

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 20, 2018.

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, Foreman Erickson, Foreman McConkey, Foreman Goodman, Chief Mechanic Marsh, Clerk Price, and Union President Mills.

ABSENT: Surveyor Wiggins, Project Manager Jere

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon that Payroll in the amount of \$138,808.36 and Vouchers in the amount of \$448,311.31 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 regular meeting minutes held on September 6, 2018.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rudyard resident Steve Baer was present to thank the Board for the improvements made to East Lake Road. Mr. Baer reported that he had a conversation with Mr. West with the Forest Service and he indicated that he would be willing to discuss further improvements. Manager Laitinen said he would make contact with him.

Mr. John Lechner was present to request a decision from the Board regarding the refund of the remaining \$5,000.00 heavy hauling fee charged him in 1997. It was decided to move this item to Old Business on the Agenda.

STAFF REPORTS

Foreman Erickson

- Slope work, seed and mulching remain to be done on Townhall Rd. The required DEQ reports have been submitted.
- Local guardrail maintenance.
- 9 Mile Box Culvert project.
- Removing the old Parker Road/10 Mile Bridge between Ridge and Riverside.
- AMZ crew is in the Pickford area then moving to Lakeshore.

Commissioner Ormsbee mentioned that he had a call from Sugar Island resident Steve Morley. He is looking for signage indicating driveway entrances in an effort to slow down traffic traveling to the ferry.

Foreman Goodman

- Guardrail was installed by Action Traffic on the Prairie Rd Hill.
- East Lake Road box culvert placement and slope work is completed.
- Continuing on the Tremblay Road culvert placement.

Foreman McConkey

- Crews working on pipe changes on Rocky Point Road.
- The AMZ crew in Pickford is doing a great job.
- Ditching along Hewer Road to improve drainage.
- Mechanic is busy but keeping up.

Office Manager Decker

- Financials for August are done.
- Cash flow is tight.
- Blades were ordered. Total of the bulk order was \$103,000.00
- Used Equipment Sale bids were opened.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Two of the new trucks have been delivered.
- Old trucks are prepped and ready for pick-up by Baraga County and others.
- Dealing with emission issues on trucks.

Union President Mills

- No Report

Managers Report

- Attended the CRASIF annual meeting last week. At the meeting the CCRC was awarded for having the lowest workers comp modification factor/claims history in the State. In addition we were awarded for having a mod factor under 1.00 for eight years in a row. This is a direct result of the quality workers we have and their attention to safety.
- The Statewide operator's lockout continues. Contract negotiations have completely stalled. Discussion Ensued.
- Action Traffic is doing guardrail installation throughout the County per the bid let in July.
- Elmers has completed the box culvert on 9 Mile. The site is ready for guardrail and pavement patching.
- The MERS investment/interest/funding issue is being closely followed. Discussion ensued.
- Manager Laitinen updated the Board on Senate Bill #396. This bill is sponsored by Senator Casperson and would remove ALL road

restrictions for the Timber Industry during the Spring break up when load limits are in place. Discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS

Used Equipment Bid

Manager Laitinen reviewed the bids received on the used equipment.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to award the used equipment to the high bidders as read.

MOTION CARRIED

Nordurft Summons

Manager Laitinen informed the Board that a Summons was received through the Circuit Court from the Nordurft's in Paradise. They own several adjacent lots within their plat. They are going through the legal process to have the roads and alleys within abandoned so they can have clear ownership. This is informational only and requires no action.

OLD BUSINESS

Lechner Request

Manager Laitinen reviewed the request with the Board. He indicated that Lechner Construction paid a \$10,000.00 permit fee in June of 1997. After completion of the project a refund of the fee was requested. After due consideration \$5,000.00 was refunded in the Spring of 1998. Mr. Lechner has requested that the remainder be refunded. Manager Laitinen indicated that he was very hesitant to reverse a decision made by the Road Commission Board twenty years ago. He further indicated that his recommendation was that the Board uphold the decision made by the previous Board in 1997.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to deny the requested refund and stand with the previous action taken by the Board.

MOTION CARRIED

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Ormsbee commented on the quality of work done by our crews. "Our road system is far better than most."

Commissioner Gagnon agreed with Commissioner Ormsbee statement.

Chairman Timmer also agreed and reminded all to stay safe.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:18 A.M.

Amy L. Price
Clerk

Richard B. Timmer
Chairman