

**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 2, 2022.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 A.M.

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Timmer, Commissioner Gagnon, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Engineer Boileau, Clerk Livermore, Superintendent Erickson, Foreman Goodman, Foreman Rye, Clerk Christensen.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Moser, Chief Mechanic Marsh

**GUEST PRESENT:** None

Chairman Timmer accepted the agenda as presented.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer that Payroll in the amount of \$203,876.37 and Vouchers in the amount of \$418,135.77 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 regular meeting minutes from January 20, 2022 and place them on file.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- None

**STAFF REPORTS**

Office Manager Decker

- Year-end reports finished up and getting ready to begin Act 51.
- Audit is scheduled for late February.
- Eckerman fuel tank is on-line and operational. Getting email notification set-up.
- Took bids for the purchase of fuel tanks for this year.

Superintendent Erickson

- Busy with winter maintenance.
- Still fighting the emissions sensor issue, requiring use of the older trucks kept as back-ups.
  - o Manager Laitinen had a meeting yesterday with Jay Gage from Senator Stabenow's office to bring the emission sensor issue to his attention and request him to work with the senator's office and Washington to propose a municipal software workaround. Foreman Goodman suggesting seeing if

our fleet would qualify for an "Emergency Vehicle" exemption. Manager Laitinen will follow-up.

Foreman Goodman

- Thanked the crew for doing a good job at keeping up the winter maintenance demands experienced this year and for covering for each other as time off has been needed.

Foreman Rye

- Thanked the crew for pulling together to get the job done while they have been short-handed.

Engineer Boileau

- Working on local projects to get them ready to let for bid.
- Working with Ship Wreck Society on some paperwork.
- This month will be attending several conferences.

Clerk Christensen

- Catching up from a week off.

Union President Cheney

- Nothing New.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- Attending UP Road Builders.
- Attended first meeting with the group of the State Maintenance Inflationary Factor. This is a sub-committee of the Negotiating Committee. A preliminary spreadsheet has been shared. Each of the representatives have been asked to review it and plug-in their agency's numbers to see the effect. More to come as we work.
- As a member of the Board for the Federal Employees Credit Union, I was made aware of possible equipment grant opportunities through the USDA. Looking into the information and hope to speak with a couple of western counties regarding their experience with the program while at UP Road Builders.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- No Report.

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Prepping for UP Road Builders. As president, responsible to Emcee the event.
- Attended Straits Area Council yesterday. The nominations for CRA Committees were done and there should be significant representation by CCRC.
- The other part of the meeting with Jay Gage included a request to identify an avenue for additional funding to coordinate a

complete reconstruction of Mackinac Trail. The need is approximately \$5-8M. Jay will follow-up.

- Two of our graders will be at the I-500. This is typically something the city also participates in, but due to maintenance issues do not have the capacity to assist.
- Pay increases have been approved and will be effective in the next check per the contract. The administrative staff (excluding the manager) received 4% increases as well.
- Federal Aid buy-out passed yesterday in the House of Representatives.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A.) Fuel Tanks (Drummond & Goetzville) bid award - Manager Laitinen recommended the bid be awarded to RW Mercer as the low bid and noted they are the company that has completed the other installs.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to award the fuel tank bid to RW Mercer

**MOTION CARRIED**

- B.) RESOLUTION #2022-03 - MDOT Contract #21-5518 Industrial Park Drive.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve Resolution #2022-03.

**MOTION CARRIED by UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE**

**OLD BUSINESS**

- NONE

**County Commissioners Comments**

- NONE

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Superintendent Erickson noted the frost measurement is 54" in the Sault and 49" in Brimley. Thanked the manager and the board for the raises.

**ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

With no further business to come before the Board, thank you to everyone and stay safe. The meeting adjourned at 7:59 A.M.

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Bobbie Livermore  
Clerk for the Board

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Richard Timmer  
Chairman