

***Heath Township
Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2010***

1. Call to order

The regular monthly meeting of the Heath Township Board was called to order by Trustee, Hilda Boerman at 7:00 on January 11, 2010 at the township hall. Trustee Schipper opened with prayer.

2. Roll call

Supervisor Ron Jones, Clerk Sheila Meiste, Trustee Hilda Boerman, Trustee Dick Schipper. Absent: Treasurer Misti Lindholm

3. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Previous months minutes were approved.

4. Reports

Dave Haverdink, Hamilton Fire Chief
Dean Kapenga, County Commissioner.

5. New business

a) Approval of General Operating Fire Department Budget. Motion made by Boerman and supported by Schipper to approve. All ayes. Motion carried. Approval of Fire Department Capital Operating Budget. Motion made by Boerman and supported by Schipper to approve. All ayes. Motion carried. Ron thanked the Fire Department for their dedication and commitment.

b) Jim Hutt, Hutt Trucking presented the board with an areal photo of his property showing where he has mined over the years, his current pond, flooded areas and channels made to relieve flooding. The photo also showed the alleged bleed thru area and the temporary dam installed by Eding's in 2007 without his permission or knowledge. Jim has tried to make resolution with the Eding's and has hired an engineering firm. Conan Construction, who oversees this land for Mr. Hutt, have not mined from this pit since November, 2007 and are in the process of updating their current permits. The Allegan County Drain Commission and PCI have told the Eding's and Mr. Hutt the water problems are not a drain issue but are due to an unusually high water table this year. Mr. Hutt is in compliance with erosion control and his pit is "grandfathered in."

Jeff Eding wanted a second clarification from the Heath Township board what "grandfather in" means. Trustee Boerman stated Mr. Hutt has the right to mine from his pit. If he enlarges (widens) it, he would need to get another permit to be in compliance with current zoning.

Mr. Eding was questioned if they have been pumping into the Poll Drain as well as the Lugtiheid drain. He stated they have. The board questioned if this was possibly not affecting the water levels of Sink Lake.

Supervisor Jones emphasized the need for both sides to work this out and work with PCI and the Drain Commission. Any concerns need to be dealt with before our township meetings. Supervisor Jones is available by phone, fax, and internet 24 hours a day. He will contact PCI and they will be in contact with both parties by the end of the week and answer any questions they may still have. The township board will go with the findings of the engineering company and follow the recommendations of the drain commission and PCI.

c) The Hamilton Dam inspection has been completed. The board will be working with Prein & Newhof on a grant for restoring the dam and adding another fish ladder.

6. Zoning update

- a) Superior Poured Walls will be receiving a notice to clean up or be ticketed.
- b) Don Wickstra, Planning Commission Chairperson, would like to see the township board enforce our sign ordinance in regards to all signs and posters along the M-40 corridor. The board would like him to contact PCI for clarification on this ordinance.
- c) The next Planning Commission meeting is Thursday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m.

7. Bills

- a) Motion by Boerman, supported by Schipper to pay township bills.
- b) Motion by Schipper, supported by Boerman to pay fire department bills.

8. Adjournment

- a) Motion by Meiste adjourned the meeting at 9:00. Supported by Boerman.

Minutes submitted by Clerk Sheila Meiste, approved by Supervisor Ron Jones.

