

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 October 27, 2022.

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 A.M.

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

ABSENT: Chairman Timmer.

GUEST PRESENT: Trout Lake Township Clerk Dave Hillman.

Commissioner Gagnon accepted the agenda as presented.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon that Payroll in the amount of \$153,874.67 and Vouchers in the amount of \$108,689.56 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 October 13, 2022 and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Decker

- Fuel tank set at Goetzville.
- Concrete being poured this week at Drummond.

Superintendent Erickson

- Working on ice-sand.
- Setting out snow stakes.
- Grading gravels after the sloppy snow last week.
- Getting trucks ready.

Foreman Goodman

- Ice-sand in Brimley & Rudyard.
- Thank you to Rob & staff for the safety & team building meeting yesterday. It was a good meeting.

Foreman Rye

- Same as Soo & Rudyard.
- Beavers are working hard to cause water issues.
- Thank you to Chief Mechanic Marsh for helping get their garage equipment ready for winter in the absence of a full-time mechanic.

Engineer Boileau

- Six Mile Road is done and due to traffic patterns, a center-line rumble strip was added.
- Box culvert job is closed out.
- Received an email from Bridget Nordurf of the Paradise Environmental Committee, inquiring about the replacement of the monitoring wells at the Paradise garage site that was excavated this summer. We are working with Mackinac Environmental and expect those monitoring stations to be installed before year end.

Clerk Christensen

- Attended a good UP Clerks meeting in Iron Mountain.
- Working to organize the safety meeting.

Union President Cheney

- Thanked Manager Laitinen for his words of appreciation to the crew and encouragement to attend the union meetings. Attendance was up at last night's meeting.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- Attended UP Clerks meeting in Iron Mountain. Presented information on navigating the Michigan Secretary of State website to request records as well as information on equipment grants through the USDA. Was elected president of the Clerks group for 2023.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Thanked Manager Laitinen for the safety meeting and employee appreciation lunch. Left the day feeling more positive.
- Shop is doing better but now tire re-treading service is experiencing supply chain delays.

MANAGER' S REPORT

- New mechanic will start in Pickford on Monday.
- Two winter temps started this week. One temp starts Monday. Looking to fill three more temp positions.
- November 2nd at 1:00 is the winter operations meeting with MDOT. It will be a virtual meeting in the office and district foremen are invited to attend.
- Last week attended General Policy Committee meeting, CRA Board Meeting, and Wetland Board Meeting. One new piece of

legislation, proposed by Otsego County Road Commission, being considered is an ability for road commissions to opt out of PA152 caps, much like the county and city has. Discussion ensued.

- Office Manager Decker asked that the board consider passing a resolution to give to the legislators, supporting a change in the designation of road commissions to consider them as part of the first responders/emergency vehicle designation, noting during events that affect the roads (snow, ice, washouts, etc.), emergency and first responders cannot get to their jobs until road crews do their job first. Commissioner Gagnon supported this idea and asked for a resolution to be drafted.
- Straits Area Council is on 11/1/22 at Audies.
- Received notice from the county indicating at the October 13 meeting the board passed a per diem raise to \$75 per meeting. This raise will affect all county agencies, including the Road Commission, beginning on January 1.
- Work schedules revert to 8-hour days beginning, Monday, October 31, 2022. State night routes will start on November 5th. County nights will start on a date yet to be decided.
- Received a notice of a redistribution of Federal Funds from MDOT.
- Signing a rental agreement this week for the loader to be located at the Kinross salt barn. This loader is a little small than what we have used historically, but looking forward to trying the VOLVO model.
- Yesterday we held a safety meeting and Employee Appreciation Day for the staff. It incorporated some safety information, team building, and lunch.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Correct the AP Voucher from the October 13 meeting. The amount listed on the agenda and recorded in the minutes was from a prior period. All paperwork presented as signed by the commissioners was for the correct amount.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to Correct the AP Voucher amount from \$77,401.51 as recorded in the minutes to reflect the actual amount of \$1,108,507.39.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- NONE

County Commissioners Comments

- None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- None.

MOTION CARRIED

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:37 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Jeremy Gagnon
Vice - Chairman