

LAKES AREA SEWER AUTHORITY
Minutes – February 22, 2010

The Lakes Area Sewer Authority held its regular meeting on February 22, 2010 at 7:00 pm, at the Porter Township Hall.

Commissioners present: Oxley, Bainbridge, Melko and Johnson
Commissioners absent: Grib, Bitely and Laski

Public Comment: None

Oxley requested that Customer Billing be added to the agenda. Motion by Melko, support by Bainbridge to add Customer Billing and approve agenda with addition; all Ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Oxley, support by Johnson to approve and place on file the minutes of the Regular Authority Meeting of January 25, 2010 as e-mailed; all Ayes; motion carried.

Treasurer's report was presented with a balance of \$385,886.45. Motion by Bainbridge, support by Johnson to approve report as presented; all Ayes; motion carried.

Smaka presented construction report: All lift stations are installed with the exception of one on Fish and one on south Finch. Treatment Plant is progressing steadily; sighting trusses now. Sludge storage tank is finished.

Melko mentioned the meeting with Davis Construction on 2-11-10. We then looked at color charts for the floor of the vestibule. After discussion, the decision was made to construct the floor with stamped cement in herringbone design and the color will be Designer Terra Cotta. The next meeting with Davis will be 3-3-10, 1:00 pm at the site. All are welcome.

Smaka discussed the "wish list" for the project. Melko felt items mentioned should be prioritized as follows: 1) septage receiving 2) lead covers 3) electronic monitoring 4) energy. O&M, RFP bids will be accepted 3-2-10, 10:00am at Marcellus Township Hall. There will be three bids selected for LASA to approve at their March meeting. Cass County Road Commission will waive permit fees, however, applications are still required. Van Buren County Road Commission is requiring one-time contractor basis fees.

Schuitmaker addressed the board relative to the "Waste Water Treatment Disposal Agreement". Specific items were reviewed and discussed.

Motion by Oxley, support by Bainbridge to submit said "agreement" to the Village of Marcellus for approval. Rollcall vote: Oxley, Bainbridge, Melko and Johnson all "Ayes". Motion carried.

Bills were presented in the adjusted amount of \$637,128.62. The original amount submitted was \$643,832.45, however, five items as shown on the report were not approved. After discussion, motion by Johnson, support by Bainbridge to approve said bills as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Smaka stated that certain of the unapproved bills may be paid from the contingency fund at a future date, however, reimbursement to Volinia Township for expenses incurred while amending their sewer ordinance would probably not be allowed. Johnson stated that the expenses would not have existed, had it not been for Finch Lake's participation in the sewer project. Smaka responded that the USDA-RD felt that was local government action and should not be reimbursed. Discussion followed.

Schuitmaker requested that the board consider allowing Melko authority to sign amended contracts for services provided by Schiutmaker and White.

Motion by Bainbridge, support by Johnson to give LASA Chairperson, Melko, authority to sign amended contracts on behalf of LASA, for legal services provided for by the Schuitmaker and White firms. Rollcall vote: Oxley, Bainbridge, Melko and Johnson all "Ayes". Motion carried.

Boshoven reported that he has sent correspondence to several of the legislators and may be speaking to Matt Lori tomorrow. He received a letter from D. Stabenow referring to Medicare payments to doctors.

Oxley presented the board with a "chart of accounts" recently established with the help of Siegfried & Crandall. The first week in April BS&A will have training for "setting up" the program. He also requested \$200.00 for supplies needed.

Motion by Melko, support by Bainbridge to approve \$200.00 for supplies needed by the treasurer. All "Ayes", motion carried.

Schuitmaker reminded the board that all assessment monies must be sent from the township treasurers to Treasurer Oxley immediately after settlement with the county. Oxley expressed that he would rather receive the money after April 1, if the counties will allow.

Motion by Oxley to adjourn. Melko adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwenn Johnson
for John Grib, LASA Secretary