

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HARRISON TOWNSHIP  
LICKING COUNTY, OHIO  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING JULY 23, 2008  
DRAINAGE ISSUES IN ROLAND ESTATES AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

The Harrison Township Trustees met in special session on July 23, 2008 at the Township Complex Garage. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the Chairman, Ray Foor. The Chairman explained to the residents what was going to be presented and what the format for the evening would be. The Fiscal Officer called the roll, and the following members and guests were present:

Chairman	Ray Foor
Trustee	Larry Kretzmann
Trustee	Eric Smith
Fiscal Officer	Carolyn Elder
Zoning Inspector	Casey Casto
Guest	Jim Gaberle – 67 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Glen Hassebrock – 81 Melissa Court
Guest	John Schaas – 34 Jeremy Court
Guest	Terry Remaly – 102 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Arlo Dixon – 97 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Doris Dixon – 97 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Vic & Amie Boyd – 60 Thomas Christopher Lane
Guest	John T. & Joan Brown - 137 Kelley Marie Drive
Guest	Perry & Sue Yasher – 165 Brandon Drive
Guest	Brian L. Bellisari – 26 Jeremy Court
Guest	Jeff Dickey – 47 Brandon Drive
Guest	Dale Fry – 55 Brandon Drive
Guest	Mike Vilga – 54 Brandon Drive
Guest	Bill Ischy – 53 Melissa Court
Guest	Kathy & Bill Kosal – 90 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Don Treiber – 84 Melissa Court
Guest	Jean Treiber – 84 Melissa Court
Guest	Dave & Debbi Braden – 93 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Frank Muse – 146 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	James Donnelly – 41 Brandon Drive
Guest	Jamie Easley – 168 Brandon Drive
Guest	Troy Huffman – 113 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Jennifer Gibson (for Dean) – 121 Brandon Drive
Guest	Sam Cook – 29 Jeremy Court
Guest	Denise Cook – 29 Jeremy Court
Guest	Chad Capretta - 133 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	John Moran – 86 Kelly Marie Drive

Guest	Mike Evans – 71 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Brad Cramer – 141 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Donald Furnish – 5468 Outville Road SW
Guest	Don & Donna Weilbacher – 25 Jeremy Court
Guest	Nicole Wilkinson – 140 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Jessica Brigle – 98 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Shilley & Gary Smetzer – 78 Brandon Drive
Guest	Jana & Jeff Tucker – 125 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Frank Shortridge 5623 Beecher
Guest	Gayle Hamilton – 105 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Richard C. Hamilton – 105 Kelly Marie Drive
Guest	Glen Strickland – 149 Brandon Drive
Guest	Ken & Linda Wiegand – 78 Melissa Court
Guest	Elaine A. McLaughlin – 4906 Outville Road
Guest	Don Kirts – 5990 Beecher
Guest	Kathy Scarmack – 116 Kelly Marie
Guest	Rod Osborne
Guest Speaker	Jim Kiracofe District Program Administrator, Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District, phone 740-670-5330
Guest Speaker	Daniel Batter District Engineer, Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District

Jim Kiracofe reviewed the purpose of the meeting. The purpose is to discuss drainage concerns of Roland Estates residents, potential benefits and suggestions for improvements and to identify and discuss alternatives for drainage improvements. Mr. Kiracofe reviewed land use history, a watershed map, several soil descriptions and maps and changes in land uses.

Residents were asks to speak.

Gary Smetzer wanted to know if this information was available when houses were built.

Frank Shortridge asks what Daley’s responsibility is.

Jessica Brigle voiced concerns about her sump pump.

Nicole Wilkinson was concerned about the potential cost and future financial concerns.

Don Furnish lists his concerns, an artesian well behind the Shortridge property, a 24” tile that has been cut, filling in swales and small lot size.

Jennifer Gibson was concerned about cost issue with her parents.

Frank Muse is having problems with electric outages

Larry Moores thought the original plan was inadequate to start with and wanted to know who is responsible.

John Schaas questioned the watershed boundary. He has improved his yard and does not want his yard torn up.

Troy Huffman has a signed permit giving him permission to fill in the ditch on his property.

