

LAKES AREA SEWER AUTHORITY
Minutes—September 28, 2009

The Lakes Area Sewer Authority held its regular meeting on September 28, 2009, at 7:00 pm, at the Porter Township Hall.

Commissioners Present: Grib, Oxley, Melko, Laski, Bitely, Bainbridge, Johnson.
Commissioners Absent: None

Public Comment: None

Motion by Bitely, Support by Bainbridge to approve the agenda as presented, all Ayes—motion passed.

Motion by Bitely, Support by Laski to approve and place on file the minutes of the Regular Authority Meeting of August 24, 2009 as e-mailed, all Ayes—motion passed.

Tom Deneau of Wightman & Associates reported on the status of the project. Construction has begun in most areas of the project. The north side of Finch Lake, parts of Gravel Lake, and the treatment plant site are the first areas of construction. All construction is on schedule at this time. Samples of block for the siding of the treatment facility were presented and colors selected.

Schuitmaker reported on legal aspects. He has been soliciting bids for insurance, but all have not yet been received. It was recommended that the Authority appoint an assistant Treasurer.

Motion by Melko, Support by Johnson to appoint Shawnie Bainbridge as assistant Treasurer for LASA, all Ayes—motion passed.

At this point, the project is on budget and there is an adequate contingency. There is a good probability that the septage capability will be added to the treatment facility.

Laski reported additional information regarding future customer billing options. A Customer Billing Process Matrix outlining the pros and cons of various billing options was presented and discussed. More information and discussion will follow until an option is selected by LASA.

Deneau reported that the bill approval process needs to be modified due to the timing of the Cass County BPW meeting. LASA either needs to change its meeting date or authorize its Chair, Jerry Melko, to review and approve bills for submission to the CCBPW and have LASA approve them after the fact at its next regular meeting.

Motion by Bitely, Support by Johnson to authorize the LASA Chair to approve bills for submittal to the Cass County Board of Public Works. Roll Call vote: Johnson-Y, Laski-Y, Melko-Y, Oxley-Y, Bainbridge-Y, Bitely-Y, Grib-Y. Motion passed.

Deneau presented a list of bills for approval.

Motion by Bitely, Support by Grib to approve the bills as presented. Roll Call vote: Grib-Y, Bitely-Y, Bainbridge-Y, Oxley-Y, Melko-Y, Laski-Y, Johnson-Y. Motion passed.

Boshoven presented a letter that he drafted to more forcefully address legislators regarding obtaining funds for the project. LASA approved the content of the letter and Boshoven will send it out. He also presented a graph showing drought trends. He recommended that LASA consider ensuring ownership of the water that is processed through the treatment plant as this will be of great value in future years.

Melko reported that he will be meeting with all Township inspectors, engineering, and excavators; the purpose of which is to ensure that all are in agreement regarding ordinances, requirements, permit fees, inspections, etc. This will take place sometime in October prior to the next LASA meeting.

The December LASA meeting date will be changed to Dec. 21 due to the Christmas holiday season.

Public Comment: None

There being no other business before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Next meeting—October 26, 2009 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John A. Grib
Authority Secretary