

Board of Municipal Utilities  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 5, 2022**  
201 Miller Road  
Avon Lake, Ohio

***Call to Order – Roll Call***

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held in-person using web-based video conferencing technology and streamed live over Facebook.

Present: Mr. Abram, Mr. Dzwonczyk, Mr. Rickey, Mr. Rush, and Mrs. Schnabel.

Also present: CUE Munro, CUO Yuronich, Councilman Spaetzel, and Councilman Zuber.

***Approve Minutes***

Chairman Dzwonczyk presented the Minutes of the March 15, 2022 work session meeting. With no changes, additions or corrections noted, he ordered that the minutes stand and be distributed as presented.

Chairman Dzwonczyk presented the Minutes of the March 15, 2022 regular meeting. With no changes, additions or corrections noted, he ordered that the minutes stand and be distributed as presented.

***Public Speakers***

None.

***Correspondence***

None.

***Expenditures***

Following review of expenses dated April 5, 2022, for funds and amounts as follows, Mr. Rickey moved, Mr. Abram seconded, to approve the expenditures of March 11 through March 31, 2022:

|                                  |    |            |
|----------------------------------|----|------------|
| Water Fund 701                   | \$ | 373,752.01 |
| Wastewater Fund 721              | \$ | 256,847.63 |
| MOR ETL1 Fund 703                | \$ | 61,363.16  |
| MOR ETL2 Fund 762                | \$ | 33,710.16  |
| LORCO Fund 749                   | \$ | 9,667.84   |
| Water Construction Fund 704      | \$ | 38,774.39  |
| West Ridge Interconnect Fund 702 | \$ | 1,328.97   |

Ayes (per voice vote): Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rickey, Rush, and Schnabel.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

## ***Budget Appropriation***

Mr. Munro stated that in last August, during heavy storms, our large portable generator experienced a lightning strike that rendered it inoperable. Due to the costly repair, Mr. Munro said ALRW filed an insurance claim. Mr. Munro stated that the funds received from the insurance provider in the amount of \$20,326.93 were deposited on January 18, 2022. He further stated that the Board needs to appropriate to the Water Fund budget so that the repairs can be made to the generator and we are recommending the appropriation.

Mr. Rush asked from the time the generator was damaged until now, what did we do for backup generators. Mr. Munro stated that as part of our emergency response plan, ALRW has agreements with vendors like ABC Equipment. He said staff contacted the vendor to make sure there was a generator similar in size available in case of an emergency that we could rent. Mr. Munro further stated that the organization does have smaller generators that could be chained together.

Mr. Rickey asked if the amount was adequate to make the repairs. Mr. Munro stated that the quote for repairs was received back at the time of damage so we have to make sure the quote is still good and the insurance amount was minus the deductible of \$2,000.

Mr. Dzwonczyk asked due to current issues, if the actual price comes in more than the insurance amount, is the organization entitled to a claim. Mr. Munro said no, because the insurance company considered the generator totaled. He further stated that staff believes the generator is worth repairing and we took the salvage price. Mr. Dzwonczyk further asked if the electronics were knocked out during the lighting strike, but the motor was still intact. Mr. Munro said yes, the motor was still intact and there was no engine or motor damage. The damage was to the electronics stated Mr. Munro.

Mr. Rush said obviously the equipment was depreciated down from \$72,000 to \$20,000. Mr. Dzwonczyk said the actual power production of the machine is the high value item of the equipment. Mr. Dzwonczyk asked if the organization had someone to repair it. Mr. Munro stated that not all the repairs will be done in-house by Mr. Kimevski.

Mrs. Schnabel moved, and Mr. Abram seconded, I move to appropriate \$20,326.93 from Account Number 701.000.000-47305 Refunds & Reimbursements to Water Fund 701.000.000-53612 Repair & Maintenance Services.

