

**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 February 12, 2014.

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

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Timmer, LaJoie and Ormsbee, Manager Laitinen, Office Mgr. Decker, Clerk McDowell, Surveyor Wiggins, Foreman Erickson, Foreman McConkey and Union President Hopper.

**ABSENT:** Chief Mechanic Avery and Assistant Engineer Deatrick

**MOTION** by Commissioner LaJoie **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to amend agenda and add under unfinished business discussion on disposal of Mayer house across the street.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner LaJoie that the Payroll in the amount of \$151,133.91 and Vouchers in the amount of \$435,014.36 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner LaJoie **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on January 28, 2014 and place them on file.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jesse Knoll indicated roads on Sugar Island look good, crew is doing a great job.

**STAFF REPORTS**

Foreman Erickson

- Winging banks
- Mixing up more ice/sand
- Working on truck maintenance

Foreman McConkey

- Winging banks
- Working with the grader on some of the ice packed roadways
- Performing maintenance in garage

## Surveyor Wiggins

- Received permits from DEQ for 1 ½ Mile Road.
- Updating our Act 51 maps
- Working on permits for Centerline Road

## Office Manager Decker

- Financial audit is scheduled to begin March 3rd.
- Working on development of a website
- Drag blades were received last week

Discussion ensued regarding development of the website for the Road Commission.

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS-None

## MANAGERS REPORT

- Offered congratulations to Office Mgr Decker. His son Brian has enlisted in the Air Force and left for boot camp yesterday.
- Met with Forest Service yesterday to discuss renewal of our master agreement with them. Was a very encouraging meeting.
- Completed URS Corp contract review for the Little Rapids project.
- Met with union last week and have agreed on the health care options for this year. The base plan will be \$8.85 per pay. The deductions for this payroll were half of the published rate because there was only one week of February on this payroll. Union has also concurred to begin shopping sometime in May for health care options for next year.
- Holding discussions with MDOT regarding specifications for the new salt shed in Kinross.
- Prepared the thank you letter to Sault Tribe and acknowledgement of Wendy Hoffman's role in obtaining funding for the storm damage on Sugar Island last September.

Chairman Timmer requested that we take a picture of the crew who worked on the storm damage on Sugar Island and submit it to Cathy Abramson.

He indicated he wanted to wait till spring and take the picture

Manager Laitinen stated he has completed his review of the Contract with URS Corp. and would like authorization to sign contract.

Manager Laitinen reviewed the following services included within the contract.

Completion of the permit process  
Development of the bid documents  
Consultant Engineering  
Administrative Overview

Commissioner Ormsbee asked how we are tracking our administrative cost associated with this project.

Office Manager Decker indicated an account number will be assigned to this project and any time we are working on the project the time will be charged to it.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner LaJoie to authorize Manager Laitinen to sign the contract with URS Corp for the Little Rapids project.

### **MOTION CARRIED**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Mayer property

Manager Laitinen stated there has been some interest again in the old Mayer house across the road and with the possibility of having it moved.

Manager Laitinen indicated he would like to advertize the house to the general public for bid with a time frame for removal of November or December.

Chairman Timmer asked that after the bids have been received they be brought forward to the Board.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Ormsbee asked that Office Manager Decker prepare a debt report showing debt which has been paid off and the debt outstanding along with a repayment schedule. He indicated in the near future we will need to make a move on the purchasing of some new trucks.

### **ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner LaJoie stated crews continue to do a great job. It was great to see the old snow go out.

Commissioner Timmer reported on CRAM General Policy Meeting he attended last week. CRAM is striving to be the powerhouse rather than MDOT.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS-None**

Foreman Erickson thanked the Board for extending the pay raise to non-union personnel.

There being no further business to come before the Board Chairman Timmer adjourned the meeting at 9:24 a.m.

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Christine A. McDowell  
Secretary for the Board

Richard B. Timmer  
Chairman