

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 March 22, 2018.

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

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Gagnon, Foreman McConkey, Project Manager Jere

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer that the Payroll in the amount of \$147,666.44 and Vouchers in the amount of \$311,581.04 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve the Regular meeting minutes held on March 8, 2018.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Donnell Avery was present to address the Board. It was decided to hold a Special Meeting to address his request. The Meeting has been set for March 29th at 10:30 am.

STAFF REPORTS

Foreman Erickson

- Steaming Culverts.
- Digging out ditches to improve drainage.
- Pothole patching.
- Gravel roads starting to bare off.
- Staying very busy.

Foreman Goodman

- Steaming pipes. Thaw, freeze and repeat.
- Gravel road maintenance & patching.

Surveyor Wiggins

- DEQ Permit Preparation.
- Upcoming project topo.

- ACT 51 Map updates. Two changes were made; Kincheloe Dr. and Blueberry Ln. in Kinross Township changed from local to primary designation.

Office Manager Decker

- Auditors Anderson/Tackman finished the onsite Audit, all went well.
- February financials will be done soon, waiting on audit completion.
- Section 115 Trust research and quotes. Discussion ensued. Special Meeting has been set for April 5 at 1:00 P.M.

Engineer Krouth

- Good to be back!
- Catching up on and finalizing project work.
- Attended the Engineers Workshop in February.
- Participated in two Webinars.
- Curley Lewis Rd Flap Grant Role Agreement Preparation.
- Lakeshore Dr should be in the May letting and Baker Side Rd will be May or June.

Project Manager Jere

- Permit Bonanza!!!
- Attended Aggregate Technician training.
- Working on up-coming Safety Meeting set for April 26th.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Sanders and Patch trailers have been ordered.
- Brush-hog Maintenance.
- General shop and equipment maintenance.

Union President Hopper

- Asked about a plan for parts room access when the Parts Manager is off-site or taking time off.

Managers Report

- Attended the 100 Year Anniversary of the Highway Conference. The courses offered were very good and it's great to see the new technology and equipment. Chairman Timmer suggested that next year Chief Mechanic Marsh and the Foreman should consider going. While at the conference a meeting was held with Senator Victory regarding his proposed Wetland Banking legislation. It appears that the legislation will not move forward.
- Attended the MDOT Negotiating Committee. The main topic discussed was the repair and replacement of Guardrail at County Road overpasses. Discussion ensued regarding guardrail issues in our County.

- The Governor signed the bill approving the use of the 2017 Michigan Budget surplus on Roads. Approximately \$475,000 in funding will be received in May. Discussion ensued. Several possible projects were discussed.
- Received notice from Maple Block Rd resident Ms. Susan Sharples. Her Attorney sent notice that they expect Betsy Block Rd to be passable by April 30th.
- Received the ACEC Merit Award for the Engineering done on the St. Mary's River Little Rapids by our Representatives AECOM.
- Attended and Presented at the 2018 Bridge Conference. It was well attended by all the Transportation Agencies.
- A grievance has been received by the Union regarding the recent employee termination.

NEW BUSINESS

ACT 51 2017 Map Certification

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer that Chairman Timmer be authorized to sign the ACT 51 Certification Map.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

Staffing

Manager Laitinen reviewed the staffing needs with the Board. At this time approval is being sought to hire 4 to 5 new fulltime employees. Chairman Timmer mentioned that now is the time to grow the crew.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve the hiring of up to 5 new employees.

MOTION CARRIED

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Union President Hopper mentioned that the seal-coat job along M-80 is holding well and is something to consider on County Roads. President Hopper also mentioned that the crew would benefit from some new/re-training on use of the AMZ machine.

Office Manager Decker asked for permission to sign the Contracts with Morgan Stanley to open the Section 115 Trust.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to sign the Contracts with Morgan Stanley to open the Section 115 Trust.

MOTION CARRIED

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Chairman Timmer brought in information that he received from Lake State University regarding their Intern program. Manager Laitinen mentioned that he has received two applications for summer inter work.

Chairman Timmer reminded all to stay safe.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 A.M.

Amy L Price
Clerk for the Board

Richard B. Timmer
Chairman