

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 December 9, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 A.M.

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

ABSENT: Superintendent Erickson, Foreman Goodman, Union President Mills.

GUEST PRESENT: 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 \$189,914.03 and Vouchers in the amount of \$494,223.21 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser that voucher #2769 in the amount of \$27,195.00 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

Chairman Timmer inquired as to what items were included in the AP Total. Discussion ensued as to what the larger disbursements included and the shortage of roughly \$220,000 in December Michigan Transportation Funds (MTF) receipt. It was noted that MDOT's reason for the shortage was because Exxon Mobile has not paid their amount due to the state for gas tax collections. There has been no correspondence from MDOT as to when or how this money will be distributed in the future.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to approve the regular meeting minutes from November 24, 2021 and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Barry Davis, Rudyard Township Supervisor, thanked everyone for the good job keeping up on removing the snow.

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Decker

- Been up working in Eckerman on the new fuel system. The electrical work is done and waiting on the electrical inspection. After which RW Mercer can come in and calibrate the new system.
- Pickford's new fuel system is up and running. The usage and delivery reports are being received in the main office.
- Starting to work on budget and inventory for year end and the start to the new year.

Superintendent Erickson

- No Report.

Foreman Goodman

- No Report.

Foreman Rye

- Running short handed due to illness and hunting season, but plugging away. The grader is out working on gravels this week.

Engineer Boileau

- Working with Dan on MDOT / Federal Aid projects to get them out to bid. This includes Industrial Park Drive and Six Mile Road from Forrest Side Road to I-75 and Six Mile Road from Mackinac Trail to M-129.
- Attended the CRA Legal Symposium and Engineering Committee meeting. Volunteered to join the Bituminous Committee, a subcommittee to the Engineering Committee. Discussion ensued.

Clerk Christensen

- Catching up after helping finish the flooring in the main office.

Union President Mills

- No Report.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- Attended F&HR Committee meeting in Mt. Pleasant. Finishing up planning for the May conference. Appointed to the Negotiating Inflationary Factor subcommittee.
- Attended the CRA Legal Symposium. Lots of good information but was there specifically for session covering Road Funding.
- Thank you to the crew and supervisors for their help getting time in and approved early to allow me to attend the conference.
- Gearing up for year end - reporting and filing.
- Working to secure a venue for UPRBA Summer 2022 meeting.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Busy. There are currently enough spare trucks to rotate in and out when trucks come in for repair.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Attended Negotiating Committee and Engineering Committee meetings. Negotiating Committee is prepping for the next five year contract and looking at succession planning and recruitment of members in anticipation of retirements prior to the end of this current contract. There is a lot of information to learn and sooner is better.
- Volunteered Clerk Livermore to work with the finance directors from Oakland County and Marquette County on the Inflationary Factor subcommittee.
- Didn't receive any new information on the Infrastructure Bill from CRA or the Engineering Committee. Discussion ensued.
- The MDOT safety staff discussed the possibility of the safety program having funding to perform an improvement project at the 5-way intersection in Rudyard in the next couple of years.
- Contacted by the DNR to remove the water control structure on Pigeon Cove Road and put a free flowing culvert in. Discussion ensued.
- The staff at CRA were contacted by the resident on Sugar Island who has been showing interest in our operations on the island. CRA pointed him in the direction of a professional for clarification on how to read the survey information provided.
- CRA has believes the legislature will approve Federal Aid Buy out at about 90 cents on the dollar. MDOT is in support of this.
- Bids for the Bridge Preservation Project in Pickford came in about 30% over the limit. They cannot be more than 10% over without justification. It appears there was a clerical error in one bid received and that error cannot be corrected.
- Coordinating the excavation of soils at the old Paradise Garage site where the tanks were. It was the recommendation of Mackinac Environmental to conduct the excavation now rather than when weather is more cooperative due to the low water table this time of year. It is still intended to install the break wall as well as multiple oxygen diffusers after this work is done. Discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS

- A.) 2022 Board Meeting Schedule -

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to accept the meeting schedule as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

- B.) Set Date for Budget Meeting - A meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, December 28, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. in the Main Office of the Road Commission to discuss the year end budget adjustment and adoption of the 2022 Budget.

OLD BUSINESS

- NONE

County Commissioners Comments

- NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Chairman Timmer wished everyone a stay safe and keep up the good work.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Richard Timmer
Chairman