

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT
December 14, 2023**

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 vice president Lynch 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	√	Bill Forthofer	
Kathy Frombaugh	√	Rick Hutman	√	Scott Justin	√
Jed Lamb	√	Cindy Kurpely		Del Roig	√
Carl Wesemeyer	√	Tom Lahetta	√	Jim Wright	√
		Dale Breining	√	Jim Woodrum	√

Also in Attendance:

Eugene M. Toy, Executive Director

Changes or Additions to the Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved by Koch, with a second by Roig to approve November 9, 2023 regular meeting minutes. Voice vote for approval was unanimous.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

President's Report:

Vice president Lynch announced that Cindy Kurpely was ill and not able to make tonight's meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-58 Approval of non-RLCWA-related November deposits and payments. It was moved by Wright, with a second by Lamb to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: 13 Yeas. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-59 Approval of RLCWA-related November payments. It was moved by Koch with a second by Breining to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: 11 Yeas. 0 Nays. Wesemeyer and Lamb abstained. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-60 Approve Reauthorization of Funds. It was moved by Koch, with a second by Lahetta to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: 13 Yeas. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-61 Approve Then & Now Purchase Orders. It was moved by Lamb, with a second by Frombaugh to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: 13 Yeas. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-62 Approve contract with JGM Valve for 4-Plex pump replacement. It was moved by Roig, with a second by Koch to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: 13 Yeas. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-63 Approve 2024 permanent budget. It was moved by Lahetta, with a second by Breining to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: 13 Yeas. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Executive Director Report:

1.

<u>December 14, 2023 Project Status Summary</u>		
Project	Location	Status
Eaton Crossing - Phase 1 (Frontier Land Group)	South side of State Route 82 between Island Road & Reed Road (near Schild's IGA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only 5 lots left to sell in Phase 1. • Phase 1 is 51 sublots beginning at Island Road & heading east. • Total project (Phases 1 through 5) - 217 homes on approximately 80 acres.
Eaton Crossing - Phase 2	East of Phase 1. Connects Phase 1 (Island Road entrance) with Reed Road to the east	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 2 plat is not yet recorded. Expected to be recorded late December or early January. • Will open for sales as soon as the plat has been recorded for Phase 2. • Phase 2 consists of 45 additional sublots.
Woods at Eaton — Phase 1 (Jonathan Palmer)	Cooley Road (north of Mallard Creek Golf Course)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No lots left to sell in Phase 1. • Phase 1 is 50 sublots on south side of Cooley Road. Building nearing completion. • Total project (Phases 1 and 2) - 220 homes on approximately 90 acres
Woods at Eaton — Phase 2 (Yost/Palmer)	Cooley Road (north of Mallard Creek Golf Course)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitary sewer plans have previously been approved. Design professional is working on other infrastructure plans. • Developer plans to start construction by February 2024. • Phase 2 is 53 sublots on south side of Cooley Road.
Barrington subdivision - Phase 10 (Yost Construction)	Barrington subdivision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just waiting on county engineer to process and sign final plat. • Will start building homes as soon as final plat is approved and recorded. Perhaps in mid to late January. • 20 sublots in Phase 10.
Cinnamon Lake - Lift Station 2 and Lift Station 4 Improvements	Cinnamon Lake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials are on order. Expected delivery is late January. Project engineer will firm up contractor's mobilization date once the deliveries are closer to being actual.

2. No additional reports from ALRW since July, August, and September 2023 monthly reports received 10/19/23. Have reviewed ALRW 2024 Budget for ALRW Fund 749 (LORCO Operating Budget). Documents indicate revenue through October 2023 of \$2,621,801 and expenses through October 2023 of \$2,040,047. Documents project revenue through 12/31/23 of \$3,224,380 and expenses through 12/31/23 of \$2,058,461.

3. 87 new homes in Phase 1, Eaton Township for this year through November based on information received from the township.
4. Met with Raftelis and ALRW on 12/11/23 at ALRW to continue wastewater treatment regionalization planning. The plan as it appears to be evolving would call for the creation of a 6119 District to own and operate the French Creek wastewater treatment plant as well as several main interceptor/transmission sewers. Entities to be involved in the first phase are LORCO, North Ridgeville, Lorain County, and ALRW.
5. Participating tomorrow (12/15/23) in “Lorain County Water and Sewer Industrial Expansion Project/Proposal Development Team” meeting at Lorain Community College (LCCC). This meeting is a follow-up to a meeting held on November 29 at LCCC. That meeting was facilitated by Team NEO, Jobs Ohio, Lorain County Administrator Jeff Armbruster, and others. Tomorrow’s meeting attendees each been identified as a key subject matter expert to advancing the plan and components needed for a potential application to the All-Ohio Future Fund. LCCC has offered to provide project management and development services to facilitate the design of the project components using the pending release of the Future Fund opportunity as a goal post. More to come and nice to be involved in this cooperative group effort!
6. Submitted a grant application to the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) for a proposed “Durkee Road South Lift Station” project. Funding would be through Round 6 of ODOD ARPA grants. This is the same funding source we received for Cinnamon Lake to West Salem force main project and Phase 1 Slife Road lift station, manhole replacement, and wet weather I&I project. The proposed lift station is 8’ diameter and 19’ deep. It would be capable of serving Fiddlers Green – Phase 4 and the east and west sides of Durkee Road north and east of the Grafton municipal corporation limits. Grant request was for \$929,500 which equals the engineer’s estimated project cost.
7. Submitted Ohio Senate Capital Budget One-Time Strategic Community Investment Fund (SCIF) 2024 application. SCIF was created from leftover federal revenue and taxpayer money from fiscal year 2023. Application was submitted to State Senator Mark Romanchuk’s office. Senator Romanchuk represents Ohio State Senate District 22 (Medina, Ashland, Richland, and a portion of Holmes County.) The request was for \$934,292 in SCIF funding to complete operational and safety improvements on the remaining six lift stations at Cinnamon Lake.
8. Related to this lift station improvements project, we received word yesterday that we have been awarded project funding through the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) in the form of a below market rate loan (3.43% up to 20 years) but we would prefer grant as opposed to loan even if the loan is a discounted rate. For now we will wait and see if we are awarded ODOD Round 6 ARPA funds or SCIF funds.
9. Received notice from a Cooley Road resident (rental property) that they had been asked to vacate the house. They were calling to discontinue sewer billing. The caller stated that

the house was going to be torn down “because of the Ryan Homes development”. This was confirmed by the developer.

10. Rea and Associates will be at our 1/11/24 meeting to discuss their findings from the Custodial Fund Excel sheet reconciliation work they have been doing. A draft will be distributed to LORCO board members in advance of the meeting.

11. Proposed Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2024 - Subdivision Review Committee (2 PM – all on Tuesdays) - January 23, February 20, March 26, April 23, May 21, June 25, July 23, August 13, September 24, October 22, November 19, December 17.

12. Proposed Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2024 – County Planning Commission (2 PM – all on Thursdays) - January 25, February 22, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, August 15, September 26, October 24, November 21, December 19.

Other Business:

None

Adjourn:

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Breining and seconded by Koch to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm and meet again on Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 7:00 pm. Voice vote to approve was unanimous.

Vice President

Secretary-Treasurer