

**SOUTHWEST LICKING COMMUNITY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT  
P.O. BOX 215, ETNA, OH 43018**

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
May 11, 2022**

**1. OPENING**

The May 11, 2022, Special Board Meeting of the Southwest Licking Community Water and Sewer District was called to order by Mr. Kretzmann at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Kretzmann, Mr. Platte, and Mr. Stepp were present at roll call. Also present were CJ Gilcher, Andrew King, Josephine Carrelli and those members of the public who signed the sign in sheet. This was a joint meeting with Union Township Trustees located at 1380 Beaver Run Rd., Hebron, OH 43025.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Kretzmann made a motion, second by Mr. Platte, to approve the agenda as presented. Upon roll call vote, all voted aye. Motion carried. Agenda adopted.

**3. CONSIDERATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE WATER LINE EXTENSION PROJECT IN UNION TOWNSHIP**

Mr. Platte introduced himself as the vice president of the board and the representative from the City of Pataskala. He said since he has been appointed, he has been trying to put things in place to help support the development of the various communities the District serves. He stated the interest in extending services has been there for a while but the funding mechanism to do that was not in place. He said the District is aware that Union Township currently has the desire to pursue that and Township and the Water District has been in discussions on how to make that happen. He stated they have a preliminary plan on how to run the water lines to the area and briefly explained that process. He said that would open up the area for development, that would still be controlled by the Township. He said the water District would not take this project on without some kind of funding mechanisms beyond tap fees and monthly charges because the existing residents should not be expected to pay for the extension. He said the proposal to the Township is to enact some of the tools available to Townships to help fund it. There have been discussions on the creation of a JEDD, which would tax development and commercial users. This would not affect single family homes, only commercial and light industrial. He said there are other various tools to look into as well. He said the purpose of the meeting today is to share that information, answer any questions from the residents and see what interest there is in receiving the services.

Mr. Kretzmann introduced himself as the Board President and representative from Harrison Township and Mr. Stepp as the Etna Township representative. He said all three board members have made pledges to their

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constituents that they would not be burdened with the cost of any development expenses and feels like this would be beneficial to the District and to the Township.

Mr. Platte added there are certain grants and things that the District may be eligible for that the Township would not be eligible for so it can be a great partnership. He explained how a JEDD (Joint Economic Development District) works and how those businesses would be affected and said they would be happy to answer any questions the residents may have.

Much discussion followed as well as a question answer session between the residents and the trustees of the District and Township.

Not all of the questions could be answered at this time and additional information will be provided as it becomes available.

**4. TRUSTEES' COMMENTS**

Mr. Kretzmann stated the District was formed as an answer to a question that nobody had an answer for and explained the formation of the District as being a requirement by the EPA. He wanted to reiterate this would not be forced upon anyone and this is just an expansion of satisfying the needs of the community that the District can handle.

Mr. Platte stated at some point a business owner/property owner will need to sign an petition to include their property if they want to be a part of the JEDD. He said there are public hearings involved and there will be an opportunity for the public to provide feedback. He also mentioned since we are not a Municipality, we would not be annexing property or taking control of any zoning.

Mr. Stepp stated the District is taking a chance by putting the infrastructure in the ground with the hopes that the funding mechanisms put in place would repay the cost but the District would be taking on the debt instead of putting it in the property owners to pay per foot of line. He said it will all be in the ground and the property owner decides if they want to connect. He said even if the property owner does not want to connect, they would still benefit from the fire hydrants that would be available for use if there was a fire on the property at no real cost or risk to the owner. The ability to connect would be there for future property owners at the same rate the current customers of the District pay.

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Mr. Platte clarified, no business will be forced to join the JEDD, they would just not be able to receive the service if they don't. The District is not going to force anything, just provide the opportunity for those property owners that want to connect.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Platte made a motion, second by Mr. Stepp that the meeting would be adjourned. Upon Roll Call vote, all voted aye. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

**ATTEST:**



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**Trent Stepp, Secretary**