

**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, MI on April 11, 2024.

Chairman Gagnon called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Gagnon, Commissioner Moser, Commissioner Sprague, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Engineer Boileau, Superintendent Erickson, Foreman Rye, Union President Cheney, Clerk Livermore, Chief Mechanic Marsh

**ABSENT:** Foreman Goodman, Fleet Manager Donajkowski, Clerk Christensen

**GUEST PRESENT:** Chippewa County Commissioner Jim Traynor, Trout Lake Trustee Dave Hillman

**MOTION** by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to accept the agenda as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague that Payroll in the amount of \$201,327.50 and Vouchers in the amount of \$488,510.46 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Chairman Gagnon to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from March 14, 2024 and place them on file.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from March 28, 2024 and place them of file.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**STAFF REPORTS**

Office Manager Decker

- Finished with the auditor onsite last week. After they complete the audit, we will schedule the exit meeting.

Superintendent Erickson

- Rudyard and Soo crews are grading gravel roads.

- Doing some cold patch work.
- Removing sanders and wings from the trucks to get ready for summer work.

Foreman Goodman

- No Report

Foreman Rye

- Same as Rudyard and Soo.
- Both brush hogs are out working.
- Crushing gravel in Goetzville

Engineer Boileau

- Getting some revised information from Farner for the chipseal bid. Original bid came in 30% higher than anticipated. Reviewing the work and sites with Farner.
- The two Mackinac Trail projects and Charlotte Bridge project was opened last week. All projects came in under estimate.
- The Chub Creek Bridge was included in the May letting.
- Prepping bid package for the M-28/Soo Line rail work detour. Discussion ensued.
- Grants have been awarded with Bay Mills Tribe to realign Tower Road at Lake Shore as well as drainage work for Mission Hill. There is also Safe Route to Schools grant funded work that has been awarded. Next will be working on Safe Route to School grants for Rudyard.

Clerk Christensen- presented by Clerk Livermore

- Planning the annual Safety Meeting for May 2, 2024.
- MSHA training scheduled for May 14, 2024.

Union President Cheney

- Will be stepping down as union president at the end of this term. A new president will be voted in at the end of the month.

Fleet Manager Donajkowski

- No report.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- UP Road Builders Summer meeting is open for registration and reservations. This year's side-by-side ride event will be lead by representatives from Mackinac County Road Commission and Chippewa County Road Commission with Trout Lake as the destination. There is also a golfing event.
- With the announcement of the start of ten-hour days starting next week, please have all time cards for this week entered and approved so the time keeping system can be updated.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Went to Truck and Trailer Specialties to review specifications of the chassis outfitting of the new trucks that were ordered.
- Looked at a hydraulic conveyor for the screen plant.
- Luce County Road Commission contacted us regarding the potential for joint technician training on emissions and electronics.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Met with the newly appointed Township Supervisor for Superior Township. Bill Munsel has been appointed and the conversation went well.
- We are maintaining the seasonal weight restriction on the gravel roads. Some of the gravel roads are looking good, but there are others in high clay and high shade areas that are still not ready. The restriction will hold for another week or so.
- We are the host area for UP Road Builders summer meeting. The agenda is in process.
- Received notice from the Work-Comp Pool (CRASIF) that Joyce Randall has been appointed as the Full-Time Director.
- There is a meeting next week with Forrest Service and DNR regarding funding for grading roads used by ORVs.
- Will be attending CRA and Wetland board meetings next week.
- Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> will be the change in schedule to four (4) ten (10) hour days.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Audit Scope Letter - Anderson Tackman provided a letter outlining the areas covered in the audit which needs to be signed by the Chairman.
- B. Audit Engagement Letter - Anderson Tackman provided a letter to conduct the audit which needs to be signed by the Chairman and Office Manager Decker.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to authorize Chairman Gagnon and Office Manager Decker to sign the respective letters.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- C. Public Access Policy - MCRCSIP, the liability insurance pool for the road commission provided a policy and resolution regarding the internal administration of public access within the facilities and work zone of the road commission.
- D. RESOLUTION 2024-11 - Public Access Resolution

**MOTION** by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to adopt RESOLUTION 2024-11 with corresponding policy.

**MOTION CARRIED by UNANAMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE**

**OLD BUSINESS**

- NONE

**County Commissioners Comments**

- Commissioner Traynor reported he has attended several public meetings as of late that have hosted many angry citizens. Couldn't point to any specific source of emotion. Reported he was contacted on behalf of the citizens of Neebish Island and while this is not in his district, he took time to hear their concerns. Also offered any assistance with any of the ORV road funding conversations.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- None.

**ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Gagnon wished everyone "stay safe" and the meeting adjourned at 8:48 A.M.

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Bobbie Livermore  
Clerk for the Board

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Jeremy Gagnon  
Chairman