

HARRIS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday, July 21, 2025

Location: 321 Rice Street, Elmore

Time: 7:30 pm

In Attendance

Board Members:

Trustees Bev Haar, Jerald Haar, DJ Greenhill II
Fiscal Officer, Laura Hazel

Employees/Visitors:

Corey Campbell, Assistant Fiscal Officer
Paul Perry, Zoning Inspector (left at 9:00 pm)
James Wilburn, Fire/EMS Chief
Mike McGinnis, EMS Asst. Chief (phone call 9:58 pm – 10:27 pm)
Alex Fertig (in at 10:50, left at 10:55 pm)

Chairman B. Haar opened the meeting at 7:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting, held Monday, July 7, 2025, and special meeting minutes held July 3 and July 13 were read by Chairman B. Haar. Trustee D. Greenhill made a motion to accept the July 7 regular minutes, and the July 3 and July 13 special meeting minutes. Trustee J. Haar seconded the motion that the minutes be approved. **Motion carried.**

Finance

Trustees reviewed invoices, signed vouchers, reviewed and initialed payroll, and reviewed and signed purchase orders as applicable.

A motion was made by Greenhill and seconded by J. Haar that the attached list of billings be approved as the lawful obligations of Harris Township and that the Fiscal Officer be permitted to issue warrants in favor of the same. **Motion carried.**

Department Reports

Budget/Administrative – Fiscal Officer report (Laura Hazel)

- FY 2026 Assessment Ottawa Regional Planning Commission 7/1/25-6/30/26 \$924 (2020 population of 1540 persons at rate of \$0.60/person) was reviewed and accepted; payment authorized on motion by B. Haar and seconded by Greenhill. Motion carried.
- FY 2026 General Health District support \$9,464.45, increase of \$278.47 from 2025, or 3%, was reviewed and authorized for payment in 2026 on motion by B. Haar and seconded by Greenhill. Motion carried.
- OTARMA appraisal report from HCA Asset Management was reviewed.
- Resignations of Paramedic V Horst dated 7/9 & Lieutenant/Paramedic B. Dewyre effective 7/30, reviewed and accepted on motion from Greenhill, seconded by B. Haar. Motion carried.
- Opioid Settlements reviewed with no action taken: 7/15 Alvogen, Amneal, Apotex, Hikman, Indivior, Mylan, Sun, Zydus & 7/3 Purdue
- EMS overtime pay for holiday worked discussed as calculation previously did not take into account part time or full-time employees working overtime. Labor law states any hours actually worked over 40 in a standard workweek must be paid overtime at 1.5 times the payrate. Greenhill moved to adopt a change to current policy, retroactive to Jan 1, 2025 for active employees, to pay an additional one-half of standard hourly pay rate for shift hours worked on a holiday for EMS part-time employees and paid per call employees, and an additional holiday rate of pay equal to standard hourly pay rate for full-time employees whose shift begins on a holiday. B. Haar seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Fiscal Officer asked Trustees to pay close attention to legislative updates regarding property taxes and the effect it will have on Township finances.
- Fiscal Officer will be meeting with Michelle Ish to review flow of policy handbook from 2024.

Zoning – Inspector’s report (Paul Perry)

- Permit #769 issued to LaFountain for new home construction, \$50

Cemetery – Sexton’s report (Andy Rodriguez)

- Cemetery Deeds issued:
 - Deed 732 – Heckerd
 - Deed 733 – Stoner

Roads – Superintendent’s report (Cary Johnson)

- JD6415 reweld completed by Andy Haar; cost quoted \$600. Additional work to be completed in 2026, off season.
- Complaint regarding trees/branches blocking view on Graytown Road. Trees on Hessville/Yeasting Rds need to be cut back again. Zoning will contact both property owners.

- Corn blocking roadway view on Yeasting/Linker Rds. Johnson contacted Farmer, who already cut the corn back.

EMS – Assistant Chief’s report (Mike McGinnis)

- Trustees discussed department improvements recommendations from M. McGinnis. Several items trustees are in agreement with; several others they were not. No action taken.
- Review of monthly EMS department report: equipment/maintenance, personnel, training, updates.
 - FirstNet AT&T will provide better coverage on a dedicated network for Public Safety agencies and government supported. This recommendation would replace Verizon for data and voice, with a cost savings as well. Trustees have no objections, and deferred to Fiscal Officer to work through this with McGinnis.

Fire – Chief’s Report (Jim Wilburn)

- DEF head for fire engine 442 is under warranty, and engine will be sent to W. W. Williams for repairs.
- Chief received application from candidate Derek Snider for firefighter. Will discuss with officers and recommend to Board.

Building & Grounds – Maintenance report (Wilburn)

- Wilburn requested to purchase a sprayer and spray for weeds and spiders at fire station with an estimated cost of \$40-\$50. He also requested to terminate service with Delving Pest Control. Greenhill so moved, and B. Haar seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Executive Session

Bev Haar moved to enter into executive session per ORC 3358:17-1-04.2 at 9:00 pm to discuss personnel issues, disciplinary and employment. DJ Greenhill seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all votes were “yea”. **Motion carried.**

Present were: Trustees B. Haar, J. Haar, Greenhill, L. Hazel, C. Campbell, J. Wilburn, M. McGinnis (via phone)

At 10:36 pm, B. Haar moved to come out of executive session and return to open session; Greenhill seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all votes were “yea.” **Motion carried.** No action was taken.

