

Higgins Lake Utility Authority  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
May 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hartman at 2:00 p.m.

Roll call: Present: Cook, Wood, Hartman, English and Riley. Absent: None

Public Comments: None

Motion by Hartman, second by English, **CARRIED** to approve the agenda. Yeas: All Nays: None

Motion by Wood, second by Riley, **CARRIED** to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2017 special meeting, Yeas: All Nays: None. Motion by English, second by Wood, **CARRIED** to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2017 special meeting. Yeas: All Nays: None. Motion by Riley, second by English, **CARRIED** to approve the of the April 4, 2017 regular meeting. Yeas: All Nays: None

Motion by Hartman, second by Riley, **CARRIED** to approve a letter of support for Larry Fox to be sent to the Houghton Lake Resorter Editor and placed in the paper. Yeas: Riley, Wood, English, Hartman. Nays: Cook

**WADE-TRIM REPORT:** Due to the change in meeting dates Mike was unable to attend and ask that we refer to his monthly written report.

Motion by Hartman, second by Wood, **CARRIED** to approve the treasure's reports for April 2017 Yeas All Nays: None

Motion by Hartman, second by English, **CARRIED** to approve the accounts payable. Yeas: All Nays: None

**OLD BUSINESS:** Discussions regarding the website and a revised spending policy.

**MEMBER COMMENTS:** Chairperson Hartman wanted to notify the board that Beaver Creek is looking into the possibility of removing itself from the Authority.

Meeting adjourned 2:31p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Paul Tatro  
Business Manager

Ron Wood  
Secretary

Higgins Lake Utilities Authority  
PO Box 437  
Higgins Lake, MI 48627

May 9, 2017

To the editor, Houghton Lake Resorter

Because some individuals have provided inaccurate and misleading information regarding the Higgins Lake Utility Authority's (HLUA) consideration of the North State Park connecting to our system, the Authority would like to provide the following clarifications:

The State of Michigan/DNR has been an excellent partner in the study of the potential connection of the North State Park. At the outset, the HLUA requested that the State complete a study and provide that information to the HLUA. The intent was that the HLUA would use this information to evaluate the feasibility and determine the fees associated with the connection. The information provided by the State, and their engineering consultant, Larry Fox of C2AE, was factual and based on information obtained from the HLUA and the sewer use ordinance adopted by the HLUA and the participating Townships.

The State never made an "offer" to the HLUA. The State provided the information requested and that information was to be used to help the HLUA develop a basis for an agreement. Neither the State nor C2AE ever pushed any cost basis or agenda. During the meeting that they did attend they made it very clear that they were there to answer questions but would not be involved in any negotiations to determine cost.

There was much debate within the HLUA and the member Townships, Beaver Creek and Lyon, in the attempt to reach a reasonable connection cost basis to provide the State for their evaluation. However that internal debate in no way reflects badly on the State or C2AE.

There were also unfounded accusations of a conflict of interest by C2AE on this project. The HLUA has determined that this has no basis and adopted resolution to the contrary, stating that C2AE and Larry Fox acted with professionalism and integrity throughout this process.

This information is available as a part of the public record.

Sincerely,

Sharon Hartman, Chair  
Higgins Lake Utilities Authority