

## LAKES AREA SEWER AUTHORITY

Minutes—November 26, 2007

The Lakes Area Sewer Authority held its regular meeting on November 26, 2007, at 7:00 pm, at the Porter Township Hall.

Commissioners Present: Bitely, Boshoven, Grib, Oxley, Laski, Melko, Elsey .

Commissioners Absent: None

Public Comment: None

Motion & Support to approve the Agenda as presented, all Ayes—motion passed.

Motion & Support to approve and place on file the minutes of the Authority Meeting of October 22, 2007, as e-mailed, all Ayes—motion passed.

Alan Smaka of Wightman & Assoc. presented and distributed maps of the entire sewer project along with each proposed tentative assessment district.

Discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of the Authority financing and managing the project itself under PA 233 or having the financing management done through the county under PA185. It was determined that assistance from the county would be of greater benefit and ensure the project would progress.

Motion by Boshoven, Support by Bitely to seek assistance from the county under PA 185. Roll call vote: Boshoven—Y; Elsey—Y; Grib—Y; Laski—Y; Melko—Y; Oxley—Y; Bitely—Y; motion passed. The determination of which county to take the lead in the project (Cass v. Van Buren) will be made at some future date.

Smaka reported on the status of the funding application. He was informed by Frank Tuma of the Rural Development Authority that the state office had completed its review of the project. Further, that there is a real possibility that the project will receive approximately \$1M of the funds as a grant. It was also anticipated that Christie Cook, Rural Assistant, will expedite the required Environmental Report sometime in mid-January.

Treatment options for the project were again reviewed. Bitely and Grib reported on the information obtained from their meetings with each village. Smaka led the Authority through a comparison matrix which covered the pros and cons of each alternative, those being Lawton, Marcellus, or an independent plant. After lengthy discussion, Melko poled each commissioner on preference.

Motion by Boshoven, Support by Elsey for the Authority to pursue its own plant as the treatment option for the project. Roll Call vote: Elsey—Y; Grib—Y; Laski—Y; Melko—Y; Oxley—N; Bitely—N; Boshoven—Y; motion passed.

Discussion followed regarding the possibilities of utilizing “green” alternative technologies such as solar and wind power in the design of the treatment plant. Members will research this further to include exploring possible grant opportunities.

Next steps: Each township must formally request the assistance of the county under PA 185 for the project. Jim White will draft the proper resolutions for each township to consider and approve at their next respective meetings. It was decided that a December meeting of the Authority will not be necessary. The next regular meeting was set for January 21, 2008.

Public Comment: One citizen commended the Authority for its decision to pursue an independent plant and explore the Green alternatives.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.  
Next meeting—January 21, 2008 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John A. Grib  
Authority Secretary