

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT  
June 9, 2011**

**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 called the roll with the following trustees shown in attendance:

James McConnell	Neil Lynch	Thomas Lahetta
Gerald Cowie	Cindy Kurpely	Rita Canfield
Berry Taylor	Dominic Ferritto	John Piwinski
Mary Beth Derikito	Jim Woodrum	Rick Hutman
Jason Richardson	Louise Grose	Bob Meilander

**Absent:** Howard Born, Jim Wright arrived at 7:15

**Also in Attendance:**

Becky Haines, Special Projects Administrator ALMU  
Robert Berner, Executive Director  
John Kniepper, Consultant  
Dennis O'Toole, Legal Consultant

**Call for Changes or additions to Agenda:**

Executive Director Berner indicated the need for an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss pending litigation.

**Approval of Minutes:**

President McConnell announced that the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 12, 2011 had been mailed to all the trustees and called for any additions or corrections. The attendance was corrected to reflect Dominic Ferritto was in attendance. It was moved by Bob Meilander, with a second by Tom Lahetta to approve the minutes as written. All voted yea. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

Policy Committee Changes to Chapters I, III and VI or the Operating Manual were recommended to the board. A motion was made by John Piwinski and Seconded by Berry Taylor to adopt the changes pending legal review. All voted yea. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

President McConnell reported a thank you note was received from the Woodrum family and the note was circulated. President McConnell suggested the board should consider an official ceremony for the Phase I project for sewers to kick-off the start of operations. Mary Beth Derikito recommended there should be a recognition ceremony. Berry Taylor agreed with recommendation. Dominic Ferritto recommended the ceremony should be at the pump station on Rt. 82. It was decided

to recommend ALMU discuss this recommendation and bring it back to the board in July.

Attorney O'Toole presented Resolution 2011-09 giving the board the authorization to assess property owners for their tap-in fees and allowing them to have the assessment placed on their taxes for collection. The resolution was moved by Mary Beth Derikito with amendments and seconded by Berry Taylor. The vote was 15 – 0 approving the resolution.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2011-07 for payment of payroll and bills was moved by Louise Grose, with a second by Cindy Kurpley, The motion was unanimously approved.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2011-08 approving the Temporary Operating budget for 2012 was presented by Executive Director Berner in compliance with Ohio Revised Code requiring approval prior to July 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. The resolution was moved by Louise Grose, with a second by Gerald Cowie, The motion was unanimously approved.**

Executive Director Berner reported on the financial report and indicated he had contacted Toni Mold at FirstMerit Bank to discuss the account management fee. Executive Director Berner further updated the board concerning attending the June 20, 2011 meeting of the Columbia Township Trustees to discuss the options available for Columbia Township in participating in the LORCO Sewers. He updated the board on news articles and placed additional articles at their places for review.

Executive Director Berner updated the board on the letters sent out in May indicating residents could begin to connect to the sewers beginning June 1, 2011. The response has been positive and a number of residents have returned the form 812 R and paid their tap fee. Finally, he updated the board on the series of meetings with communities in Lorain County to look at the feasibility of regional wastewater treatment options and establishing a regional collaborative. These meetings will be taking place through the summer.

Special Projects Administrator for Avon Lake Municipal Utilities, Becky Haines gave an update on the Phase-I construction. She indicated being contacted by Faye List from the common pleas court concerning 8 individuals who have not yet collected their easement payments. She updated the board on clean-up efforts progressing as the weather has gotten dryer. She indicated ALMU has met with FirstMerit bank and opened the custodial account under terms of the LORCO/ALMU cooperative agreement. She concluded by letting the board know two individual have been connected to the system and are now receiving treatment services.

Berry Taylor inquired concerning two contractors having questions concerning connections. Ms. Haines responded she had been in contact with both of those contractors.

Ms. Haines further commented on problems with the phone system at Avon Lake's office and hoped this would be resolved by next Tuesday.

#### **Other Business:**

President McConnell called for any other business to come before the Board and Mary Beth Derikito brought to the attention of the board the RCAP rural assistance program she received information on at the Rural Water Meetings. President McConnell then asked the audience if they had any questions or remarks. Public comments were heard from:

Del Roig – Had a question on how the sewage will be treated with the transmission line not yet completed. He had an additional question concerning Hawke Road and the sewers overflowing. Becky Haines responded and informed him the manholes will be sealed and a contractor is being employed to raise a number of manholes. John Kniepper responded with concerns that some people are drilling holes in clean-outs and letting in storm water in violation. Mr. Roig asked a question concerning the final resolution on the matter of the Lorain County Building Department still requiring a plumbing permit for connections. There was lengthy conversation and back and forth between Mr. Roig and Neil Lynch. The opinion was LORCO's legal council is a permit is not required from Lorain County Building unless work is being done to the plumbing inside the house. Mr. Roig inquired about the use of a deduct meter for a resident who boards horses. He then asked a final question concerning the LORCO Form 812 R and indicated Eaton Township was having Jerry Innes of the prosecutor's office review the form. Mr. O'Toole responded that he would be open to any suggestions from Mr. Innes concerning amendments to the form.

Donna Hicks had questions concerning the easement language on LORCO Form 812 R. She also requested a copy of the resolution authorizing the Executive Director to make decisions to amend terms of operation. She inquired about how many residents have been connected and who does the inspections. Becky Haines responded 2 homes have been connected and ALMU does the inspections.

Carl Denk made a suggestion on grinder easements and also inquired about emergency phone numbers for problems with the sewers. Becky Haines responded that ALMU would be making a magnet or sticker to be distributed to customers indicating the number to call in case of emergency.

Elizabeth Rothing who lives on Dye Road asked about the concrete bases on the grinder pumps and noticed the one in front of her house was damaged. John Kniepper responded.

Donna Hicks asked a final question concerning the 7 year exemption issue for connecting. Executive Director Berner referred her to the County Heath Department because this is their rule.

#### **Adjourn:**

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Mary Beth Derikito, with a second by Rita Canfield to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation at 8.01 p.m. A role call vote was taken and the results were 15 – 0 to adjourn to executive session.

The board resumed regular session at 8:43 pm on a motion from Cindy Kurpley with a second by Dominic Ferritto.

Becky Haines remembered to update the board on the agreement with Chestnut Commons concerning the ground repairs and indicated a subcontractor would be completing the work next week.

With no other business to come before the board a motion was made by Dominic Ferritto and Seconded by John Piwinski to adjourn at 8:47. All voted yea. Motion carried.

The board will meet again in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 14, 2011 at the LORCO offices located at 22898 West Road, Wellington, Ohio 44090.

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President

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Secretary-Treasurer