

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT
September 8, 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	Jim Wright
Dominic Ferritto	John Piwinski	Mary Beth Derikito
Jim Woodrum	Rick Hutman	Jason Richardson
Bob Meilander	Louise Grose	Howard Born

Absent: Rita Canfield

Also in Attendance:

Becky Haines, Special Projects Administrator ALMU
Robert Berner, Executive Director
John Kniepper, Consultant
Chuck Whitmer, Chairman ALMU

Call for Changes or additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

President McConnell announced that the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 11, 2011 had been mailed to all the trustees and called for any additions or corrections. Neil Lynch recommended 3 clerical corrections. It was moved by Dominic Ferritto, with a second by Tom Lahetta to approve the minutes as written. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - President McConnell reported contacts made throughout last month with ALMU concerning punch list and site repair concerns raised at the last meeting.

President McConnell asked for suggestions on how to evaluate the applications to be received for executive director. After discussion it was decided the applications would be copied and distributed to the Executive Committee for scoring. The executive director is to sort candidates who do not meet the minimum requirements prior to distributing the applications to the committee.

LEGAL REPORT - Attorney O'Toole was not present. No new information.

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-12 for payment of payroll and bills was moved by Cindy Kurpely, with a second by Mary Beth Derikito, The motion was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Executive Director Berner reported on the financial report and indicated nothing out of the ordinary. He informed the board he attended the ALMU Board meeting on September 6, 2011 to discuss changes to the Cooperative Agreement. He recommended the board adopt two changes. The first was delaying payment of the tap fee to ALMU by 4 years. The second was a reduction to the monthly payment to LORCO from \$20,000 to \$15,000 for the first four years.

Executive Director Berner informed the board of the advertising for the executive director position being on various websites. He then asked for a Policy Committee Meeting prior to the next board meeting to discuss issues with homes who pay tap fees but are not connected because they are either vacant or are not required to connect because they are over 200' from the road. Finally, he informed the board of the tap fees to be placed on the taxes to be submitted to the county auditor on Friday.

President McConnell called for discussion and a motion to adopt the changes to the cooperative agreement as recommended by the executive director. After a brief discussion, it was moved by James Woodrum and seconded by James Wright to accept the changes recommended by ED Berner. All voted aye.

Special Projects Administrator for Avon Lake Municipal Utilities, Becky Haines gave an update on the Phase-I construction. She informed the board they had been processing user agreements and have 430 users to be submitted to the auditor for assessment. She informed the board they are averaging 10 connections per day.

She informed the board ALMU will be sending out the first sewer bill for Phase I customers on September 20, 2011. She further informed the board of clean up efforts and that 11 of the 13 pump stations are now operational. The date for starting the Tri-plex station is next Friday.

Jason Richardson raised questions and concerns he is hearing that they are not responding appropriately to clean-up and restoration issues. He asked if 10% could be held from the contractors to address the clean-up issues.

Becky Haines responded there is an 8% retainage in place.

Cindy Kurpely asked what could be done to "light a fire" to get the contractors to complete the work.

John Kniepper explained the contractual obligations of the contractors.

Jason Richardson asked about the two locations not completed on the transmission line.

John Kniepper explained the situation with the boring at St Rt 10 and the Pusta property.

Other Business:

President McConnell called for any other business to come before the Board and no board members responded.

Jason Richardson asked for the exact amount spent to date on the project.

John Kniepper explained they did not have the exact figure tonight.

President McConnell requested this information be made available to the board.

President McConnell then asked the audience if they had any questions or remarks. Public comments were heard from:

Carl Denk had 3 items. He indicated ALMU should contact the company in West Salem about boring. He also questioned banking the tap fee to ALMU. His final concern was damage to the grinder pumps.

Audience Member #1 questioned the easement and over run costs and asked if they were to be passed on to the users. He then questioned when the certification date would occur. He then asked the definition of certification date. President McConnell read the four items from the Cooperative Agreement which constitutes certification. His final question was on the size of the loads being trucked daily by ALMU.

Audience Member #2 commented that developers should be paying more for their tap in fees.

Del Roig questions the projected costs and asked why the completion date keeps moving back.

Chuck Whitmer was asked by President McConnell to speak to the audience. He commented on the difficulty of installing new sewers in all communities. He added how ALMU took responsibility for funding the project. He also commented on his concerns with the engineering problems on the project. He concluded by pointing out problems with communication.

Donna Hicks asked when the grinder pumps would be checked on Dye Rd. and thanked Jason Richardson for asking questions.

Debra Rose spoke on behalf of her neighbor and submitted information to the board concerning the condition of her neighbor's property.

An Executive Committee Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

Adjourn:

With no other business to come before the board a motion was made by John Piwinski and Seconded by Mary Beth Derikito to adjourn at 9:05. All voted yea. Motion carried.

The board will meet again in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 13, 2011 at the LORCO offices located at 22898 West Road, Wellington, Ohio 44090.

President

Secretary-Treasurer