MLWSA
MULTI LAKE WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY
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Approved Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 6, 2021, Remotely by Zoom

Members present: Pat Carney (Putnam Twp.); Andy Reiser (Dexter Twp.); Karen Nolte (Dexter Twp.); Linda Singer (Dexter Twp.); Tom Lewis (Dexter Twp.); Linda Reilly (Lyndon Twp.); Joe Mahler (Unadilla Twp.) and Tim Eder (Lyndon Twp.)

Others present: Kathleen Root, MLWSA Director; Kathy Piatt, Business Assistant and Kimberly Haines, MLWSA Accountant.

1. **Call to Order:**
   Chairman Carney called the meeting to order at 10:30 A.M.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:**

3. **Adoption of the May 6, 2021 Agenda:**
   Chairman Carney asked that the agenda be amended to include Items 9B. DNR Increase Letter and 9C. Accountant Resignation.

   Motion Nolte, **Second** Lewis that the May 6, 2021, Agenda be approved as amended to include Items 9B. DNR Increase Letter and 9C. Accountant Resignation. **Motion Carried** unanimously by voice vote.

4. **Approval of the March 4, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes:**
Board Member Lewis suggested the following amendments:

#6. First Call to the Public, Value to "Valve" Pit Easement

#9D. Rate Increase - add adding "an increase to" $200.00

Board Member Reiser suggested the "increase to" $200.00

Motion Reilly, **Second** Singer that the Regular Meeting Minutes be approved as amended. **Motion Carried** unanimously by voice vote.

5. **Approval of Payments:** (Payroll Report)
Motion Lewis, **Second** Reilly that the Transaction Detail dated March 2021 in the amount of $79,991.50 be approved. **Motion Carried** unanimously by voice vote.

Motion Eder, **Second** Lewis that the Transaction Detail dated April 2021 in the amount of $48,686.72 be approved. **Motion Carried** unanimously by voice vote.

6. **First Call to the Public:**
There were no comments.

7. **Director's Report**: (Crew Leader Report)
Director Root reported briefly on the following:

- New program instituted for all commercial establishments to inspect for FOG (Fats, Oils, Grease). Staff inspected pumps and reviewed best practices for disposing of grease;
- Director is working closely with all municipalities to approve plans for any alterations to site prior to building permits being approved;
- Cooper Meadows wet well is significantly decaying and staff is looking into products to help.

Motion Lewis, **Second** Mahler that the Director and Crew Leader Report be approved. **Motion Carried** unanimously by voice vote.

8. **Unfinished Business:**

A. Financial Review Update (Seeking Reimbursement from Dexter Township)

Chairman Carney said that he had recently met with Dexter Township Supervisor Diane Ratkovich and Dexter Township Trustee Karen Nolte regarding the Authority money the Township was holding onto but had no real update.

Board Member Nolte said that Dexter Township was in the process of hiring a new attorney.

Board Member Reiser said he understood that Dexter Township proposed returning $100,000.00 a year and if we

could prove to be solvent and not waste money they would consider returning more.

Chairman Carney said he found it insulting that Dexter Township Representatives want to dictate how we spend our money because they feel we are irresponsible when most of the board representatives that sit on the Authority Board are from Dexter Township.

Board Member Reiser moved to proceed with legal action against Dexter Township for the return of Authority monies.

Board Member Eder supported the motion saying that the Authority did not need conditions with our own money.

Chairman Carney agreed and suggested that Foster Swift prepare a demand letter for return of the Authority money.

Board Member Reiser suggested that return funds and any additional costs associated with to obtain money be included.

Motion Reiser, **Second** Reilly that Foster Swift be authorized to begin legal proceedings against Dexter Township, along with any additional cost associated with those proceedings, for return of Authority funds.

Chairman Carney asked for a roll call vote: Carney-yes, Reiser-yes, Singer-yes, Lewis-yes, Reilly-yes, Eder-yes, Mahler-yes, Nolte-no. **Motion Carried** unanimously by roll call vote.

B. Rate Increase Letter to Customers

Board Member Mahler asked that the letter be condensed to fit on a postcard.

Chairman Carney said he felt that the reason for the increase needed to be explained.

Board Member Nolte asked that the option of paying with credit cards needed to be included.

Motion Lewis, **Second** Mahler to mail out the third draft option from the packet to all customers advising of the rate increase. **Motion Carried** unanimously by voice vote.

9. **New Business:**

A. Additional Supporting Documents:

i. MLWSA Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual
ii. MLWSA Balance Sheet
iii. MLWSA Credit Card Committee Questions/Concerns
iv. Bank Account Summaries

Motion Lewis, **Second** Reiser that Supporting Documents 9Ai through 9Aiv be approved. **Motion Carried** unanimously by voice vote.

10. **Correspondence:**

Chairman Carney said that although he agreed with the increase for the billing units for the DNR, he would be surprised if we would see the money since their fiscal year was closed out.

Director Root said that the state properties, as well as the commercial properties have multiple pumps but are paying the same billing classifications as the single-family homeowners. She said that it costs the Authority quite a bit of money each year to maintain those type of customers and said the Board should consider revisiting how fees are charged.

Board Member Mahler agreed that the Capital Replacement Funds needed to be increased for the State Parks.

Board Member Eder requested that Director Root draft a proposal specific to the State Parks for the next meeting.

The Board agreed that although the hiring and firing of contractors is under the Director's discretion, they wanted to accept Rick Clement's resignation letter as MLWSA Accountant, thank him for his hard work and wish him well.

Motion Eder, **Second** Mahler to accept Rick Clement's resignation dated March 26, 2001, as MLWSA Accountant. **Motion Carried** unanimously by voice vote.

Board Member Reiser questioned the status of responding to the resident at Tamara Drive from the last meeting. Chairman Carney said nothing had been done and said he intended to reach out to that resident personally.

11. **Concerns of the Board Members/Staff:**

The Board discussed the American Rescue Plan and recommended that the Director compile a list of improvements to discuss at the next board meeting that may be allowed under the Plan.

Director Root said she wanted to apply for grant for either sewer cameras or a generator as part of the MPAR Grant but a resolution from the Board was required. She asked that it be approved via email following the meeting. All members of the Board agreed.

12. **Second Call to the Public**:
There was none.

13. The next regular MLWSA Board of Directors Meeting will be held Thursday, June 3, 2021, 10:30 A.M.

14. **Adjournment**:
Motion Mahler **Second** Eder that the meeting be adjourned at 12:05 P.M. **Motion Carried** unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Kathleen Root
Director-Multi Lake Water and Sewer Authority

Approved at the June 3, 2021 MLWSA Board Meeting

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Linda Reilly
Secretary-Multi Lake Water and Sewer Authority