Open Issues

- Continued discussions on the status of Mudd Rd (Weis Rd) being officially non-maintained. Website updated with public notice. Residents along the road were contacted by phone and U.S. mail.
- Trustees requested a public notice be added to the website announcing the acquisition of new building for road dept.

New Business

- Trustees voted unanimously on a motion by Greenhill to terminate the probation of part-time paramedic, J. Babcock, per recommendations of command staff. B. Haar seconded the motion. Motion carried. M. McGinnis will notify employee. Hazel asked to draft a letter for employee.
- After much deliberation, and receipt of resignations from all three EMS command staff officers, Greenhill moved to transition to new administrative EMS staff that is on-site, preferably full-time, and not remote, instead of working to retain current command staff who resigned. B. Haar seconded the motion, stating her decision comes only after many pros and cons on both sides. Upon roll call, Jerry Haar voted against the motion, Greenhill and B. Haar for the motion. Motion carried.
- Based on Greenhill’s motion, there is currently only one full-time paramedic on staff, and the Board would like to promote from within, the Trustees asked Chief Wilburn to call Alex Fertig in to the meeting. Upon his arrival, he was asked by the Board if he would accept the position of EMS Assistant Chief and that of EMS Administrator. Fertig requested a couple of days to consider the request.

Announcements, Communications, Other

- Ottawa County permit #25-092 issued for driveway 339 S. Graytown Rd
- GLCAP working with Ottawa County for assistance with home repairs.
- Ohio Turnpike 70th anniversary celebration 10/1 in Berea
- Ottawa County Township Association quarterly meeting at Allen-Clay Joint Fire District Station 7/24 at 6:00 pm.

Next Meeting

Regular Meeting, Monday, August 4, 2025 | 7:30 pm, Harris Township Fire Station

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by B. Haar and seconded by J. Haar. Chairman B. Haar declared the meeting duly adjourned at 10:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Haar, Chairman

Laura Hazel, Fiscal Officer

Attached: Expenditure listing

Number	Date	Total	Purpose	Payee
559-2025	7/21/25	\$145.23	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Derrick J Berkel
560-2025	7/21/25	\$90.10	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Jeff Berkel
561-2025	7/21/25	\$130.20	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Brittany A. Dewyre
562-2025	7/21/25	\$76.70	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Daniel A Dewyre
563-2025	7/21/25	\$151.82	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Alexander M Fertig
564-2025	7/21/25	\$13.51	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Kimberly N Fertig
565-2025	7/21/25	\$13.50	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Cary L Johnson
566-2025	7/21/25	\$54.36	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Brody J Kaylor
567-2025	7/21/25	\$130.20	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Amanda R. McGinnis
568-2025	7/21/25	\$160.20	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Michael E. McGinnis
569-2025	7/21/25	\$121.63	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Michael J. Murray
570-2025	7/21/25	\$54.06	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Cameron P Overmyer
571-2025	7/21/25	\$27.02	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Jared J. Overmyer
572-2025	7/21/25	\$67.57	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Nathan A. Overmyer
573-2025	7/21/25	\$135.14	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Michael Probst
574-2025	7/21/25	\$82.66	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Brian Richards Jr.
575-2025	7/21/25	\$68.86	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Brandon E Rizzo
576-2025	7/21/25	\$27.17	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	Liam J Treat
577-2025	7/21/25	\$1,122.29	Monthly Volunteer - June, 2025	James M. Wilburn
579-2025	7/21/25	\$617.48	Payroll withholding and employer match	United States Treasury
580-2025	7/19/25	\$0.00	reallocate for truck battery	Business Card
589-2025	8/15/25	\$37.07	Rural King, Schiets	Business Card
601-2025	7/19/25	\$1,168.93	Hose testing	Business Card
604-2025	7/14/25	\$69.35	POSTAGE	Business Card
605-2025	7/14/25	\$31.36	fees	Business Card
32286	8/4/25	\$629.21	Exmark Lazer - clean carb & replace blown gaskets	Bill's Implement Sales
32287	8/4/25	\$1,276.26	EMS supplies & conversion hardware	BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC.
32288	8/4/25	\$152.25	Yellow PT assessment cards (1500)	Clark Associates, Inc.
32289	8/4/25	\$600.00	junk hauling 7/14/25	Elliott Scrapping LLC
32290	8/4/25	\$215.68	Email, M365 -April, Proofpoint -May	Link Computer Corporation
32291	8/4/25	\$1,622.01	Fuel, off-road diesel dyed 7/3	LUCKEY FARMERS, INC.
32292	8/4/25	\$1,700.00	Employee assistance program 2025/2026	Memorial Professional Services, Ltd
32293	8/4/25	\$151.20	Mileage reimbursement #448 to Braun/round trip	Michael McGinnis
32294	8/4/25	\$122.25	EMS: medical oxygen	O.E. MEYER CO.
32295	8/4/25	\$924.00	annual assessment July1, 2025 - June30, 2026	OTTAWA REGIONAL PLANNING COMM.
32296	8/4/25	\$2,355.00	Outerwear fleece (13)	Phoenix Safety Outfitters
32297	8/4/25	\$41.67	civil defense siren electricity	TOLEDO EDISON
32298	8/4/25	\$299.00	JD6415 tire repair	Tri County Tire
32299	8/4/25	\$336.00	Foundations: 29"x18.5"x4"	Turner Vault Company
32300	8/4/25	\$2,400.00	EMT tuition: B.Kaylor & L.Wolph	VANGUARD SENTINEL J.V.S.D.
32301	8/4/25	\$2,250.00	2025-Q3 Dispatching Services	Village of Oak Harbor
		\$19,670.94		