MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF CONNEAUT LAKE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – September 8, 2025

ATTENDEES: ***Carl McLean, Mario DeBlasio, Jim Tigri, Bob Morrow, Brian Cagle, Eddie Trzeciak, Julie McVay. Absent: Alan Baldarelli.***

I. Carl McLean called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Reading and Approval of Minutes of the August 11th board meeting.
MOTION: To approve the August 11th board meeting minutes with one correction made under the Riley Paris paragraph. (DeBlasio/Tigri/Approved). (Motion carried).

III. REPORTS

Brian Cagle

a. Brain has not heard back from CLJMA's solicitor regarding modifying the contract between us. Mario suggested having Brian write a proposed revised contract (including the adjudication contract) to CLJMA for their review.

Brian left at 7:33 p.m.

Carl McLean

MOTION: To eliminate the discounted water/sewer rates for MACL board members, effective 11/1/25. (DeBlasio/No Second/Motion Not Approved).

MOTION: To reduce the interest/penalty rate charged to the MACL customers to 22% per annum, effective 11/1/25. (DeBlasio/Tigri/Approved). (Motion carried).

b. Discuss and Vote: Rate increase for multiple EDU accounts and accounts sharing meters. Julie will provide Carl and Mario with a chart of multiple EDU accounts and their new rate increase impact. ***This topic will be tabled until the October board meeting.***

c. Discuss and Vote: Resubmit three grants previously, submitted in April, to the LSA grant program open September 1 through November 30, 2025. ***This topic will be tabled until the October board meeting.***

MOTION: To authorize up to $1500, to be spent at Alan Baldarelli's discretion, for the resubmittal of three April grants to the LSA grants before November 30, 2025. (DeBlasio/Gates/Approved). (Motion carried).

Jim Tigri –

a. Jim had a preliminary meeting with Brad Roae and Julie (from Michele Brooks office). He will continue to research and pursue the necessity of the CLJMA phase II project (as required by the DEP) and its impact to MACL. Eddie suggested obtaining maps of our water shed system. Jim will explore obtaining Federal money to offset this project expense for MACL. Jim will be submitting a list of questions to CLJMA tomorrow.

KLH Engineers

a. PA DEP violations relating to the backflow meter and check valve – the repairs to remove the current backflow prevention valve and install a flowmeter on each well will exceed the $25,000 threshold. KLH will obtain contractor quotes. Mario believes we should move forward on the check valve immediately. DEP feels we have no way to monitor each well for contaminants. Mario stated we need six months to a year to further evaluate the meters on the wells. KLH will push back on the DEP about the well meters and try to obtain a time extension for us. The DEP previously said they would not approve a time extension without a specific purpose. Mario stated the purposes are: we have a major rate increase rolling out in December and we've experienced two years of losses so we need more time to recover financially so we can afford these repairs. KLH will ask the DEP for a time extension and report back to the board next month.

   KLH reviewed the minor violations on our DEP inspection report (well cap, color-coded labels for pipes, directional labels for pipes). Bob has been working on the well cap and will provide KLH with a list of violations he can resolve in the next two weeks.

b. CLJMA provided responses to our questions about the reconciliation report. KLH believes everything is in good order and the final report will be out this week.
c. CLJMA backflow meter – Diane (CLJMA engineer at Rosewood Tower), provided a quote on the laser flow meter which includes $10,000 for installation. KLH suggests these costs should go towards installation and that the costs for the flow meter be included in the plant project.
d. Carbon Activated completed the greensand media project, provided us with testing results and both tanks are in proper working order. KLH inspected both tanks and Eddie will provide us with his inspection report. Eddie has determined the tanks are both in fair condition because he cannot judge the thickness and adhesion of the coating on the inside of the tanks. He recommends doing a more frequent media replacement alternating one tank one year then the next tank the next year. This current project did not include replacing the gravel, but it should be replaced the next time the media is replaced (15-20 years).
e. KLH would like direction on a long-term capital improvement plan for MACL. They are willing to provide us with examples of plans they've provided in the past. Mario has asked for a recommendation from KLH before the end of the year on what our capital improvements plan should be. In 2026, MACL will determine which projects should be tackled, such as I&I reduction. A plan with KLH's top ten improvement suggestions will be provided at the October board meeting.
f. PSA Local Share Account (LSA) grants are available from September 1 thru November 30, 2025. LSA grant applications ($100 fee) can be for up to $1 million in funding with NO local match being required. MACL can apply for the same three here that were applied for earlier this year (with the 15% match) OR we can apply for new projects.
g. Response to lead service line email stating our inventory was not submitted to LCRR by 10/16/2024 – Eddie has confirmed from the DEP that they DO have our service line inventory so any additional requests/steps in that email should be followed.
h. Carl suggests customers taking pictures of their service lines. An insert will be included with monthly bills with instructions for customers to take a picture of their service line and email it back to MACL. ***This topic will be tabled until the October board meeting so it can be discussed with legal representation at the meeting***.
i. Mario suggested sending a follow-up letter to the customers explaining the concept of I&I and possibly include a waiver for self-reporting.

Bob Morrow, Superintendent

a. Sewer lateral line repair at filter building (leak under toilet) - one quote was received from Mansfield for $8500, second quote from DC Plumbing for $6800 and a third quote from Draft Plumbing in Meadville for $18,800.

MOTION: To accept the quote from DC Plumbing to repair the leaking line at the filter building (with the use of a trench box) and make a 50% payment to start the project. (DeBlasio/McLean/Approved). (Motion carried).

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b. Discussed flows. Bob stated this has been the driest month in years which indicates a lot of infiltration when comparing water and sewer flows.

c. Filter building media replacement project was completed successfully by Carbon Activated. No bacteria and drastically reduced iron in both tanks were noted in the test results.

Julie McVay, Secretary/Treasurer

a. Discuss and Vote: Payment to Riley Paris for additional hours spent, out of scope, on the water software project.

MOTION: To make a subsequent payment to Riley Paris for 32 additional hours incurred for changes to the water software outside the scope of development. A payment of 32 hours at $25/hour will be made immediately. A further reassess and review of the project and Riley's time will be made in January, 2026. (DeBlasio/Gates/Approved). (Motion carried).

IV: OLD BUSINESS – none.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review and vote on Profit & Loss Statement as presented.

MOTION: To accept the Profit & Loss Statement as submitted. (McLean/DeBlasio/Approved) (Motion carried).

b. Review and discuss Aged Accounts –

c. Review and vote on bills presented for payment.

MOTION: To approve monthly bills for payment using Alan's signature stamp this month. (Gates/DeBlasio/Approved) (Motion carried).

Adjournment –

MOTION: To adjourn meeting at 9:10 p.m. (DeBlasio/Gates/Approved) (Motion carried).

Respectfully Submitted,

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Julie McVay, Secretary/Treasurer