Ayes (per voice vote): Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rickey, Rush, and Schnabel.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

## ***Camera Inspection Truck***

Mr. Munro stated that staff has been discussing this piece of equipment for some time and that staff has finalized the quote for the new sewer camera inspection truck. Mr. Munro said this new camera truck will replace the camera inspection trailer that is approximately 15 years old and has reached the end of its useful life. He said that staff will keep the old trailer and repurpose in our fleet. Mr. Munro said staff is recommending the purchase of a new CUES camera truck which will allow staff to perform mainline sanitary and storm sewer inspections, lateral inspections via a lateral launch camera, and integrate data collected into the current ArcGIS model that staff utilizes for asset management. He said the truck is a Ford F-150 cab and chassis, and four-wheel drive with a main-line camera crawler. He further stated that the

truck will have a lateral launch crawler allowing to side launch into laterals for inspection. From the software standpoint, this new platform will provide field staff with real-time data through a cloud portal and also provide a robust reporting tool for data analysis said Mr. Munro.

Mr. Munro stated that there are two separate motions this evening because staff is looking into leasing the truck and has been in contact with the Finance Director. He further stated that he asked MTech to separate the computer software and hardware from the cost of the truck for two reasons. Mr. Munro said the first reason was due to the possibility of leasing the truck: it is not responsible to finance software that would have a shorter useful life than the financing terms. He further stated that because staff is integrating this software as part of our asset management program and GIS system, the organization is seeking grant money of \$50,000 from Ohio EPA to offset some or all of the cost of the software. He said the software can be used to detect lead service lines. Mr. Munro further stated that he received notification today that Ohio EPA received the grant application and will be receiving it, with a response back within 7-10 days. Finally, Mr. Munro stated that both the truck and software costs are included in the 2022 operating budgets.

Mr. Rush asked if in the state bidding process, are these things broad enough that say that for our specifications for the equipment are somewhat variable in the state bidding process. Mr. Munro said when he uses the wording "finalizes the quotes," he means the options that ALRW wants are selected for the quote, as the state-bid contract for the CUES system was about 400 pages with every single item available for state contract pricing. He said that staff created an Excel spreadsheet with the items wanted.

Mr. Rickey asked if the truck is upgrading to diesel or staying with regular gas. Mr. Munro said no, the truck is regular gas.

Mr. Abram asked what CUES stands for. Mr. Munro said that is the name of the manufacturer.

Mr. Abram moved, and Mr. Rickey seconded, I move to authorize the CUE to execute a purchase agreement with MTech Company for the purchase of a CUES Sewer Inspection System in the amount of \$373,371.00.

Ayes (per voice vote): Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rickey, Rush, and Schnabel.

Nays: None  
Motion carried.

Mr. Dzwonczyk moved, and Mr. Rush seconded, I move to authorize the CUE to execute a purchase agreement with CUES Inc. for the purchase of asset management software and hardware for the CUES Inspection System in the amount of \$63,795.00.

Ayes (per voice vote): Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rickey, Rush, and Schnabel.

Nays: None  
Motion carried.

## ***Project Updates***

*WFP & ETL Design Services:* Mr. Yuronich said staff has provided comments to HDR on the 75% design drawings for the ETL's. He further stated that the CUE worked closely with the Law Director for an easement on the emergency interconnection from Pin Oak Pkwy west to the ETL suction line. Finally, Mr. Yuronich stated that the CUE and HDR are working with Attorney Schrader at Seeley, Savidge, Ebert & Gourash on the necessary easements for the ETL work and the draft easement language is complete and the last deeds of record search is underway for all properties that will need an easement.

Mr. Rickey asked if this interconnection would be new. Mr. Munro stated that it would be an interconnection to the ETL suction line and in an emergency, it would be a redundant feed to the ETL suction line. Mr. Rickey further asked what type of valve would be at this interconnection. Mr. Munro stated that the 20" valve would be classified as a critical valve because it's an emergency connection and the valve would be exercised annually under our Ohio EPA asset management plan. Mr. Rickey asked if our engineering firm recommended this interconnection. Mr. Munro said that this was a staff recommendation and the tap on the watermain would occur tomorrow (April 6, 2022). He said our contractor, UUI, will do the pipe work across Moore Road. Mr. Munro stated that this project will come out of our Water Construction Fund and then be charged back to the ETL funds because this is an ETL project.

