

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, Michigan on September 7, 2017.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Chairman Timmer, Commissioner Ormsbee, Commissioner Gagnon, Manager Laitinen, Engineer Krouth, Surveyor Wiggins, Foreman McConkey, Foreman Goodman, Chief Mechanic Marsh, Clerk Price, and Union President Hopper.

ABSENT: Office Mgr. Decker, Project Manager Jere, Foreman Erickson.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon that the Payroll in the amount of \$124,622.31 and Vouchers in the amount of \$322,427.07 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

STAFF REPORTS

Foreman Goodman

- Prairie Road project is complete and held through the heavy rains.
- Working on Hulbert Road.
- Emergency ditching project to repair damage done by resident.
- General maintenance and patching
- Employee Hoornstra still working the Soo mechanic shop.

Foreman McConkey

- Pt. Auxs Frene gravel lift, about a mile left.
- Moving to Newer Road.
- Culvert changes.
- Ditching work for the State.
- General maintenance and patching.

Surveyor Wiggins

- On site work at the 12 Mile culvert project. Crews are backfilling the site and then the drain tile will be placed.
- DEQ Permit work.

Engineer Krouth

- Good progress at the 12 Mile site. Water is moving correctly.
- The Little Rapids Open House Celebration went very well. We continue to have requests for the project's presentation.

- A speed study was requested for Scenic Dr.
- Ongoing project work.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Shop has been busy preparing the plow trucks for winter.
- Waiting on parts for the Soo Bomag roller.
- Regular garage and truck maintenance.

Union President Hopper - No report

MANAGERS REPORT

- Manager Laitinen reported that the Bomag roller was damaged while trying to flatten the pavement bumps along Mackinac Trail. He thinks that we should look at including a milling attachment in next year's equipment budget.
- After many long hours the 12 Mile project is reaching completion. Many compliments were received on the skill level and hard work of the Road Commission staff.
- Prairie Road Hill has also been completed and looks great. Again a testament to the skill level of our crew.
- The paving bids were reviewed during the special meeting held last week. The bid was awarded to Payne & Dolan for 1.2 million which is 1.8% under the proposed amount.
- SB 396 was introduced by Senator Casperson. This bill would give exemption to the Forestry Industry during frost laws and puts rules on the length of time Road Commissions can restrict their roads. Discussion ensued.
- Invited by AECOM (LRP Engineers) to speak to their ACEC group about the Little Rapids Project in Lansing on Tuesday. Also going to Boyne to attend the Wetland Bank Board Executive Committee meeting and then accepting the Safety award from CRASIF. On the morning of the 15th will be giving the Wetland Banking presentation at the Northern/Southern meeting.
- Asked to speak on October 19th to a bi-national group at Lake State on the Little Rapids Project.

NEW BUSINESS

EDC Discussion.

Manager Laitinen presented the Board with a request from Mr. Thomas Ewing with the Chippewa County EDC. They are requesting that the Road Commission assume responsibility for the maintenance and repair of Industrial Park Dr. in Kincheloe. The road has been inspected and will need repair in the near future. Manager Laitinen indicated that if listed as a County Primary Road by FHWA & MDOT that it would be Federal Aid eligible. If it cannot be listed as a Primary Road then he recommends that we decline the request. Discussion ensued with no decision made.

OLD BUSINESS

At a previous meeting a discussion was held about the ability to maintain large stretches of roadway and how to fund them. Chairman Timmer indicated that we have about 220 miles of Federal Aid eligible roads. Discussion ensued.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Union President Hopper asked if any hiring had been done.

Foreman Goodman expressed condolences to the Quinn family on the passing of their father.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Ormsbee reported that the Rudyard overpass sidewalls are deteriorating. Manager Laitinen indicated that MDOT has not done a good job of maintaining the overpasses and many are in need of repair.

Commissioner Gagnon and Commissioner Ormsbee both asked about moving forward with hiring.

Chairman Timmer reminded the staff to stay safe and thanked them for their hard work.

There being no further business to come before the Board Chairman Timmer adjourned the meeting at 8:45 a.m.

Amy L Price
Clerk for the Board

Richard Timmer
Chairman