

**A REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Chippewa County Road Commissioners was held in their offices located at 3949 S. Mackinac Trail, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan on August 14, 2014.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Timmer and LaJoie, Manager Laitinen, Office Mgr. Decker, Clerk McDowell, Project Manager Deatrck, Engineer Askwith, Surveyor Wiggins, Foreman Pesola, Erickson and McConkey, and Union President Hopper.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Ormsbee and Chief Mechanic Avery

Chairman Timmer approved agenda as presented.

**MOTION** by Commissioner LaJoie **SECONDED** by Commissioner Timmer that the Payroll in the amount of \$118,199.33 and Vouchers in the amount of \$506,604.84 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner LaJoie **SECONDED** by Commissioner Timmer that the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on July 31, 2014 be approved and placed on file.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jesse Knoll stated crews have done a beautiful job on 1 ½ Mile Road.

Kinross Twp Supervisor James Moore thanked Manager Laitinen for the preparation of Township Road Contracts and inquired about the Thompson Road project.

Manager Laitinen stated the Thompson Road project was approved last year.

**STAFF REPORTS**

Foreman Pesola

- Performing brush hogging and AMZ work.
- Completed the project for replacement of culvert pipes on M-123.
- General road maintenance.
- Will begin road projects next week.

Foreman Erickson

- Working on Whitehead Road on Sugar Island.
- Moving and repair of equipment.
- Will begin work on 3 Mile Road next week.
- General road maintenance.
- Performing brush hogging along county roads.

Foreman McConkey

- Working on Hanna Road project.
- General road maintenance.
- Performing patching on blacktop roads.

Surveyor Wiggins

- Working on marking our county projects.
- Applying for DEQ permits.

Office Manager Decker

- Gave an update on lighting upgrades completed at the main garage along with ones which are in the process.

Manager Laitinen expanded on lighting upgrades. He indicated we did request quotes for lighting upgrades for the Pickford garage. This would include changing all lights over to LED from florescent. He stated there was a difference of around \$5,000.00 between the two quotes received. Positive Energy came in at \$10,106.00 and Bailey Electric at \$15,140.00.

Discussion ensued.

Manager Laitinen stated we will be moving forward and having Positive Energy perform the requested upgrades.

Project Manager Deatruck

- Sugar Island project is coming along well with the shoulder work being completed today. Thanked Dave Mills for his help with the onsite inspection work.
- The Federal Aid project for milling, resurfacing and guardrail work at various bridge locations has been award to Rieth Riley Contractors. We will hold the pre-construction meeting next Tuesday. Preliminary start date is set for the first of September and should be completed within a few weeks.

Engineer Askwith

- Salt barn footings have been completed and will begin the process of pouring the walls on Friday with 6 pours over the next few weeks. Have been very pleased with the work performed by Johnson Brothers so far.
- Held a very lengthy meeting yesterday with URS regarding the Causeway Project. We reviewed the entire request for proposals

which will be distributed to the four contractors hopefully by the end of the month.

- Began taking pictures of storm damage repairs to submit so we might begin the process of reimbursement from the tribe.

#### **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**-None

#### **MANAGERS REPORT**

- Continue to work on our draft for DEQ settlement agreement.
- Completed and sent out township road agreements which would be included in our county wide paving package. Approximately 12 to 15 thousand tons.
- Gravel crushing is moving along. Con Agg has finished crushing in the 15 Mile and Brockhurst pits and will move to Drummond. After some further investigation we have found that there is a conservation easement on the property on Whitehouse Landing Road which limits the use to forestry only. Asked permission to switch location to Strongs pit and will be negotiating price with bidders.
- Received our winter Letter of Understanding from MDOT, which defines the routes and manpower patrols. They have added an additional night patrol out of Goetzville. This will force us to hire an additional temporary driver this winter season. Winter season is defined as November 2<sup>nd</sup> through March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Working with Terry Asphalt to help clean up the asphalt spill which their truck driver was responsible for.
- Held an additional RTF Meeting to deal with the Mackinac County issue in regards to the legislatively approved funds they had received for the Worth Road job. Luce County had a project they could bring forward so we need to adjust the TIP. We have since found out that MDOT has stalled all bidding on all local agency projects because the obligation authority has run out. This has sent all State wide agencies into an uproar. We were very lucky to have had our projects out for bid early. We have asked Regional Planning to track county allocations individually.
- Negotiating meeting to be held at the Northern Meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30. Marquette County will be making a presentation on performance based maintenance contract. They have invited MDOT into a pilot based program.

Manager Laitinen requested permission to take bids for county wide paving markings.

**MOTION** by Commissioner LaJoie **SECONDED** by Commissioner Timmer to authorize Manager Laitinen to receive bids for county wide pavement marking package.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner LaJoie **SECONDED** by Commissioner Timmer to authorized Manager Laitinen to take bids for blades and plow sheers.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Union President Hopper questioned if having another night patrol would MDOT be helping to cover the fringe benefit rate.

Manager Laitinen explained the process of calculating the fringe benefit rate and indicated MDOT would not be benefiting from the temporary position.

Jesse inquired to if the Causeway project would begin this year.

Manager Laitinen stated some work could be potentially started this year, and is hopeful to have a contractor chosen by late October early November. This would allow the contractor to get the precast concrete section ordered.

**ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

Commissioner LaJoie thanked crews for all their work in all areas of the county.

Chairman Timmer stated roads are in good shape. We should always be aware of safety.

There being no further business to come before the Board Chairman Timmer adjourned the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

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Christine A. McDowell

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Richard B. Timmer