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

ATTENDEES*: Mario DeBlasio, Carl McLean, Julie McVay, Brian Cagle, Eddie Trzeciak, Bob Morrow. By phone: Chris Gates, Jim Tigri*

I. Mario DeBlasio called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
II. Reading and Approval of Minutes of the September 14th board meeting minutes.
MOTION: To approve the September 14th board meeting minutes as presented. (McLean/Gates/Approved) (Motion carried).

III. REPORTS
Mario DeBlasio –

a. Perry Excavating is installing two well flow meters at the filter building on October 15. Bob will contact the fire dept and 911. Julie will send an emergency mass message to customers on Wednesday notifying them of a possible reduction in water pressure.
b. Gardin Alley construction project. Mario will make a report on the project not being completed according to the drawings we provided and draft a letter to the owners stating it was not installed to code. MACL will not mandate a correction if they agree and accept responsibility for any future negative developments.

MOTION: To draft a letter to the owners of Gardin Alley home new construction (Mark & Traci Hemmerlin) stating their water/sewer work was not done according to the drawings we provided. MACL will not mandate a repair now if they accept responsibility for any and all future action. (McLean/Gates/Approved).

c. Mandate for tap requirement with new construction - revise rules and regulations. This topic will be tabled until next month pending revisions to the rules.

MOTION: To lower the NSF charge to our customers from $50 to $35 effective immediately. (Gates/Tigri/Approved).

Chris Gates –

a. Chris recommends an 18% increase in the customer sewer rate only (no increase in the water rate), effective January of 2027. This will cover the reconciliation deficit of $65,000 AND the anticipated increased payment to CLJMA once their PennVest loan repayment begins in December/January.

MOTION: To increase the sewer meter and usage rates (not water) by 18% for all customers effective January 1, 2027 (February invoice). (Gates/DeBlasio). Roll Call: DeBlasio-yes; Gates-yes; Tigri-yes; McLean-yes. (Motion carried).

MOTION: To automatically increase the sewer & water meter and usage rates for high-volume users in 2027 and 2028 as outlined in the KLH rate evaluation study. The 2027 sewer meter and usage rates (not water) will also be increased by 18% to match the overall increase to the other customers. (Gates/Tigri/Approved).

KLH Engineering –

a. Reviewed CE report.
b. KLH recommends the rehab of the water tank with the start of a PennVest loan since they only meet four times/year for applications. Eddie will begin that process and report back in January.
c. LSA grant vote for sewer system rehabilitation.

MOTION: To approve resolution 2026-02 for PA state-wide grant for $1 million from Commonwealth Financing Authority for sewer system rehabilitation. (McLean/Gates/Approved).

Brian left meeting at 7:00 p.m.

d. Water treatment plant – sodium hypochlorite conversion investigation. KLH can do sketches for the chlorine room for tanks of liquid chlorine product. It's important to convert as the liquid form is safer (no gaseous chlorine on the beach) and easier to operate and maintain a 3-month supply. Eddie will bring a quote to the January board meeting.

Bob Morrow -

a. Flow report – actual water figures from our meter are now indicated on this report.
b. Mansfield quote of $13,400 for the Rte. 6 sewer cleaning/video inspection project (9th Street to middle school, budget is $15,450). Eddie commented this quote exceeds the bid threshold of $13,200. *This topic will be tabled until November so Bob can obtain two more quotes (Insight Pipe and Powell Sanitation)*.
c. Bob will call the DEP to request an exemption from the new schedule of quarterly arsenic and raw water testing (well and filtered water).
d. Mansfield Sanitation replaced the pump motor and starting relay in the lift station at the filter building. The parts were under warranty so we only had to pay for their labor.
e. A new 2" meter was installed at Evans Square on October 13; they will reimburse us.
f. Repair of valve at First Street was completed by Bob and Brian Leuthold.
g. Bob will gather the VCR tapes of the videos CLJMA did of our sewer system in 2003 & 2008. Mario will research the cost to convert tapes to a flash drive.

Julie McVay –

a. The mass messaging app in Munibridge is functioning and will replace our current app "Click Send". The message standard in Munibridge starts with "Municipal Authority of Conneaut Lake" then the actual message will follow with a hyperlink to our website for more details.
b. Our outside storage unit has been cancelled due to an extreme rental increase. MACL items are now stored in the boro garage = savings of $2000/year.
c. Kinetic internet at Townhall will be installed on 10/19. We will offer to share internet with other building tenants. New phone service with OOMA will begin on 10/26.
d. Our new auditors, Mattern CPA, will be in office on 10/15 & 10/16 to begin the audit process.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review and Vote: Profit & Loss Statement

MOTION: To accept the profit & loss statement as presented. (Gates/Tigri/Approved) (Motion carried).

b. Review aging list, shut offs completed (0), shut-offs upcoming (0).

MOTION: To approve the bills for payment as presented. (Gates/Tigri/Approved) (Motion carried).

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn board meeting at 7:56 p.m. (Gates//Tigri/Approved) (Motion carried).

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie McVay, Secretary/Treasurer