

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Chippewa County Road Commissioners was held in their office located at 3949 S. Mackinac Trail, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan on July 16, 2015.

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

PRESENT: Chairman Timmer, Commissioner Gagnon, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Engineer Krouth, Project Manager Deatrck, Foreman Erickson, Foreman Pesola, Clerk Price, Chief Mechanic Avery and Union President Hopper.

ABSENT: Commissioner Ormsbee, Surveyor Wiggins, Foreman McConkey

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer that the Payroll in the amount of \$117,515.16 and Vouchers in the amount of \$547,710.67 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on June 30, 2015 and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

STAFF REPORTS

Foreman Pesola

- Very busy two weeks
- Staff working on the H-40 bridge, making good progress
- Maintenance to the Maple Block and Wildcat Roads in Paradise
- Off ramp pipe at M-80 complete
- General Maintenance

Foreman Erickson

- Fill job on 3 Mile Road on Sugar Island complete
- Gravel Road maintenance
- AMZ crew has been out
- Screen plant has been moved to the Brocklehurst pit
- Vibratory roller was out working on the Mackinac Trail bumps. Chairman Timmer mentioned the improvement. Discussion ensued on equipment needed and possibility of purchase.

Office Manager Decker

- Working on Accounts Payable
- Updating Financials
- New rates are in for Health Insurance, working with Union for renewal

Project Manager Deatruck

- Dealing with Mailbox complaint in Paradise. Discussion ensued on the need for a mailbox placement policy.
- Final reviews are completed for all the Federal Aid projects from last year. All issues have been resolved.
- Working on compiling the locations for the 2015 pavement marking package.
- Discussion on pavement mix and its certification.

Union President Hopper

- Asked about contractors warranting their roads and the impact on the industry. Discussion ensued

Chief Mechanic Avery

- Business as usual
- New trucks coming together well

Engineer Krouth

- The east end pour of the H-40 Bridge is complete. Waiting for approval to remove the weight restriction.

MANAGERS REPORT

- Have been working with Attorney Edward McNeely on the DEQ issues. Motions have been filed, ruling next week. Expecting mediation
- Trunkline mowing has begun and is going well.
- Met with MDOT regarding the Orrs Creek crossing in Brimley. MDOT has decided to let that as a project rather than TWA work thru the maintenance contract. Should be in the August letting.
- Have been monitoring the Black Creek Crossing on M-123 in Paradise. Waiting on DEQ permits. Expecting to have to do patch work before the project is approved. It would be on next year's construction list.
- Kevin Guza with MDOT has given us plenty of TWA work this year; we will be doing additional culvert work along M-123.
- Met with Union on the health care renewal. Waiting for them to reply.

- Seventy applications were received and seven people have been chosen to interview for the open clerks position. Interviews will begin next week.
- Attended meeting with Lee Chatfield, Jim German and several others regarding the taxation of big box stores in our area. Discussion ensued
- The Senate passed a road funding package. It has been sent to the House with no action taken. Not expecting any action to be taken this year.
- Spoke to Commissioner Ormsbee, he is recovering well and is hoping to be released next Tuesday the 21st.

Project Manager Deatruck informed the Board that he is ready to go to bid with the 2015 pavement marking package. Approximately 500,000 feet have been identified for pavement marking.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to go to bid on the 2015 pavement marking package.

MOTION CARRIED

Project Manager Deatruck also reported that he is compiling a second pavement marking package using Federal funds.

Manager Laitinen informed the Board that he has received a grievance from the Union regarding health insurance available upon retirement. In 2014 it was the opinion of the Board that the base plan is what is provided to retiree's free of charge upon retirement. He has consulted our labor Attorney who feels we are in good standing with our decision.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to concur with the 2014 decision of the Board.

MOTION CARRIED

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: - None

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Chairman Timmer mentioned that he was contacted by Sugar Island resident David Bean regarding sand build up on his road and the need for an additional culvert and/or culvert cleaning. Manager Laitinen said he would contact Mr. Bean.

Chairman Timmer asked what we are paying for road side mowing. Manager Laitinen indicated that Jesse Knoll is working on County Roads and is paid \$75 per hour and that S&S Mowing is doing the State Roads and is paid \$100.00 per hour.

There being no further business to come before the Board Chairman
Timmer adjourned the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Amy Price
Board Secretary

Richard B. Timmer
Chairman