

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 June 10, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Timmer, Commissioner Gagnon, Commissioner Moser, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Engineer Boileau, Superintendent Erickson, Foreman Goodman, Foreman Rye, Union President Mills, Clerk Livermore, Clerk Christensen, Chief Mechanic Marsh.

ABSENT: None

GUEST PRESENT: None

Chairman Timmer accepted the agenda as presented.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser that Payroll in the amount of \$156,664.20 and Vouchers in the amount of \$462,090.35 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 May 27, 2021 and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Decker

- Revenue coming from MTF is moving closer to the estimate.
- Completing the prep work and layouts for the new fuel pump sites for Eckerman and Pickford.
- Looking for some additional cameras to set up around the trailers being used for the used tire collection grant.
- Filed form 5572 yesterday regarding the funding for our OPEB. We are making progress toward our funding goals.

Superintendent Erickson

- Weather cooperated with us to get the 9 Mile culvert replaced.
- Finishing up Dafter gravel road maintenance in preparation for township brining.
- Thank you to the west end crew for their hard work and getting projects ready for Payne and Dolan.
- AMZ crew is working on 3 Mile Road.

Foreman Goodman

- Thank you Keith and Bob for sending leads to haul gravel in his area.
- Thank you to the crew for the hard work and digging in to complete the shoulder work. Approximately 70 miles of road has been completed and they did a great job.
- The crew has been really good about dropping what they are working on to take care of jobs that pop up. Payne and Dolan was ready to work in Rudyard early and the crew cooperated in getting the prep work completed so paving could begin ahead of schedule.

Foreman Rye

- Most of the crew is on Drummond Island.
- Still fighting with beavers.
- Thanked Chief Mechanic Marsh for all his help filling in for the mechanic on leave.

Clerk Christensen

- Received refund checks from CRASIF.
- June 23rd we will have traffic control safety training in the office for management, foremen, safety committee, and sign crew. Engineer Boileau received a grant for this training.
- The scrap tire trailer is here until November 6. We will have a new trailer swapped out every week and have a couple of weeks where the trailer will be delivered to a couple of our other garages. Chairman Timmer suggested working with Bay Mills Environmental group on possible source to take the oversized tires that will not meet the specs of the grant.
- Went to 9 Mile with Engineer Boileau and learned about trenching safety.
- Johnson Controls are inspecting our fire extinguishers on all trucks.
- There is a new COVID related grant that will match \$10K. Working on the submission of this grant application.

Union President Mills

- No Report.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- Attended the virtual UP Road Builders meeting last week. Jim deSpelder announced that six (6) positions on the board of trustees need to be filled at the next election. Clerk Livermore will be requesting her name be added to the ballot for an At Large position.
- Denise Donohue from CRA reached out inquiring about any interest in serving on the MERS board. The CRA Executive committee will make the decision on who's name to push forward, but feel it is important to have representation from count road agencies. Manager Laitinen and Office Manager Decker support this endeavor.

Clerk Livermore's application will be submitted by the end of the week.

- The Save Our Roads account and ballot documentation is complete and ready for the August election.
- The UP Road Builders Clerks Association decided the incumbents of chair, co-chair, and treasurer/secretary will serve for 2021 and remain for 2022. Clerk Livermore will serve a second term as co-chair. Currently working with the group to get a date for their October meeting in Munising and am putting together content for the meeting.
- We will be hosting Reasonable Suspicion training here next Tuesday. Mike Philips from MCRCSIP will be conducting the training. We have requested the Superintendent, Regional Foremen, Garage Foremen, Chief Mechanic, and members of the office staff attend. We have invited members of our neighboring counties to join us.

Engineer Boileau

- Finished up MacDonald Road wedge and overlay last week in DeTour Township.
- Paving on Nicolet should finish up tomorrow.
- Finishing the pulverizing of 5 ½ Mile Road today and then moving on to Smart Road. Paving timeline is yet to be determined.
- Looking to get bid packages for 20 Mile Road out next week.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- New Low Boy is in and in service.
- Two new pickups have been delivered and one is in service.
- The second new backhoe should be here Monday.
- With the Pickford mechanic still on leave, been helping the Pickford crew on Drummond Island.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Thanked all of the crews for all the good work and flexibility to take advantage of contractor availability.
- Offered apologies for forgetting UP Road Builders meeting was upon us. In person meetings are easier to remember and come with reminders to register. Will serve the role of president for the upcoming year and looking forward to our next meeting in January, which should be in person.
- The crews did a really good job on the 9 Mile Culvert replacement. The level of workmanship was great and it's appreciated that the job wrapped up a week early.
- Visited Mackinaw City in Emmett County with Engineer Boileau, the engineer tech., and the intern to look at a cold in place recycling process. Discussion ensued.
- Offered appreciation for the work the shoulder crew did out west. The work showed great workmanship and their work zone brought compliments from MDOT and our paving contractor. Great job.

- The Cream City Point job on Drummond Island is moving quickly.
- Visted Reid Metals. They received a significant quantity of temporary, metal bridge material from the Corp of Engineers. We are looking at purchasing a 120' x 20' wide section. This material may also be a solution to the load restricted bridge on Pennington Road.
- During the UP Road Builders meeting, a motion was passed to have Doug Mills (Baraga County Engineer Manager) draft a letter to the Governor and Transportation Committee supporting the construction and operation of Line 5. This letter will also provide information on the potential infrastructure damage that will be caused to the Upper Peninsula if this pipeline is shut down. This letter will be signed by the UPRBA President and each Road Commission will provide their own resolution supporting the position.

NEW BUSINESS

A.) MCRCSIP Ballot.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser unanimously vote for Robert Laitinen for the board of MCRCSIP.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

A.) Policy #18 - Hiring Policy

Manager Laitinen provided a revised hiring policy outlining the role of the board to approve the filling of an open position and the role of the manager to fill the position with the best candidate.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to adopt the new Hiring policy.

MOTION CARRIED

County Commissioners Comments

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Timmer inquired to the status on our Asset Management / Road Review. Engineer Boileau relayed that the intern has been assigned to assist with this project and that the Federal Aid Paser is done. We are working on the Non-Federal Aid next.

Chairman Timmer thanked the crew again and asked everyone to stay safe.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Richard Timmer
Chairman