

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 September 2, 2021.

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

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

ABSENT: Manager Laitinen, Foreman Goodman

GUEST PRESENT: Kinross Township Supervisor Jim Moore.

Chairman Timmer accepted the agenda as presented.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser that Payroll in the amount of \$156,553.07 and Vouchers in the amount of \$61,637.29 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 a Voucher in the amount of \$81,200.00 for the purchase of property on Neebish Island be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve the regular meeting minutes from August 19, 2021 and place them on file. Chairman Timmer requested a correction on page one to add the word "about" to Township Supervisor Davis's inquiry and to make "crew" plural in the noted comments by EGLE representative Mitch Koetje.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Decker

- Worked with Manager Laitinen on the renewal documents for the State Maintenance Contract.
- The fuel tanks should be installed by mid to late month.
- Met with Jessica Fitzgerald from Morgan Stanley. Under her recommendation, we will make a couple of changes to the OPEB trust investment options. She reported EMPOWER is now #2 in the

nation for government retirement funds with a goal to maintain little accounts. She will work to get us a lower admin fee, but at 1.7% we are in a good position.

- The exterior west wall maintenance work is complete. Siding to match for the front has been ordered for installation next year.

Superintendent Erickson

- The AMZ work is finishing up.
- Rain caused a couple of wash-outs that have been repaired.
- Sugar Island work is wrapping up.
- Moved the screen plant from McNearney to 15 Mile.
- Received the temporary bridge material for emergency work.
- Roadside mowing close to complete.

Foreman Goodman

- No Report.

Foreman Rye

- Work on 20 Mile wrapping up. There is about 2 more feet of fill left to complete.
- Thank you Rob, Stephanie, and crew for the hard work and pushing through working in the tunnel during the really hot days. The project should be complete in 1-2 weeks.

Clerk Christensen

- Met with Missy at Central Dispatch and our FirstNet representative. Had a side conversation with Missy regarding collaborating on some grant work in the future.
- Finishing up the work with Johnson Controls regarding the fire extinguishers in the trucks.
- Working to get on the agenda at the next MTA meeting regarding possible collaboration in recycling programs and grants.
- Have the draft of our emergency plan completed and it is under review by the office staff.
- We have loaded our 9th tire trailer and have counts on the first 7 trailers. Through the first 7 trailers we have collected 5,837 tires - 2,528 tires in the Sault garage, 1,719 tires in the Eckerman garage, and 1,590 in the Pickford Garage.

Union President Mills

- The annual union dinner is planned for October 23rd at the Kewadin. Social hour to start at 5:00 and dinner at 6:00 Staff, commissioners, and spouses and invited to join. Would like to have a head count by the end of September.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- Met with Jessica Fitzgerald at Morgan Stanley. The market is still performing strong despite the typical indicators like unemployment and fed rate changes which would normally trigger

the market to decline. Expecting 4th quarter earnings to flatten or decline as discretionary income goes away with the termination of pandemic spending programs.

- Met with the Straits Area Council group to do some group Cogitate sharing of processes and knowledge. This was a great learning opportunity. The group is going to meet again at the Northern Conference between CRASIF and CRA Committee meetings and then try to meet again in Emmett County in November.
- For the September 16 Board meeting, many office staff will be absent to attend the Northern Conference. Because this will shorten the deadline for payroll to be completed, time cards will need to be entered and approved by end of day the Friday before payday. A RAVE announcement will go out that week as a reminder.

Engineer Boileau

- Wrapping up 20 Mile project.
- The MDOT maintenance contracts were let.
- The Goetzville salt-barn project will start construction and should have salt in it this winter. The mowing of the site will start next week.
- Received the bids for striping and pavement patching for end of season projects. The pavement markings were for various roadway segments with PK Contracting the bid received and will be awarded in compliance with the Commission's purchasing policy. Payne and Dolan was the only bid received for the asphalt patching and was over-priced for the work. Recommend the bid be rejected.
- Was out of the office last week to attend the ATTSA mid-year event in Kansas City. Selected for the National Roadway Worker Protection Council.
- At state level, MDOT work zone delivery team has indicated they are looking into requiring specific levels of training for those working on state-owned routes.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Picked up the hydro-seeder.
- Working on several small repairs.
- Electronic parts such as sensors are hard to get.
- Tire supplies are low at our vendors so we have purchased larger quantities and will keep them in inventory this year.
- Controller panels for the sanders are slow to arrive.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- No Report.

NEW BUSINESS

- A.) Bid Award Striping - it was affirmed, PK Contracting will be awarded the bid for striping of various roadways.

B.) Bid Award Paving - the recommendation of Engineer Boileau is to reject the bid received from Payne and Dolan due to cost.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to not award the paving bid.

MOTION CARRIED

C.) Resolution 2021-11 - Sign State Maintenance Contract Renewal

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to sign Resolution 2021-11.

MOTION CARRIED by Unanimous Roll Call Vote

OLD BUSINESS

County Commissioners Comments

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Township Supervisor Jim Moore thanked the Road Commission and Clerk Christensen for the work to remove so many scrap tires from the area. For Kinross fall clean up, he will push to collect more tires from his township. He also reminded everyone that this week is Chippewa County Fair week.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Chairman Timmer expressed his appreciation for everything we do. Be Safe!

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Richard Timmer
Chairman