

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Chippewa County Road Commissioners was held in their office located at 3949 S. Mackinac Trail, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan on July 30, 2015.

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, Office Manager Decker, Engineer Krouth, Project Manager Deatrick, Foreman Erickson, Foreman Pesola, Foreman McConkey Clerk Price, Chief Mechanic Avery and Union President Hopper.

ABSENT: Surveyor Wiggins

Chairman Timmer asked for any additions to the agenda. Manager Laitinen asked to add approval to go to bid on gravel crushing.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to amend the agenda to add approval to go to bid on gravel crushing.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer that the Payroll in the amount of \$116,047.46 and Vouchers in the amount of \$58,543.41 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on July 16, 2015 and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS Kinross Township Supervisor Moore indicated how happy he was with the new line painting on Gaines Hwy and how quickly it was done. Mr. Moore also asked about roadside mowing and was told that it is underway. Supervisor Moore then informed the Board that there has been a request to add Darrins Way. in the Arbor Ridge Subdivision to the County Road System. Manager Laitinen indicated that there are some issues to be resolved and that it would be looked at. Lastly, Mr. Moore said that the Kinross Rd./Thompson Rd. area that is being worked on looks great.

STAFF REPORTS

Foreman Pesola

- Very busy two weeks
- Staff completed work on the H-40 bridge

- Curb and gutter is complete at Mackinac Trail and Kinross Rd
- Working in Paradise on the Whitefish Point Rd. break wall
- Manhole cover replacements in Rudyard and Brimley
- Guys working hard and doing a great job

Foreman Erickson

- Fill job on 13 Mile Road
- AMZ crew has been out in the Rudyard area
- Brush Hog work on Sugar Island
- Screen plant is at the Brocklehurst pit

Foreman McConkey

- Crews working on pipe changes
- Doing some State guardrail work
- Gravel work on Drummond Island on Cream City Pt. Rd.
- General maintenance, guys working very hard

Office Manager Decker - None

Project Manager Deatruck

- Spent a day with MDOT reviewing work at six different locations, checking out pipes, joints and bolts
- Took bids on Pavement Markings
- Working on plans for Gogomain Rd.
- Mailbox issue resolved, Discussion ensued

Union President Hopper

- Has letter been prepared regarding grievance

Chief Mechanic Avery

- Took delivery of two new trucks
- Others being worked on, with delivery in the near future
- General Maintenance, everyone is busy

Engineer Krouth

- The Sugar Island Causeway contract has been revised to add 3.7 million dollars, to extend the date to 8-15-2017 and to officially add Engineer Krouth to the contract.
- Received draft contracts between Payne & Dolan and the Road Commission on the Causeway project that will need to be reviewed

- The H-40 bridge repair is complete and the restrictions have been lifted
- Need to do the last culvert replacement on Sugar Island, it is the last portion of the repairs from the large storm in 2013 and is funded by the BIA
- Contact has been made with the Contractor regarding the exterior work fixes needed on the Road Commission building

MANAGERS REPORT

- Thank you to the staff for their hard work, on the H-40 Bridge in Rudyard, most of it being hand work in extreme heat. They did a great job!
- Took delivery of two new trucks - others soon
- Looking at future heavy equipment needs
- Attended a meeting with the Cummins Rep, 2017 will have new emissions - huge improvements
- Although we did not attend the 2015 Insurance Conference we were recognized for our low experience rating and placed on the CRASIF Honor roll for 2014-2015
- Was invited to a Legislative Transportation Issues meeting that will take place on August 6th in St. Ignace
- Have been working with Attorney McNeely regarding the DEQ issues, all briefs and motions have been submitted. We have requested oral arguments. We are in good standing and things are moving along well.
- Conducted interviews for the Office Clerk opening with Office Manager Decker and Commissioner Gagnon
- Have been closely following the road funding issue. House Democrats have their own plan and recently big labor Unions have rolled out their plan, Discussion ensued
- Was contacted by Dr. Eric Zeemering from Northern Illinois University; he is doing a study on the impact of local government on Great Lakes water quality. He will be here next week to interview us and to look at some of our projects. Discussion ensued
- Am taking part on a statewide committee that is looking into automatic vehicle location/GPS. MDOT is considering making it mandatory on trucks in their new maintenance contracts. Looking to combine this system with our new radio system. Discussion ensued

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS - None

APPROVAL OF TOWNSHIP ROAD AGREEMENT WITH RUDYARD TOWNSHIP

A road agreement with Rudyard Township for improvements to Prairie Road was read by Manager Laitinen and presented to the Board for approval.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to approve the Township Road Agreement with Rudyard Township for improvements to Prairie Road.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF TOWNSHIP ROAD AGREEMENT WITH SOO TOWNSHIP

A road agreement with Soo Township for improvements to Cummings and 17 ½ Mile Roads was read by Manager Laitinen and presented to the Board for approval.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to approve the Township Road Agreement with Soo Township for improvements to Cummings and 17 ½ Mile Roads.

MOTION CARRIED

Bids were received for the 2015 Countywide Pavement Marking Package. There were two bidders. It is the recommendation of Project Manager Deatruck to accept the bid from PK Contracting.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to accept the bid submitted from PK Contracting for the 2015 Pavement Markings in the amount of \$34,449.68.

MOTION CARRIED

Engineer Krouth informed the Board that there is one more culvert in need of replacement on Sugar Island and requested approval to go to bid for the project. Approximate cost is \$80,000 to 100,000.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to go to bid for the replacement of one culvert on Sugar Island.

MOTION CARRIED

Engineer Krouth informed the Board that amendments have been made to the Sugar Island Causeway contract and requested their approval. The contract has been amended to add 3.7 Million to the budget, extend the completion date to 8-15-17, add Engineers Krouth's name to the contracts and to approve Manager Laitinen to sign amendments.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to approve the amendments to the Sugar Island Causeway contracts and for Manager Laitinen to sign.

MOTION CARRIED

Manager Laitinen informed the Board that the interview process for the open Clerks position is complete. He recommends Stephanie Ranta for the position and requests approval of the Board.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to hire Stephanie Ranta for the open clerk's position.

MOTION CARRIED

Manager Laitinen discussed current and upcoming projects and their locations and the need for crushed gravel. He requested permission from the Board to go to bid for crushed gravel. Discussion ensued

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to go to bid for crushed gravel.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS: - None

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Ormsbee commented that just south of the 9 Mile and Mackinac Trail intersection there is a serious rut in the pavement. He requested that it be looked at and that contact be made with MDOT to see if they would fund the repairs due to heavy traffic from the detour. He also asked that we look into repairing the broken shop window.

Commissioner Gagnon stated that he drove thru our work zone on 6 Mile and was impressed by the traffic control.

Chairman Timmer said he was very impressed with our safety record and the great job the staff is doing to make safety a priority for not only themselves but for the motoring public as well. He then commented that he had attended a conference where there was a presentation on the Wetland Bank Concept. Discussion ensued

There being no further business to come before the Board Chairman Timmer adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Amy Price
Board Secretary

Richard B. Timmer
Chairman