MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF CONNEAUT LAKE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – December 9, 2024 ***(revised 1/13/2025)***

Members – Carl McLean, Alan Baldarelli, Jim Tigri, Mario DeBlasio, Chris Gates (by phone 6:50 p.m.)
Others – Steve Halmi, Brian Cagle, Bob Morrow, Julie McVay
Guest Presenters – Lew Walker, John Rendulic

I. Carl McLean called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
II. Reading and Approval of Minutes of October 14, 2024 board meeting.

III. REPORTS

Lew Walker, CLJMA -

a. Generator – CLJMA is concerned about not having a generator on site because of the DEP. The MACL will provide additional options for a generator to CLJMA within the next 30 days.
b. Construction progress at plant is continuing. CLJMA has invested 1.8 million for this project via a PENNVEST loan. They are paying 1% interest only now until the project is completed.
c. Reconciliation forecasting – MACL is assessed at 25% of their flows. Lew anticipates $10,000/year for interest on their loan. The Bio Tower cost and Phase II plant membrane filter will also be added into the MACL reconciliation for 2025. He will follow up with us in the first quarter of 2025 about MACL quarterly payment amounts.

Carl McLean –

MOTION: To approve the 2025 board meeting dates (2nd Monday of each month): January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10 and December 8. (DeBlasio/McLean/Approved) (Motion carried).

Mario DeBlasio / Chris Gates –

Topics below will be tabled to the January 2025 meeting:

a. Discuss and Vote: Revision of the 2025 Budget based on CLJMA increased fees.
b. Discuss and Vote: Revised quarterly CLJMA payments.
c. Discuss and Vote: MACL rate increase for 2025.

Mario has requested for Brian to research the changing of our fiscal year end from July 31 to June 30 in order to correspond with CLJMA and conform with standard fiscal year protocols. Brian will report back to the board at the January 2025 meeting.

Steve Halmi, Engineer --

a. Steve is encouraging MACL to proceed with test wells as soon as possible (approximately $30,000 with Groundwater Resources) so that MACL can make informed decisions regarding future water supply wells. Steve also suggested the cost of developing a water supply well and connecting it to the system be considered with future planning and budgeting. The board asked Steve to meet with the DEP to discuss issues related to a new well and possibly meeting with them to discuss relaxing their requirements. Steve will coordinate a meeting with the DEP and report back to the board.

MOTION: To enter into Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. (DeBlasio/McLean/Approved) (Motion carried).
MOTION: To exit the Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. (McLean/DeBlasio/Approved) (Motion carried).

MOTION: Deiss & Halmi will put out for bids for the replacement of our water filter media and disposal of sand before the January 2025 board meeting. (McLean/DeBlasio/Approved).

Brian will revise the contract he prepared for Riley Paris based on Riley's edits/concerns before the next board meeting. **Brian left meeting at 9:10 p.m.**

Bob Morrow, Superintendent --

a. Discussed flows.
b. Aqua would like to connect to our system, and if so, it may be a possible conduit for a future well on the Ernest property.

Steve left meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Julie McVay, Secretary/Treasurer –

a. McGill, Powers & Bell will begin the 2023-2024 audit on December 12.
b. Julie is the new Open Records Officer at MACL. Any formal reasonable requests will be fulfilled. Questionable requests will be discussed/reviewed with the board.
c. Reviewed the IRS payroll tax issues for 2022, 2023 and 2024. An abatement was requested by phone last week for the penalties and interest paid for tax year 2022 but was denied. A written abatement and possible future appeal are permitted and will be completed before year's end by Julie.
d. Discuss and Vote: owner of 625 Water Street requesting reduction of late fees owed. *Tabled to the January 2025 board meeting.*

IV: OLD BUSINESS

a. Tabled from September (per Mario): change rules for moving meters from inside home to yard. *This topic will be tabled until the January 2025 board meeting.*

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Profit & Loss Statement – The loss this month was discussed and attributed to the quarterly payment to CLJMA, yearly payment to auditors and the IRS past-due payments for 2022.
MOTION to accept Profit & Loss Statement. (McLean/Baldarelli/Approved) (Jim abstained) (Motion carried).
b. Bills paid this month – ***MOTION to accept bills. (McLean/Gates/Approved) (Motion carried).***

Minutes of previous meeting approved – ***Motion to approve minutes of October 14th Board Meeting. (DeBlasio//Gates/Approved) (Motion carried).***

Profit and Loss Statement – ***Motion to accept P&L Statement as presented. (McLean/Baldarelli/Approved). (Motion carried).***

Aged Accounts – (Reviewed).

Bills presented for payment –
Motion to pay bills as submitted. (DeBlasio/Baldarelli/Approved) (Motion carried).

Adjournment – 9:50 p.m. ***Motion to adjourn meeting. (McLean/DeBlasio Approved) (Motion carried).***

Respectfully Submitted,

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Julie McVay, Secretary/Treasurer