

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HARRISON TOWNSHIP
LICKING COUNTY, OHIO
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 6, 2025

The Harrison Township Trustees met in regular session on October 6, 2025 at the Township Hall. The Chairman, Mark Van Buren, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Fiscal Officer called the roll, and the following members and guests were present.

Trustee	Mark Van Buren
Trustee	Eric Smith
Trustee	Ray Foor
Fiscal Officer	Carolyn Elder
Zoning Inspector	Valerie Hans
Road Superintendent	Pete Sigman
Guest	Jim Roberts, LRWD
Guest	Steve Clegg, LRWD
Guest	Jean & Peter Cea, 4356 Gail Road
Guest	Tracy Kelly, 492 Cherokee Trail

From the floor – Jim Roberts, Executive Director for the Licking Regional Water District
Mr. Roberts attended the meeting along with Steve Clegg to give an update on the district. The district has moved from a three member board to a five member board. With representation from Harrison Township, Pataskala, Jersey Township, Etna Township and an At Large Member. The At Large Member, Paul Leist, is a resident of Harrison Township. The district owns property on State Route 40 east of Kirkersville. They will build an administration building on this property. They also own the adjoining property, formerly owned by L&H Drywall. At this time, there are no plans for this property. The 85 million dollar Wagram waste water plant will be finished in the spring of 2026. The expansion of the Gale Road plant will serve Harrison Township. The project is in design. The expansion of the York Road plant will be ready in the spring of 2026 and will have increased capacity from three million to five million gallons per day. It is a \$605 million dollar project. The booster station project on Outville Road will go out to bid. It will be an elevated storage tower in Lexington Woods. The district has partnered with Kirkersville to install water lines and taps throughout the village. The district did not increase rates from 2012 through 2022. Rates will increase each year going forward. The debt elimination fee will be reduced each year until it is gone. The district is getting close to paying off the original loans. Mr. Clegg stated that the debt elimination fee will go to zero by 2029.

Road Report – Pete Sigman, Road Superintendent

Pete reported on the following items.

- The Shelly Company has completed the Keller Road Resurfacing Project.
- Strawser has finished crack sealing and used 150,902 square yards of material. The cost was \$90,541.20.
- Harrison Township has received a State Fiscal Year 2026 Township Safety Sign Grant. The townships UEI and OAKS ID have been reported. Once processed, the township will receive an agreement to sign electronically. This grant provides safety signs directly to the township. This grant is federal dollars being awarded through the state, ODOT.

-Ray Foor moved to assign Pete Sigman, Road Superintendent, as agent for the township to sign the agreement and any other necessary documents for the State Fiscal Year 2026 Township Safety Sign Grant. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

- The F-600 truck has been delivered to Ace Truck Equipment Company, the build is underway and will take a month to complete.
- No news on the build date from Henderson for the International HV 507.
- Pete will attend the October 8th meeting concerning Scotland Ridge. The walk through will look over Phase 1. Pete believes, at a minimum, the roads need to be resurfaced and any cracks in the concrete will need to be repaired.
- The road crew has been working hard to finish berm throughout the township. To date they have finished berm on Keller Road and are spot berming Hollow Road with plans to spot berm throughout the township.
- The road crew still have some ditching to complete. OUPS utility marking has been running ten days behind schedule.
- Next on the road department schedule is to durapatch a few areas ahead of winter as well as crack seal some in our neighborhoods.

Zoning Report – Valerie Hans, Zoning Inspector

- The Zoning Inspector reported on the following items.
- The zoning permit and fee total for September was \$2,228.81.
- Edward J. Stiles parcels – Crispin's has hauled out thirty-eight loads of nuisance debris and vehicles so far at this site for a total of 132,020 pounds. The equipment is staged on site for the tear down/removal of the trailer since they passed the sewer cap inspection.
- 118 Dauber Court – Robert M. Pauley – The township's hired contractor has cleaned up the property. The nuisance abatement costs need to be certified to the property taxes.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2025 10 06 01 which states: RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY NUISANCE ABATEMENT COSTS TO THE LICKING COUNTY AUDITOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH R.C.

505.87, Robert M. Pauley, 118 Dauber Court, Pataskala, Ohio 43062. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

- 138 Ford Ave – Thomas – This property has been declared a nuisance property. First and second resolutions have been adopted as well as hire a contractor to complete nuisance abatement of the property. There has been some improvement by the property owner. The trustees would like to wait and give the property owner more time to clean up. The property will be reviewed before the next meeting.
- 51 Ohio Ave. – Michael Leitwein – The first resolution has been adopted for nuisance abatement of the property. The second resolution has not been adopted to hire a contractor to clean up. Trustee Van Buren stated that there has been much improvement making the property look better. The trustees would like to wait until next meeting to move forward, which will allow the property owner more time to clean up the property.
- 139 Ford Ave. – Travis Van Deest – The first resolution has been adopted and there has been no improvement by the property owner. Valerie requests the second resolution.

