

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 May 13, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 A.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Timmer, Commissioner Gagnon, Commissioner Moser, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Engineer Boileau, Foreman Rye, Clerk Livermore, Clerk Christensen, Chief Mechanic Marsh.

ABSENT: Superintendent Erickson , Foreman Goodman, Union President Mills

GUEST PRESENT: Trout Lake Township Supervisor Dave Hillman, Rudyard Township Supervisor Barry Davis

Chairman Timmer accepted the agenda as presented.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser that Payroll in the amount of \$156,729.36 and Vouchers in the amount of \$425,427.69 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to approve the regular meeting minutes from April 29, 2021 and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to approve the **Special** meeting minutes from April 29, 2021 and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- David Hillman, Trout Lake Township Supervisor reported the township has approved the Wegwas Road reconstruction project.
- Barry Davis, Rudyard Township Supervisor inquired about the status of project completion of Bay Road and Ploegstra Road. Manager Laitinen indicated the work was being scheduled and would be completed this season.

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Decker

- Hired a new company, replacing the current vendor in Alpena, to maintain fire extinguishers. Reviewed nearly 5 pages of contract language with pool attorney, made a few modifications to

contract, including state of legal authority, and signed the contract.

- Met with Dan from Mercer at the Pickford garage to layout the site for the new tank needed for the fuel system and be compliant with EGLE standards. Site prep work has begun.
- Received delivery of two (2) pickups from O'Connors.
- Working with Bryce at Emergency Services in Mackinac County to get the new radios programmed.
- Provided an updated comparison of MTF Revenue with a Year To Date comparison of 2021 to 2020.

Superintendent Erickson (presented by Manager Laitinen)

- Working on sweeping. Received a complimentary phone call on the sweeping job done in the subdivision near Soo Township School.
- Doing some culvert change out prior to construction.
- Sugar Island prep work being done. The sand we use is in water and requires us to dig out and stack it to dry before we can use it.

Foreman Goodman (presented by Manager Laitinen)

- Working on large shoulder job on M-28 for MDOT from Luce County Line to Strongs and then a piece in Racco. Manager Laitinen thanked Engineer Boileau for the training she provided the crew on work zone signing.
- Some brushing and earthwork on Tahqua Trail.

Foreman Rye

- Sand shed in Goetzville is down.
- Finishing up Cream City brush work on Drummond Island.
- Grading roads to have them ready for brine.

Clerk Christensen

- MSHA training took place last Tuesday.
- Worked with Engineer Boileau and Larry in the sign shop to identify and order the proper signage needed for the job sites this summer.
- The Road Commission was awarded the scrap tire grant. More info will come later, including the amount.
- Working to find a solution to our internet issues regarding our frequently dropped signal. Had a meeting with Charter Spectrum for Government Agencies.

Union President Mills

- No Report.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- May is open enrollment for AFLAC. We couldn't have our annual safety meeting and invite the rep. Instead, a payroll stuffer with product and contact information has been attached to

paychecks this period. There is also contact information for investment advisors at Morgan Stanly for our 457 plan.

- Received the 1st quarter statement from MERS. It looks like our plan earned 2.4% on over \$11M. This seems low when compared to other investment firms. Will be attending the MERS Underfunded Liabilities workshop in two weeks and hope to learn more.

Engineer Boileau

- Shunk Road (5 Mile to 9 Mile) - FHWA/Federal Aid
 - Payne and Dolan will mobilize second week of June.
- Grant Applications:
 - 6 Mile Road TEDF Category "F" Grant
 - Completed 5/3/2021.
- Other Stuff:
 - Changing Industrial Park Drive classification to major collector.
 - Intern starts Monday, May 17, 2021 and will be initially assigned to assist with asset management data collection.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Working on some of Pickford's equipment in the Sault garage while the mechanic assigned to that shop is out.
- The shop is full while we wait for parts.
- We are scheduled to receive the last two new single axel trucks next week.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Offered an apology to residents of Radar Subdivision for a communication error to residents regarding a culvert replacement which inconvenienced a few residents. The replacement is complete.
- Attended the Managers' Retreat in Gaylord last week. This was the first face to face event since last March. It was a good event with some really good content.
- Will also be attending the Underfunded Liability workshop in Mount Pleasant on May 25th. Discussion ensued.
- Spent time with Engineer Boileau visiting Sugar Island and Drummond Island project sites. Working on development of a relationship with Carmeuse Lime & Stone as a source for sand and gravel. They have offered their "overburden" from a pit near our project site. Discussion ensued.
- Our garage at Trout Lake is down. Mackinac Environmental will install monitor wells in the area that was under the slab to check soil quality and contaminate levels. We've received multiple phone calls from individuals interested in purchasing this piece of property when it is environmentally cleared for sale.
- Received an agreement with Soo Township for paving.

- The MCRCSIP annual meeting will be at the Soaring Eagle on July 21 and 22. We will be registering to attend this. Commissioners are welcome to attend and MCRCSIP typically provides great content in their agenda.
- As an update to the fatal accident last winter in Iron County, charges have been filed against the driver.
- Working to schedule a meeting with Whitefish Township regarding the garage site.

NEW BUSINESS

- A.) MDOT Engineering Reimbursement application - this is an annual application for reimbursement for payroll costs associated with employing an engineer.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to sign and submit the application for reimbursement.

MOTION CARRIED

- B.) Air Compressor Bid Award - Two bids were received, Miller Bradford \$14,150 and Northern Pump Service \$13,748. Chief Mechanic Marsh recommended acceptance of the low bid from Northern Pump.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to award the Northern Pump and Service the air compressor bid.

MOTION CARRIED

- C.) Review/Reaffirm Policies:
- i. Policy #21 - Communication Services in ROW
 - ii. Policy #22 - Marijuana Use & Possession

Manager Laitinen gave a brief on the policies with their prior review and recommendation by the liability pool and recommended reaffirmation of both policies.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to reaffirm policies #21 - Communication Services in ROW and #22 - Marijuana Use & Possession.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- A.) Policy #18 - Hiring Policy

Manager Laitinen requested this policy be tabled until the board meeting on May 27, 2021.

County Commissioners Comments

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Chairman Timmer asked everyone to stay safe.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:08 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Richard Timmer
Chairman