MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF CONNEAUT LAKE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – January 12, 2026

ATTENDEES*:*
Mario DeBlasio, Alan Baldarelli, Jim Tigri, Eddie Trzeciak, Brian Cagle, Bob Morrow, Julie McVay.
By Phone: Carl McLean, Chris Gates.
Guest Residents: Patti Stewart & Mr. Michael Baird

I. **Brian Cagle called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the reorganization.**
II. **Reorganization:**
   a. Nomination and Election of Board Chairperson: Alan Baldarelli nominated Mario DeBlasio and Jim Tigri re-nominated Carl Mclean.
   Roll Call for Carl McLean or Mario DeBlasio to be appointed as the MACL Chairman: Tigri votes Carl, Baldarelli votes Mario; Gates votes Mario; DeBlasio votes Mario; McLean votes Mario.

MOTION: To close the nominations and appoint Mario DeBlasio as Chairperson of the MACL Board. (Baldarelli/Gates/Approved) (Motion Carried).

   b. Nomination and Election of Board Vice-Chairperson.

MOTION: To close the nominations and appoint Carl McLean as Vice-Chairperson of the MACL Board. (DeBlasio/Baldarelli/Approved) (Motion Carried).

   c. Appointment of Attorney – Pepicelli, Youngs and Youngs PC.

MOTION: Pepicelli, Youngs and Youngs PC have been nominated and appointed as the attorney for the MACL. (Tigri/Baldarelli/Approved) (Motion Carried).

   d. Appointment of Accounting Firm – McGill, Power, Bell & Associates.

MOTION: McGill, Power, Bell & Associates have been nominated and appointed as the accounting firm for the MACL. (Tigri/Baldarelli/Approved) (Motion Carried).

   e. Appointment of Bank – Marquette Savings Bank.

MOTION: Marquette Savings Bank has been nominated and appointed as our bank of record for the MACL. (Tigri/Baldarelli/Approved) (Motion Carried).

III. Reading and Approval of Minutes of the December 8th board meeting.
MOTION: To approve the December 8th board meeting minutes as submitted. (McLean/Baldarelli/Approved) (Motion carried).

IV. REPORTS

Brian Cagle, Attorney –

a. Brian has not heard back from CLJMA's solicitor regarding our proposed updated agreement with them. Mario asked Brian to send an email requesting action. Jim will attend their meeting.

Guest Residents: Patti Stewart & Mr. Michael Baird. A meter was replaced under their home at 320 Maple Knoll via a crawl space. Their meter is inaccessible, and according to MACL rules, meters must have a few feet of access around them. The homeowners prefer the meter remains as it is; the board suggested installing a camera in crawl space to monitor meter for freezing concerns.

MOTION: ***MACL will send a letter to Ms. Stewart/Mr. Baird informing them their meter is in a compromising position and can be affected by possible freezing water. It is their responsibility to take steps to avoid this. They also need to install a shut-off before the meter, and if there is any work needed to the water service line, the meter should be moved to a more suitable area. (McLean/Gates/Approved) (Motion carried.) Roll Call: all said yes/approved.***

Guest Residents left at 6:55 p.m.

MOTION**: To enter into an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 6:55 p.m. (Baldarelli/Gates/Approved) (Motion carried).**

Executive Session ended at 7:25 p.m. and regular meeting resumed at 7:30 p.m.

Carl McLean -

a. KLH has submitted a proposed chart of customer penalties/fees for 2026.

MOTION: To approve and accept the fees/penalties chart from KLH with edits as discussed, effective February 1, 2026. KLH will edit and submit revised chart. (Alan Baldarelli/Jim Tigri/Approved) (Motion Carried).

b & c. Meter repair/replacement costs - Mario found several Rockwell meters in the boro which will be replaced with new Sensus meters (no battery, plastic mechanism). Mario suggests we give future consideration to replacing all meters in the boro with AMI meters which require no reading. This would be an approximate expenditure of $110,000. Alan and Jim both suggested this not be a priority at this time due to finances.

Mario DeBlasio -

a. Fisher Plumbing meter issue – Mario replaced their old Rockwell meter that was not functioning.
b. Trailer at 335 North 2nd Street (Mr. Kowallis/Ms. Sangl) – there is no meter at this home; they were always estimated at the minimum rate and paid consistently. Brian Cagle stated the law dictates that if underbilling occurred with our customers because of our error of not reading or not repairing broken equipment, there is nothing we can do; no back billing can occur.

Brian left meeting at 8:10 p.m.

KLH Engineers –

a. Reviewed consulting report
b. KLH recommends implementing a 3-year phased approach for new rates for large volume users of one inch meter size and above. A memorandum outlining the new rates and the decreasing block rate for water/sewer under and over 5000 gallons of use was submitted.

MOTION: ***To accept new rates for high volume users of one inch meter size and above, retroactive to November 1, 2025 (December invoice). (Tigri/Gates/Approved) (Motion carried).***

c. Flow Meters – the DEP requested the installation of flowmeters on our two wells. They have now granted us an extension of six months for completion. Eddie will potentially revise the scope of the work based on Carl's comments and obtain pricing from contractors over the next few months.

Bob Morrow –

a. Flows were reviewed.
b. *Discussion of wells #1&2 have been tabled till February so Bob can discuss further with KLH.*
c. The backflow preventer and pipe labels have been installed. The electrical panel does not meet code and should be relocated. Eddie suggests doing this as part of a bigger project since there is little space in the plant where it would meet code requirement.
d. Bob stated the filter building flow meter has intermittent flows, cutting out, obsolete meter. *Bob will get a price and present it at February meeting (possibly $20k)*. Eddie will ask DEP if we can eliminate it since we will be installing well meters in six months.
e. The lead & copper analysis/spreadsheet is due in November. Bob discussed a company that can probe a pipe and determine its composition, approved by the EPA. *Bob will research cost and report back next month*. *Bob will update the spreadsheet and provide a copy to KLH and bring solutions, timelines and costs to next month's board meeting.*
f. Backflow check valve installed successfully on January 6th by Perry Excavating.
g. Manifold piping at filter building: DC Plumbing – no estimate yet; Fisher Plumbing quoted $32,000 and Perry Excavating quoted $17,000 + flanges and ten new valves at $950 each plus fixing existing valves. There currently are two valves that are now non-serviceable; cannot be broken free. *Bob will bring total quote from Perry to next month's meeting along with DC Plumbing quote. This is a high priority project.*

Julie McVay –

a. Lead service line notification letter mailed to customers on 12/18/2025.
b. Audit is scheduled for week of January 19 with McGill, Powers & Bell.

V. OLD BUSINESS: None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

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

MOTION: To accept profit & loss statement. (Alan Baldarelli/Jim Tigri/Approved) (Motion Carried).

b. Review and discuss the Aged Accounts report.

c. Review and vote on bills presented for payment.

MOTION: To approve bills for payment (Chris Gates/Alan Baldarelli/Approved) (Motion Carried).

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn board meeting at 8:55 p.m. (Alan Baldarelli/Jim Tigri/Yea) (Motion Carried).

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie McVay
Secretary/Treasurer