEGAL REPORT – No Legal Report

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-10 for payment of payroll and bills was presented. It was moved by Gerald Cowie with a second by Jim Wright to approve the resolution, the motion was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Executive Director Berner reported on the financial report and indicated no real significant issue. He updated the board on the status of the completion of the 2011 financials and explained the state audit could now continue and complete years 2009 thru 2011. He updated the board on township and village meetings with member communities. He the presented the May Phase I totals (See Below).

He informed the board the NOACA Water Quality Committee Meeting scheduled for August 15th. He then updated the board on the meeting with Mayor Brinda and her staff from Elyria along with Todd Danielson from ALUM. He iupdated the board of his attendance at the Ohio Rural Water Association Annual Conference May 22nd and 23rd.

He further informed the board of a meeting with Arcadis Engineering to get a proposal on a feasibility study and estimated cost proposal for connecting Pheasant Run Village to the Phase I project. He informed the board of the letters sent out by the Health Department and concluded with information concerning the status of the Royalton and Robson Roads lateral project which is expected to complete construction on June 22, 2012.

The May report from ALMU:

766 homes are connected

696 customers were billed in April

974 customers were billed in May

**Meter reading at pump station from April 18 – May 18 shows
3,174,700 gallons sent to plant for treatment.**

Gallons of RLCWA for May shows 3,042,632 gallons

The treatment cost for May was \$6,632.94 per the contracted rate.

Wholesale rate \$2,252.38. Booked Amount \$4,107.56.

The May O & M expenses were: \$8,874.79
\$5,849.09 wages and benefits
\$3,000.70 office, billing expenses and utilities
\$25 Mobil Equipment

LORCO received \$15,000 per Cooperative Agreement

Total Expenditures for May: \$23,874.79

Balance in Custodial Account: \$2,458,851.16

Special Projects Administrator for Avon Lake Municipal Utilities, Becky Haines updated the board on recent activities. She explained a number of requests for filling swimming pools have been received. She also explained numerous inquiries concerning deduct meters. She informed the board of a number of call outs due to alarms on grinder pumps caused by landscaping. She updated the board on meetings with contractors attempting to close out the punch list items. She concluded by informing the board of the first OWDA payment being due for just over \$800,000.

Other Business:

President McConnell called for any other business to come before the Board. Hearing none, he moved to audience participation.

Robert Super, 12441 Indian Hollow Rd. presented information concerning his lateral. The problem was explained by John Kniepper concerning the length of time the investigation required and it was determined the directional bore was not done correctly and the contractor would be re-boring their lateral and their neighbor's lateral. Rita Canfield commented on her concern with keeping a list of the contractors on the Phase I project who we had problems with.

Donna Hicks had a billing question and asked about the prorated bill. She also questioned those who are connected and have not paid a tap-in fee. She also questioned if those who do not have Rural Water are being billed. She also asked about property owners who have not properly abandoned their septic tanks. She concluded by asking if return envelopes would be sent out with bills.

Becky Haines commented the abandonment is the responsibility of the home owner to contact the Health Department if they are not done at the time of the connection inspection. It was also noted that return envelopes would not be sent out with the Phase I bills.

Carl Denk raised a few issues. He questioned the clean-out connection. He raised the issue again about estimated billing. He asked about the 2 year recalibration of deduct meters. He asked about addresses for pump stations. He concluded by commenting he thought the board could be too big if the district grows and should consider district representation.

Having no additional comments from the audience President McConnell asked for a motion to go into executive session to discuss potential litigation. It was moved by Cindy Korpely and seconded by Jim Woodrum to go into executive session at 8:17 pm. The vote was 13 yea and 0 nay. Motion carried.

The board returned to regular session at 9:07 pm.

Adjourn:

With no other business to come before the board a motion was made by Cindy Korpely and Seconded by Jason Richardson to adjourn at 9:08 pm. All voted yea. Motion carried.

The board will meet again in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 12, 2012 at the LORCO offices located at 22898 West Road, Wellington, Ohio 44090.

President

Secretary-Treasurer