

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 October 8, 2015.

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

PRESENT: Chairman Timmer, Commissioner Ormsbee, Commissioner Gagnon, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Engineer Krouth, Project Manager Deatrack, Foreman Erickson, Foreman Pesola, Foreman McConkey Surveyor Wiggins, Chief Mechanic Marsh and Union President Hopper.

ABSENT: Clerk Price

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon that the Payroll in the amount of \$115,350.45 and Vouchers in the amount of \$388,057.12 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on September 24, 2015 and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

STAFF REPORTS

Foreman Pesola

- Lost Lake Road almost done
- Big thanks to Foreman Erickson and McConkey for sending their staff and trucks to help with Lost Lake Road.
- Also want to thank Manager Laitinen and Operator Dave Mills for their work on Forest Road, big improvement.
- General Maintenance before winter sets in.

Foreman Erickson

- 13 Mile Road is finished for the season
- Changing culverts
- Gravel road maintenance
- Sugar Island crews working on Seppi Road

Foreman McConkey

- New grader going every day
- 16 Mile Road bridge deck replacement
- Drainage improvements in Pickford
- Working on Seasonal Roads
- Patching

Surveyor Wiggins

- Staking on Lost Lake Road
- DEQ Permits
- Clearing limits on Prairie Road

Project Manager Deatruck

- Mackinac Trail final quantities completed.
- Paved Forest Side Road, Dave Mills helped with design.
- Sent in Federal Aid pavement marking job application for next Spring on various Federal Aid routes.
- More pavement marking to be done this year at the Kinross Rd. intersection and some pavement repair areas. Discussion Followed

Engineer Krouth

- Complemented Crews and their work at various work sites
- Kick off meetings will be held in our Conference Room for the Sugar Island Project on Wednesday October 14th at 2:00 to go over logistics and at 3:30 for the project stakeholders. A third meeting will be held that evening at 6:00 at the Sugar Island Township Hall to introduce the public to the contractors.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- 4 of the 6 new trucks are in use
- Crew busy
- New Excavator is here and is in use on Lost Lake Road. Discussion followed about the condition of the new Excavator

Union President Hopper

- No Report

MANAGERS REPORT

- Attended the Superintendents Conference at Kewadin. The conference was well attended. The Attorney sessions discussing employment law were really good. The new truck was onsite and we received a lot of compliments on it.
- Road funding talks have continued on the floor in October in both houses. Discussion followed
- Working on staffing for the Winter Season. We have enough recalled temps to start and will be bringing on three more.
- Nights start on November 1st.
- On the 19th we have a temporary employee coming to help in the Mechanic shop.
- New Grader to be here today.
- Thanked MDOT's Kevin Gouza for all the additional maintenance work. Discussion Ensued
- Quotes for rental of the Salt Shed loader are going out today.
- Picked up position requests for night patrol.
- The crews will be going back to five days a week on the 26th.
- The next Straits Council meeting is scheduled for November 3rd at 9:00 am at Audies in Mackinac City. We are the host County for the 2016 year.
- A request was received from Kinross Township for a quote to construct their new road (Short Cut Rd) and to have it then accepted onto the County Road System.
- Sugar Island Township is interested in doing work. They have asked for quotes for Townline Rd to Hay Point Rd and completion of West Shore Rd.
- Discussion ensued on work requests from the other Townships.
- On October 14th Attorney McNeely has a telephone conference hearing with the Michigan Court of Claims to schedule mediation. Attorney McNeely asked if the Board was interested in an update meeting. The consensus was not at this time.
- Manager Laitinen informed the Board that we have been having a very difficult time with the underground utilities and Miss Dig. Discussion followed. Discussed implementing a fee schedule for utilities. Further discussion ensued. It was noted that the smaller Companies are much easier to work with.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS - None

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON BLALOCK ROW AND DARREN'S WAY

Blalock ROW: Manager Laitinen took another look and has determined that the Platted R-O-W is sufficient and asked if an exception to our policy would be appropriate.

Darren's Way in Arbor Ridge: Manager Laitinen asked if Kinross Township was to pass a Resolution committing them to the cost of repairs would be appropriate.

Commissioner Ormsbee would like to take care of both roads at the same time due to stepping outside of our policy guidelines. Discussion ensued.

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR WINTER TEMPORARY HELP

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to authorize Manager Laitinen to advertise for temporary positions for the 2015/2016 Winter season.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Kinross Twp Supervisor Moore reported to the Board that tree cutting will begin along M-80 to bring in 3 phase power. On the 19th of October KCF is moving to Hiawatha. Also he is working with the Tribe to determine what streets will be paved next year. Lastly he thanked Foreman Pesola and his crews for the quick response when problems arise.

Foreman Pesola thanked Chief Mechanic Marsh for getting the new excavator working and for the quick response to repairs when called.

Union President Hopper asked about permanent position hiring. Manager Laitinen replied not at this time. President Hopper recommended that if weather changes he would like to see the County night person brought on as soon as possible.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Brad Ormsbee commented that he will not be here for the next meeting.

Commissioner Gagnon spoke with other Counties regarding the Amish and winter operations at the Superintendents Conference. Discussion followed. Manager Laitinen met with the local Amish and hopes to meet with the Foreman to discuss options.

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

Amy L. Price
Board Secretary

Chairman Richard B. Timmer
Chairman of the Board