

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 February 16, 2023.

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 Goodman, Foreman Rye, Clerk Livermore, Clerk Christensen, Chief Mechanic Marsh, Union President Cheney.

ABSENT: None

GUEST PRESENT: County Commissioner Jim Traynor, Trout Lake Clerk David Hillman, Trout Lake Resident David Lundy.

Chairman Gagon accepted the agenda as presented

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague that Payroll in the amount of \$215,701.01 and Vouchers in the amount of \$833,376.62 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to approve the regular meeting minutes from February 1, 2023 and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Lundy inquired about the steps necessary to have some work done on Molly Gibson Road, specifically requesting some minor maintenance such as brushing as well as having it built up. Manager Laitinen indicated brushing could be done in that area this summer, time and equipment permitting, and that all earthwork would have to follow the current policy of a 50/50 cost share. Mr. Lundy requested an estimate for the cost of the earthwork.

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Decker

- The fuel pumps on Drummond Island and in Goetzville are on-line.
- The ACT 51 report is nearly complete.

Superintendent Erickson

- Crews are splitting time between winter maintenance and water problems created by the unusual freeze/thaw cycle.

- The icy conditions are requiring the use of large quantities of materials.

Foreman Goodman

- Same as the Sault.
- Watching frost levels in anticipating of possible road restrictions being implemented early.

Foreman Rye

- Same as the Sault Garage.

Engineer Boileau

- Got the 2023 paving bid package out.

Clerk Christensen

- Updating the SDS systems.

Union President Cheney

- Nothing new to report.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- Nothing new to report.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Keeping up but parts availability when needed is still an issue.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- UP Road Builders winter meeting was another successful conference. Was appointed to the one year term CRA Board seat again.
- The County Engineers Workshop took place this week at the Kewadin Casino. The CRA Board met as well and approved the Legislative Priorities, including pursuit of getting the status of county plow trucks changed to "Emergency" vehicle.
- Michigan Wetland Board met in the CCRC office last week. The Wetland Board has signed a lease agreement for office space in the CRA building.
- Participated in a webinar hosted by EGLE regarding new permits required for brine application. These requirements will significantly impact townships and their efforts in dust control on gravel roads.
- Beginning this year, seasonal frost restriction permits will be available through the OxCart permitting software.
- Watching frost measurements due to unseasonably mild temperatures. Next week should be cold again for a few days.

NEW BUSINESS

- A.) Reaffirm Policy #5 (Road Commission Board Travel) and Policy #6 (Mailbox Replacement) -

- Manager Laitinen reviewed current Road Commission Board Travel policy and recommended reaffirming policy.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to reaffirm Policy #5 - Road Commission Board Travel.

MOTION CARRIED

- Manager Laitinen reviewed current Mailbox Replacement policy and some of the history of the policy with recommendation to reaffirm the policy as is.

MOTION by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to reaffirm Policy #6 - Mailbox Replacement Policy.

MOTION CARRIED

B.) Transfer \$200K to the OPEB Trust -

Office Manager Decker noted the transfer of authorized funding in December was not completed prior to yearend. This request is not for additional fund but to provide approval in the subsequent calendar year.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to authorize transfer of \$200K to OPEB trust.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- NONE

County Commissioners Comments

- Commissioner Traynor informed the board that the County Board is working on an appraisal of War Memorial Hospital in an effort to sell to MyMichigan Health, storage for the sheriff, and expansion of the fountain.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Moser informed the group Drummond Island Township is still trying to fill seats on its board.

Commissioner Sprague informed the board that the Straits Area Council meeting covered many of the same topics as were covered at UP Road Builders.

Chairman Gagnon wants everyone to stay safe. With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:36 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Jeremy Gagnon
Chairman