Victor Boyd stated that the culvert on his property is only 6”.

James Donnelly stated that the ditch on his property needs to be cleaned to help the problem.

Frank Muse stated that his property is draining towards Beecher and Kelley Marie and that 168

Brandon sold recently because of water problems.

Mike Vilga asks the trustees what they have done legally and who was responsible for approving the ditches. Trustee Ray Foor responded that the authorization came from the County and the Township has cleaned the ditches.

Gary Smetzer asks about Township Right of Ways.

Nicole Wilkinson asks if phase 2 and 3 was approved through the County.

Randy Rogers stated that after big rains his front yard is a lake and there is a safety concern, having an electric box in the yard.

Jessica Brigle stated there was a meeting a year ago like this one, what is going to happen now.

Jim Gaberle stated that the gas line is disrupting drainage.

Glen Strickland stated that topography is a problem.

Terry Remaly has water in their house.

Frank Muse stated that a strange gas (odor) is coming through his sump pump.

Ken Wiegand listed safety concerns, insects and mosquitoes, and kids playing in mass amounts of water.

Mike Vilga stated that the responsible party from the County is not here and should be.

Chad Capretta stated safety is a big issue, if someone gets hurt everyone will be responsible.

Terry Remaly does not feel they can sell their home in good conscience.

Troy Huffman asks when something is going to get done.

Mike Evans asks the trustees to move forward and file the petition for drainage.

Jim Kiracofe explained the drainage petition process as stated:

O.R.C. Chapter 6131 – Commonly known as the County Ditch Petition Program

1. Land owner(s), public body file a petition for drainage improvement.
2. County Commissioners schedule viewing of proposed project.
3. County Commissioners schedule 1<sup>st</sup> hearing.
  1. Notify landowners of hearing.
  2. County Engineer (LCSWCD) develops preliminary design.
  3. 1<sup>st</sup> hearing is held-Commissioners listen to comments of landowners.
  4. Benefits and costs for project are discussed.
  5. Commissioners dismiss petition or schedule 2<sup>nd</sup> hearing.
4. If petition moves forward:
  1. County Engineer (LCSWCD) surveys and designs drainage improvements.
  2. Preliminary benefits and costs for improvements are established.
  3. Assessment schedule is developed.
  4. Commissioners notify landowners of 2<sup>nd</sup> hearing.
5. 2<sup>nd</sup> hearing is held.
  1. Commissioners listen to comments of landowners.
  2. Benefits, costs, assessments for improvements are discussed.
6. Petition is dismissed or approved by Commissioners.
7. Improvements are constructed.

The Licking County Commissioners will notify everyone who is in the watershed. Jim Kiracofe suggests that residents sign the ditch petition that will be sent to the Licking County

Commissioners. Much discussion took place.

Gary Smetzer asks who will pay and is there a guarantee that it will fix the problem.

Frank Muse does not think that drainage ditches will fix the entire problem.

Jim Daley commented that no houses were built on the pond.

Dan Blatter explained about culverts, drainage, common storm sewer, contractors handling of cut tile, cutting driveways, obstacles such as gas lines and that Outville Road is newly paved. He reviewed many details of the project. He stated that rules have changed in the last fifteen years including major subdivision changes. Trustee Eric Smith stated that the township can apply for the ditch petition.

Larry Moores asks who is responsible for the work and is the job put out for bid.

Frank Shortridge stated that he didn't want the project because he is retired & cannot afford it.

Jim Gaberle was concerned about drainage overflow.

Bill Ischy asks what the cost was to file the petition. Answer \$500.00

Gary Smetzer asks if there could be people who would not be assessed in the watershed.

Bill Ischy inquired if you are not in the watershed should you sign the petition.

Perry Yasher asks will residents be contacted if they are not in the watershed.

Jamie Easley of 168 Brandon Drive requested a copy of the resident letter and to be included in future mailings.

There was an extensive one on one question and answer session.

For more information about the ditch petition check the Licking County website. There is a link to the website from the Harrison Township website [www.hartwp.com](http://www.hartwp.com).

Being no further business the Chairman Ray Foor adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Carolyn I. Elder

Harrison Township Fiscal Officer