-Ray Foor moved to adopt Resolution 2025 10 07 02 which states: NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Harrison Township, Licking County, Ohio, That the Board of Trustees of Harrison Township, Licking County, Ohio, shall, and said body hereby does enter into an agreement with Triple Nickle Lawn Care LLC, 2190 N. St. Rt. 555, Malta, OH 43758, for the removal and disposal of the vegetation, garbage, refuse, and other nuisance debris located on the premises at issue herein and described hereinabove for and in consideration of the payment by Harrison Township, Licking County, Ohio, of a total price which shall not exceed three thousand, five hundred dollars and zero cents (\$3,500.00) which final sum shall be paid out of the Township general fund from moneys not otherwise appropriated. 139 Ford Ave., Pataskala, Ohio 43062, Travis Van Deest. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

- 201 Riva Ridge Road – Sarah M. & Mary J. Humphreys – Nuisance property that has been cleaned up by the property owner. Violation resolved.
- 8338 Gale Road – Rose A. Simpson - Nuisance property that has been cleaned up by the property owner. Violation resolved.
- 97 Madison Street – Carmen S. Anastacio Espinoza – Complaint received regarding high grass on the property. Request first resolution.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2025 10 07 03 which states: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AND ABATE NUISANCE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 505.87, 97 Madison Street, Carmen S. Anastacio Espinoza. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

- 138 Ford Ave. – Thomas – Complaint received regarding junk motor vehicles on the property. The first resolution was adopted. Since then, another junk motor vehicle has

appeared. Will take action at the next meeting.

- 7572 Blacks Road, William C. & Tracey McKnight – Complaint received regarding junk motor vehicle on the property. Will review before the next meeting.
- The BZA met on 9/16/25 to reconsider an application for variance to split a lot with less than the required 100 feet of road frontage in an R-15 district and was approved.
- The Zoning Commission approved an Architectural Review for Union Ridge Solar Farm's operations building.
- A lot reconfiguration application was received and approved for three lots at 165 Brandon Drive in Roland Estates.
- Scotland Ridge Phase I will met 10/8/2025 to view and discuss the roads and sidewalks in this subdivision before they are ready to be dedicated as public ROW.
- Valerie reported that BZA member, Jack Treinish, has resigned because he has moved out of the township.

-Eric Smith moved to accept Jack Treinish's resignation from the Board of Zoning Appeals. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

-Eric Smith moved to appoint Stephen Clegg to fill the vacant seat on the Board of Zoning Appeals. He will finish the term that expires on December 31, 2028. Mark Motz will be moved from second alternate on the BZA to first alternate. His term will expire on December 31, 2027. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

Trustee Smith reported that the JEDD meeting scheduled for this week will be cancelled.

Trustee Van Buren reported that Scenic View wants to have gates at the entrance but the township needs T turn arounds for road maintenance.

Trustee Van Buren stated that the township should vacate the unimproved portion of Apple Blossom. The trustees will request a resolution from the Licking County Prosecutor to vacate.

Chairman Mark Van Buren completed the third quarter 2025 credit card compliance report.

-Eric Smith moved to adopt RESOLUTION 2025 10 06 04 which states: ADOPTING A TOWNSHIP CYBERSECURITY POLICY. Ray Foor seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The resolution was adopted.

The fiscal officer reported that Balestra and Company has been awarded the contract by the Auditor of State to complete Harrison Township's 2024/2025 audit. The cost will be \$9,600.00.

-Ray Foor moved to renew the Benistar health insurance policy for 2026. There will be a rate increase of 5.54% for the Express Scripts Group Medicare Part D Program and 20% for the Retiree Medical Plan. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

The trustees reviewed the Driver Roster required by the General Driving Rules and Regulations Policy for Harrison Township.

The trustees reviewed the background check and pre-employment test for new employee Lee Morgan.

-Ray Foor moved to approve the following:

- 1. The minutes of the September 2, 2025 regular meeting.**
- 2. Payment advice 363-2025 through 408-2025.**
- 3. Warrants 19483 through 19509.**
- 4. The September Bank Reconciliation.**

Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

Ray Foor moved to adopt Resolution 2025 10 07 05 which states: The Board of Harrison Township Trustees, pursuant to R.C. §505.10, is authorized to dispose of Township property that is no longer needed for public use, is obsolete, or is unfit for the purpose for which it was acquired. Eric Smith seconded the motion. Roll call: Van Buren YES, Smith YES and Foor YES. The motion passed.

The fiscal officer read various pieces of correspondence and passed out Financial Reports for the trustees to review.

Being no further business, Chairman Mark Van Buren adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m. Minutes are unofficial until approved by the trustees.

Respectively Submitted,

Carolyn I. Elder
Harrison Township Fiscal Officer

The following resolutions are a part of the October 6, 2025 minutes.
Resolution 2025 10 07 01
Resolution 2025 10 07 02
Resolution 2025 10 07 03
Resolution 2025 10 07 04
Resolution 2025 10 07 05