

Board of Municipal Utilities  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 15, 2024**  
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 to Facebook and YouTube.

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

Also present: CUE Munro, CUO Yuronich, Attorney Connie Carr of Seeley, Savidge, Ebert & Gourash and resident Nick Mondello

***Approve Minutes***

Mr. Dzwonczyk presented the Minutes of the October 1, 2024 regular meeting. With no additional 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 for funds and amounts as follows, Mr. Abram moved, Mr. Rickey seconded, to approve the expenditures of September 27, 2024 through October 10, 2024:

Water Fund 701	\$	304,436.13
Wastewater Fund 721	\$	146,427.90
ETL1 Fund 703	\$	225,518.78
ETL2 Fund 762	\$	622,828.28
LORCO Fund 749	\$	8,655.16
Water Construction Fund 704	\$	111,351.09

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

***Board Member Resignation***

Mr. Munro informed the Board that he was in possession of a letter from Mr. Abram stating his intention to resign from the Avon Lake Board of Municipal Utilities effective December 31, 2024. Mr. Munro stated that he has a recommended motion. Mr. Abram informed the Board that he was going to abstain from voting on the recommended motion.

Mr. Rush moved, Mr. Rickey seconded, to accept the resignation of Anthony Abram from the Avon Lake Board of Municipal Utilities effective December 31, 2024.

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

Nays: None

Abstain: Abram

Motion carried.

### ***Project Updates***

*Power Plant Update:* Mr. Yuronich informed the Board that the cleanup continues and no date has been set for the next implosion. Mr. Rickey inquired if the next implosion will be the last one. Mr. Yuronich responded that they hope all the demolition will be completed with one more implosion.

*ETL Design Services:* No update.

*WFP Improvements:* Mr. Yuronich referenced several pictures documenting the progress of construction. Mr. Yuronich explained that they have made significant progress in forming the rebar that will allow concrete to be poured for the new chemical feed building. Mr. Yuronich explained that the next picture showed how the thirty-inch settled water line was being isolated so that it could have the section feeding the old WFP filters removed. Mr. Yuronich further explained that the remaining portion was in the process of being inspected to ensure it was suitable to be used to feed the new filters that will be constructed. Mr. Yuronich also displayed a picture of the newly constructed pavilion that will be available to be utilized by employees outside of the main office at 201 Miller Rd.

*SCADA Communication Upgrade:* No update.

### ***CUE Report***

Mr. Munro informed the Board that he had attended two meetings for organizations that he is a part of, Association of Ohio Drinking Water Agencies (AODWA) and the Water Utility Council that is part of the Ohio American Water Works Association (OAWWA). Mr. Munro stated that these two groups continue to advocate for utilities when it comes to issues facing our industry. Mr. Munro added that the OEPA continues to reach out to these groups for early stakeholder outreach when it comes to proposed legislation seeking their input. Mr. Munro stated that this coincided with newly released details pertaining to lead service line inventories. Mr. Munro stated that Mr. Yuronich, Mr. Gibboney, Mr. Gaydar, Mr. Larson and the distribution and collection employees are all working on identifying all service line materials in order to work towards the goal of ensuring that no lead exists in our distribution system. Mr. Munro stated that the USEPA is requiring all lead services to be removed within ten years. Mr. Munro explained that ALRW has been identifying and removing any lead within the system if it were to be discovered during construction projects and that this is a standard line-item in all improvement contracts. Mr. Dzwonczyk inquired how any lead that is discovered is disposed of. Mr. Munro stated that there are multiple types of materials that could potentially require removal. Mr. Munro explained that there are lead service lines, joints and pipe-fittings that may contain lead and galvanized piping after a lead service. Mr. Yuronich added that there isn't any special disposal required for lead piping or materials and that it is typically disposed of in a landfill with other waste. Mr. Yuronich explained that the EPA also requires any galvanized piping that supplied a property with water that it would be required to be removed as well. Mr. Yuronich stated that the EPA is requiring positive identification of all service lines for both the utility owned portion and the homeowner side of the waterline as well. Mr. Yuronich further explained that if a lead service line is disturbed, all residents in that area will have a filter distributed to them to follow EPA regulations. Mr. Yuronich added that in the past ALRW did not keep

detailed records fully documenting service line materials as the organization does today. Mr. Dzwonczyk asked Attorney Carr if the organization will be liable if we state that a line is not-lead and in the future that was found to not be the case. Attorney Carr stated that ALRW would only be liable to the extent that it had knowledge of any mistakes. Mr. Yuronich added that any time there is a construction project involving the organization, ALRW has an inspector on-site that is familiar with all of the lead service line requirements and that they fully document the work and materials involved. Mr. Rickey inquired about the upcoming water bundle and how ALRW is going to address these issues during things such as the indoor meter locations. Mr. Munro stated that many of these areas may be located in areas of Avon Lake that already have known service line materials. Mr. Munro also stated that testing of the solder within a home is not something that is required. Mr. Munro added that the meter replacements may help identify some service line materials and that any lead found will be addressed properly. Mr. Rickey also inquired about the status of the bundle project. Mr. Munro stated that it is possible that the project could go out for bid before 2025 but that it is unlikely any of the construction will happen before spring of 2025. Mr. Munro stated that the intent is have construction starting around the same time the asphalt plants resume production so that streets that are able to be repaved promptly upon being disturbed. Mr. Rickey also inquired if many lead services were discovered during the sewer separation project. Mr. Yuronich responded that to date only forty-seven lead service lines have been discovered and removed throughout Avon Lake. Mr. Rickey stated that it didn't appear to be a large problem in Avon Lake as it was in other communities. Mr. Munro stated that the lead service lines are much more of a significant issue in cities such as Cleveland.

Mr. Dzwonczyk stated that while driving on Brunswick Drive in Avon Lake he had noticed the roadway had been excavated across the road in multiple locations approximately every twenty feet or so and was wondering what had taken place. Mr. Rickey responded that he had stopped and asked the workers and they had informed him they were lowering gas service lines that had been installed too shallowly. Mr. Rickey added that the City was going to be repaving certain streets and they were addressing this issue before the new roadway was placed.

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

No reports.

### ***Public Speakers***

Mr Nick Mondello inquired about the timeframe to identify and remove all lead service lines. Mr. Yuronich responded that all lines must be identified within three years and all lead must be removed within ten years.

### ***Executive Session***

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

Ayes (per roll-call vote): Abram, Dzwonczyk, Rickey, Rush and Schnabel  
Nays: None  
Motion carried.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:03 PM

The Board reconvened the public meeting at 8:00 PM

### ***Purchase of Property***

Based on discussion in the Executive Session, there is a recommended motion regarding the purchase of property.

Mr. Dzwonczyk moved, Mr. Abram seconded, to authorize the CUE to execute a real estate purchase agreement with Michael B. Reichlin and MBR76, LLC, for the not-to-exceed amount of \$650,000 plus closing costs, as described in the agreement as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

### ***Adjourn***

As there was no further business, Mr. Abram moved, Mrs. Schnabel seconded, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Approved November 5, 2024.

John Dzwonczyk, Chairman

Robert Munro, Clerk