

Board of Municipal Utilities
Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2023
201 Miller Road
Avon Lake, Ohio

Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 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 and Attorney Diane Calta of Mansour Gavin.

Approve Minutes

Mr. Dzwonczyk presented the Minutes of the October 17, 2023 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, Mrs. Schnabel seconded, to approve the expenditures of October 13 through November 2, 2023:

Water Fund 701	\$	513,316.85
Wastewater Fund 721	\$	370,839.33
ETL1 Fund 703	\$	15,747.34
ETL2 Fund 762	\$	12,357.87
LORCO Fund 749	\$	4,910.47
Water Construction Fund 704	\$	50,946.85
Wastewater Construction Fund 724	\$	40,946.85

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Project Updates

Power Plant Update: Mr. Yuronich informed the Board that work continues on the northern and eastern sides of the main power plant. Mr. Yuronich also stated that the work to connect the retention pond to the 108-inch storm sewer has been slowed by the wet weather along with the work restoring the railroad crossing on Walker Rd.

ETL Design Services: Mr. Yuronich stated that the CUE continues to work with Railpros on the license agreement to install the water main underneath their railroad tracks. The redline agreement is still under review with Norfolk Southern and Railpros.

Mr. Yuronich also stated that the United States Army Corps of Engineers approved the wetlands permit and ALRW will be making the final payment to the Streams and Wetlands Foundation for the wetland mitigation credits.

Mr. Rickey asked how much the wetland mitigation credits were. Mr. Munro informed him that the total was \$138,000 and to date ALRW has paid \$41,400.

Mr. Rush inquired about what amendments need to be made on the ETL contractual agreements. Mr. Munro stated that due to the agreements being drafted when the project was under construction there is a lot of language that reflects that. Mr. Munro added that these proposed changes to the agreements have been discussed with the bulk customers at the consortium meetings and that he is awaiting comments from legal counsel before proceeding in discussions with the bulk customers.

WFP Improvements: Mr. Yuronich stated that the bid is currently live on the Bid Express platform. Mr. Yuronich referenced a handout that showed 22 plan holders. Mr. Yuronich informed the Board that there is a mandatory pre-bid meeting to be held on-site at the water filtration plant on November 17, 2023 with the actual bid opening to be held on December 15, 2023.

Mrs. Schnabel inquired if the pre-bid meeting had to be on-site or if it could be attended via Zoom. Mr. Munro stated that it does have to be attended in-person and on-site because it includes a walk-through of the construction site and staff want to ensure that potential bidders attend to ask any questions ahead of placing bids. Mr. Munro discussed the plan-holder list that was provided to the Board. He stated that the intention was to show the Board what information staff is privy to while the bid is ongoing. Mr. Munro added that several of the plan holders are "plan rooms" that download the bid and distribute to companies that utilize their service. He stated that while there are multiple plan holders from the same company, staff still feels that there is a lot of interest in this project.

Additional Storage Building: Mr. Yuronich stated that during the work session the Board was able to tour the new storage building. Mr. Dzwonczyk inquired about the power situation in the new building and Mr. Yuronich stated that the requirement for temporary power for the building's internal lighting is due to the lead time on the remaining electrical panel that will power the peripherals of the building such as lighting.

Mr. Yuronich stated that the final concrete pad on the southern end of the building has been formed and poured. Mr. Yuronich added that the commercial wash bay equipment still does not have a firm ship date but the temporary date of December 20, 2023 is still in place. Once this is actually scheduled for delivery ALRW staff and North Bay Construction will finalize the project timeline. Mr. Yuronich stated that staff is expecting to have the equipment installed and operational early in the coming year.

Mr. Rickey asked if we were experiencing any delay claims from the contractor. Mr. Munro stated that because the contractor is the one procuring the equipment ALRW is not penalized for the lead times.

Mr. Dzwonczyk added that there is technically a cost to ALRW because of the money tied up in this construction project and the inability to make use of the equipment while we wait. Mr. Dzwonczyk also inquired about the gaps between the walls of the wash bay and the pre-

engineered building. Mr. Yuronich responded that those will be addressed and Mr. Munro added that staff was waiting until the concrete was completed and the wash bay equipment was installed before those gaps will be sealed. Mr. Dzwonczyk stated that while this building did not have a high-likelihood of spreading fire he felt that this was a building requirement.

Traveling Screen Replacement: Mr. Yuronich informed the Board that the new screen will be shipping on November 13, 2023 and that staff has a crane scheduled to lift the old screen out of the raw water building and installing the new screen on November 14 and 15, 2023. Staff expects the new screen to be fully operational by November 17, 2023.

Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometer (ICP): Mr. Yuronich stated that Thermo Scientific had their staff on-site to install the ICP unit and that it has been used to confirm the installation. Mr. Yuronich went on to say that Thermo Scientific will have their chemists at the WFP to develop the site-specific methods that will be used for analysis. Mr. Yuronich also informed the Board that once the methods have been developed ALRW staff will conduct side-by-side testing with Alloway to ensure that their results are garnering the expected results and then will proceed with certification through the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

CUE Report

Mr. Munro stated that he has received confirmation that ALRW was awarded a \$40,000 grant through the Ohio Bureau of Workers Comp to be used towards the purchase of the portable traffic signals.

Mr. Munro also informed the Board that Isaac Decker will be hired as a Plant Operator Step-3 at the water filtration plant and is expected to start on November 27, 2023. Mr. Munro stated that once he is hired there will be one remaining open operator position and that is the Senior Operator position.

Mrs. Schnabel asked where Isaac Decker was from and Mr. Yuronich responded that he works for the City of Fremont, OH.

Miscellaneous & Member Reports

Mr. Dzwonczyk stated that Mr. Munro, Mr. Yuronich and himself met with the County Administrator in regard to sewers serving Lorain County and that it was a very positive meeting.

Public Speakers

None.

Executive Session

Mr. Rush moved, Mr. Abram seconded to meet in executive session as allowed by ORC §121.22 (G1) and (G)(3) to discuss compensation of a public employee and pending legal matters and to include the CUE, the CUO, and a representative from Mansour Gavin.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:19 PM.

The Board reconvened the public meeting at 8:24 PM.

Business & Financial Coordinator

Mr. Abram moved, Mr. Rickey seconded to approve the job description for the Business & Financial Coordinator as presented and set a salary range of \$40.04 - \$58.90 per hour.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Leave Donation Policy

Mrs. Schnabel moved, Mr. Rush seconded, to authorize the CUE to establish and implement a Leave Donation Policy, as presented, effective November 7, 2023.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Adjourn

As there was no further business, Mr. Abram moved, and Mr. Dzwonczyk seconded, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Approved November 21, 2023.

John Dzwonczyk, Chairman

Robert Munro, Clerk