*WFP Improvements:* Mr. Yuronich said HDR is finalizing the detailed specifications and have been in contact with staff to clarify any questions.

Mr. Dzwonczyk asked if there was any forecast on the finalized specifications. Mr. Munro said that after the board packets went out, staff received the 100% construction drawings and staff has started reviewing them. He further stated that staff will have comments to HDR in the next couple of weeks. Staff did ask HDR for a proposal for bidding and construction phase as an amendment to their agreement.

Mr. Dzwonczyk asked what type of pipe for the project. Mr. Munro said we are moving forward with PVC pipe, as intended, and staff intended to do an owner procurement bid for the materials because of the cost and require a bond.

*WFP Filter Repairs:* Mr. Yuronich said S&S Filter is on site removing any damaged tiles, cleaning the existing underdrains and will be installing the new underdrains so that the media can be installed once it is delivered. He stated the replacement filter media has been ordered and should be arriving by the end of April. Finally, Mr. Yuronich stated that staff is finishing up the repairs on the surface sweeps.

Mrs. Schnabel asked if once the replacement media filter arrives the end of April, if that is a quick process. Mr. Yuronich said it's a relatively quick process and should be less than a week per filter.

*Spieth Road Water Tank Mixers:* Mr. Yuronich said Practical Inspections began internal cleaning and mixer installation of the north tank during the week of March 28th. If weather permits, Practical Inspections will also perform the external coating repairs at that time, said Mr. Yuronich.

*2022 Waterline Bundle Project:* Mr. Yuronich said Underground Utilities, Inc. (UUI) completed work at Lake Road and Coveland Dr. and Rice Park Dr. The next Lake Road detour will be the week of April 18th. Staff will provide detour information on our Facebook page. Staff continues

to send correspondence to the Mayor and City Council regarding the project's progress. To date, UUI has completed the following project sections:

- Lake Rd. at Entrance/Exit to Beach Park Station Plaza
  - Water valve replacement
- Valve redundancy at intersection of Lear Road and Gramercy Ln. and Ventanas Cir.
- Waterline crossovers and/or water valve replacements at Lake Road and the following intersections:
  - Parkland Dr.
  - Rosewood Dr.
  - Edgewood Dr.
  - Armour Road
  - Avon Point Ave.
  - North Point Dr.
  - Highland Ave.
  - Coveland Dr.
  - Rice Park Dr.
- Storm sewer pipe at Lake Road and the following intersections:
  - Parkland Dr.
  - Rosewood Dr.
  - Rice Park Dr.

Mr. Rickey asked about the condition of the valves and pipes being replaced across Lake Road. Mr. Munro stated that the valve and pipes were ready to be replaced. Mr. Munro further stated that as part of the project, we are replacing any lead service lines found under compliance with Ohio EPA rules. Total to date from the project, we have found 5 services according to Mr. Munro.

Mr. Dzwonczyk asked if the storm sewer pipe was concrete. Mr. Munro confirmed the pipe is concrete. Mr. Dzwonczyk asked how we determined the size of the storm pipe. Mr. Munro stated that Mr. Gaydar worked with Mr. Reitz on the sizing based on what Mr. Reitz has coming in from the south side of Lake Road and that these pipes will match with the design work of storm sewers north of Lake Road.

### ***CUE Report***

Mr. Munro informed the Board that he received the final approval from OWDA regarding the 2022 Project Bundle loan application. He further stated that we received a 1.85% interest rate for 20 years on the full loan amount. Mr. Munro said he does not anticipate using the full loan amount because the City does have some ARPA money for storm water and waterline work.

Next, Mr. Munro said that Mr. Yuronich and himself attended the Sunshine Law training at the Avon Lake Public Library. Mr. Munro said he signed as the representative of the Board for the Board's requirement of training. Mr. Dzwonczyk asked if this information will be provided to the Board at a future meeting. Mr. Munro said yes.

Mr. Munro updated the Board on his upcoming engagements including the annual meeting of the Association of Ohio Drinking Water Agencies and training sessions of the Ohio Rural Water Association with Rural Lorain County Water Authority (RLCWA).

