

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
LORAIN COUNTY RURAL WASTEWATER DISTRICT
February 14, 2013**

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	Gerald Cowie
Cindy Kurpely	James Wright	Rita Canfield
Rick Hutman	Louise Grose	John Piwinski
Jim Woodrum	Mary Beth Derikito	Thomas Lahetta
Howard Born		

Absent: Bob Walrod, Bob Meilander, Tom Steigerwald

Also in Attendance:

Becky Haines, Special Projects Administrator ALMU
Robert Berner, Executive Director

Approval of Minutes:

President McConnell announced that the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 10, 2013 had been mailed to all the trustees and called for any additions or corrections. It was moved by Mary Beth Derikito, with a second by Tom Lahetta to approve the minutes as written. All voted yea. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Executive Director Berner presented proposals for incentives to those homes within the Phase I Project that are over 200' and not committed to connecting to the sanitary sewer. The proposal consisted of three different options for consideration. Neil Lynch asked about the difference between what existing customers paid and how it compares to the incentives. Mr. Berner replied the existing customers in all cases paid less. Tom Lahetta asked how many might connect. Neil Lynch followed up with the rationale behind the incentive. Mr. Berner replied the idea was to increase the number of connections and reduce the cost burden on the existing customers. Howard Born added, "Any incentive to bring people in would be a benefit." President McConnell asked for audience input. Carl Denk asked about a cost comparison. Del Roig asked what the cost to connect to the system now is. Linda Morrison asked the same question. After discussion a motion was made by Howard Born to adopt Option #3 with an expiration date of June 30, 2013. The motion was seconded by John Piwinski. Additional discussion ensued with the question of a cost analysis being raised. It was determined the cost analysis would only show there is still a benefit. The vote was taken with 12 voting in favor of the proposal and 1 voting no (Gerald Cowie).

New Business:

President McConnell informed the board of a tour taking place prior to the meeting by members of the Avon Lake Municipal Utilities, Avon Lake Council, Avon Lake mayor and John Kniepper. That concluded his report.

President McConnell called on Neil Lynch to present Resolution 2013-03 for changes to the LORCO policy manual. Mr. Lynch presented changes to the Bylaws, Personnel Policy and Operating Policy. He explained they mostly consisted of legal issues presented by Mr. O'Toole's office. Also included in the changes was a change to section 311 of the Operating Manual which deals with billing. The LORCO bill date will change to the 30th of the month with the due date being changed to the 20th of the month. It was moved by Cindy Korpely and seconded by Howard Born to approve Resolution 2013-03. The vote was 13 yea and 0 nay.

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-04 for payment of payroll and bills was moved by Tom Lahetta, with a second by Howard Born, The motion was unanimously approved.

Executive Director Berner reported on the feasibility study for Pheasant Run and indicated he met with their board on February 4th to review the draft. He indicated they were supportive of the current efforts but were in the process of completing their I & I study to get more accurate flow numbers.

He then presented a number of Resolutions.

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-05 establishing Uniform Depository Act account for LORCO funds, was moved by Neil Lynch, with a second by Cindy Korpely, The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-06 authorizing the Executive Director to file an application for a grant to the State of Ohio for Local Government Innovation Funds was moved by Jim Wright, with a second by Louise Grose, The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-07 authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a cooperative agreement to participate in the State of Ohio for Local Government Innovation Fund with; City of Lorain, Village of South Amherst, Village of Kipton, Amherst Township and New Russia Township was moved by Howard Born, with a second by Mary Beth Derikito, The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-08 for the purpose of applying for an DMA/FPA change for two lots on Castleton Way was moved by Cindy Korpely, with a second by Tom Lahetta, The motion was unanimously approved.

The Executive Director further added he was updating the LORCO Policy Manual and it would be available in electronic format. He informed the board of his attendance at a water quality meeting at NOACA. He further informed the board he would be attending a CORD meeting on Friday, February 15th in Bowling Green. He updated the board on the status of the punch list properties presented last month by the sub-committee. He then presented the January Phase I numbers:

The December report from ALMU:

883 homes are connected

1,050 customers were billed in December for \$58,180.63.

Meter reading at pump station from Jan 5 – Feb 5 shows 4,988,780 gallons sent to plant for treatment.

Gallons of RLCWA 3,134,233

The treatment cost for January was \$10,303.03 per the contracted rate. Wholesale rate \$2,740.87 Booked Amount \$7,562.16.

The January O & M expenses were: \$12,562.17

\$3,849.98 wages and benefits

\$894.08 office, billing expenses and utilities

\$2,578.65 Utilities

\$137.35 Operation and Maintenance

\$3,204.00 Unemployment Taxes

\$1,739.00 RLCWA Meter Readings

\$53.11 Mileage and Mobile

LORCO received \$15,000 per Cooperative Agreement

Balance in Custodial Account: \$1,197,203.96

Booked Billable Hours for January: \$2,310.27

Executive Director Berner concluded by informing the board he was working on new projections for the financial forecasts for the Phase I project and will present the information at the March Finance Committee Meeting scheduled for 6:00 pm prior to the next Board Meeting.

Special Projects Administrator for Avon Lake Municipal Utilities, Becky Haines reported on the bus tour taking place prior to the meeting. She informed the board there was a low volume of calls following the January rate increase. She also informed the board the contracts with Mr. Excavator and Amber Trucking were closed out. She reported a large public records request made in January and concluded by informing the board of an ODOT project on SR 83.

Other Business:

President McConnell called for any other business to come before the Board and asked the audience if they had any questions or remarks. No board members had any comments. Public comments were heard from:

Carl Denk – Asked what the current installation cost and suggested contracting with Rural Water to do installations.

Linda Morrison – Expressed her thoughts on the billing change. Asked why Eaton Township was not informed of the FPA Change. Concluded by asking about the homes not connected and if legal action was being taken.

Neil Lynch responded to Linda Morrison by asking if Eaton Township would pass a resolution encouraging the Health Department to take action. She replied no, it was not their job to do so.

A question was raised from the audience concerning the status of sewers in South Amherst Village.

Del Roig – commended on the Frequently Asked Question on the LORCO web site and encouraged the board to consider the option of a \$15.00 per year assessment on all home in the district. He commented LORCO should not ask 5% of the district to pay for the benefit of the entire district.

Carl Denk commented on the storm water assessment.

Adjourn:

With no further business to come before the Board, President McConnell declared the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

The board will meet again in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 14, 2013 at the LORCO offices located at 22898 West Road, Wellington, Ohio 44090.

President

Secretary-Treasurer