Mr. Munro stated that there was a situation yesterday (April 3, 2022) in our distribution system. He stated when staff was doing the commercial and industrial meter reads, they discovered a backflow condition at Avient/Lubrizol on their 12" fire line. Mr. Munro said the water main was

immediately shut down and staff took samples around the area. He continued that staff has been investigating the situation and staff can confidently say that there was no water contamination, which is the good part of it. Mr. Munro said the bad part is the fact that it happened. Staff is collecting facts of the situation, but there be some significant penalties and fines issued based on the full extent of our regulations said Mr. Munro. He continued by saying this is a very serious situation that could have been a catastrophe.

Mr. Munro said staff will be having a meeting with individuals from Avient and he has been in contact with the Avon Lake Fire Department that they are aware of the situation. Mr. Munro said the temporary remedy, because there is a safety situation with it being a fire system, the Avon Lake Fire Department has installed a lockbox on the valve of that system and it can only be unlocked by the Avon Lake Fire Department.

Mr. Munro said the ultimate remedy is they are going to be installing a reduced pressure backflow prevention device. This is expected to happen in the week of April 11, 2022. He further stated that they also have other connections into the complex and ALRW will require them to put in reduced pressure backflow prevention devices on all of the connections.

Mr. Munro said staff is also looking at how this could potentially shape are backflow program and are looking at all industrial and commercial facilities to have reduced pressure backflow prevention devices. He continued by saying how this situation happened is they made alterations to their fire system inside their facility (which we have no control or authority over), and that falls under the Department of Commerce and plumbing code. Mr. Munro said changes were made to the system, we were not aware of it, and there was no backflow prevention on the system. He said fortunately, what was being backflowed into the system was coming out of one of our connections and it was potable water.

Mr. Abram asked how staff found out about the issue. Mr. Munro stated that it was during a meter reading and the reading was less than the last reading. It was not a continuous backflow. This fire system is their secondary fire system.

Mr. Rush stated he anticipates updates to the regulations regarding all industrial and commercial facilities. Mr. Munro responded that staff is already working on draft language that will be presented to the Board. He further stated that sometimes requiring the reduced pressure backflow prevention device is not a popular decision, but the bottom line is we are here for the health, safety, and welfare of the public and we are to protect the public water system. Mr. Rush asked if the devices are inspected annually. Mr. Munro responded yes, and they would be required to submit the annual testing and inspection report.

Mr. Rickey asked if there will be a survey of the entire facility for potential issues. Mr. Munro responded yes, he agrees and we can require a reduced pressure backflow prevention device for containment. Mr. Rickey asked if a facility makes changes inside, do building permits need to be pulled. Mr. Munro responded he does not know.

Mr. Dzwonczyk asked if the fire department was aware of the change in the facility and asked for coordination with them. Mr. Rush asked about bulk customers. Mr. Munro stated that all the bulk customers have backflow prevention programs just like Avon Lake Regional Water and operations staff is in continuous contact with them. Mr. Dzwonczyk asked if this will fall under our quality management program. Mr. Munro stated yes.

### ***Miscellaneous & Member Reports***

Mr. Abram reminded Members about the wastewater treatment and USEPA compliance deadline of October 2024 for the lead and copper rule articles he provided.

Mr. Rickey commented that being a certified backflow inspector, the backflow situation is a very serious issue and Avon Lake Regional Water needs to address it as such and that the Building Department needs to be aware of the situation.

### ***Public Speakers***

None

### ***Executive Session***

Mr. Rush moved, and Mr. Abram seconded, to meet in executive session as allowed by ORC §121.22 G (2) and ORC §121.22 G (3) to discuss the purchase and/or sale of property and pending legal matters and to include the CUE and the CUO.

Ayes (per roll-call vote): Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rickey, Rush, and Schnabel.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Board reconvened at 8:30 PM.

### ***Adjourn***

As there was no further business, Mr. Abram moved to adjourn, and Mr. Rush seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Ayes (per voice vote): Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rickey, Rush, and Schnabel.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ 2022.

John Dzwonczyk, Chairman

Robert Munro, Clerk