

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 January 12, 2017.

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Commissioners Timmer, Commissioner Gagnon, Commissioner Ormsbee, Manager Laitinen, Office Mgr. Decker, Engineer Krouth, Project Manager Jere, Foreman Erickson, Foreman Goodman, Foreman McConkey, Surveyor Wiggins, Chief Mechanic Marsh and Union President Hopper.

ABSENT: None

Clerk Price asked for nominations for the office of Chairman.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to nominate Commissioner Timmer as Chairman.

Second call for nominations for Chairman
Third call for nominations for Chairman

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to close nominations and cast unanimous ballot for Commissioner Timmer for Chairman.

MOTION CARRIED

Clerk Price asked for nominations for the office of Vice Chairman.

MOTION by Chairman Timmer **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to nominate Commissioner Ormsbee as Vice Chairman.

Second call for nominations for Vice Chairman
Third call for nominations for Vice Chairman

MOTION by Chairman Timmer **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to close nominations and cast unanimous ballot for Commissioner Ormsbee for Vice Chairman.

MOTION CARRIED

Chairman Timmer approved agenda as presented.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee that the Payroll in the amount of \$197,463.21 and Vouchers in the amount of \$292,416.36 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 minutes from the Regular Meeting held on December 29, 2016 and the Special Meeting on December 29, 2016.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

- Authorization to go to bid on three pick-up trucks and one sign truck.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to authorize Manager Laitinen to go to bid on three pick-up trucks and one sign truck.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS None

STAFF REPORTS

Foreman Erickson

- Performing winter maintenance.
- Working on clean-up of banks and intersections.
- Tough winter conditions have been hard on the salt supply.
- Trucks have been holding up well.
- Have had several residential complaints.

Foreman Goodman

- Busy with winter maintenance.
- The issue with the snowmobile trail groomers has been resolved.

Foreman McConkey

- Heavy winter operations.
- Have had a few equipment problems, mechanics are keeping up.
- Received additional salt deliveries at our Goetzville location.
- Guys are holding up well.

Office Manager Decker

- Largest payroll in the history of the Road Commission.
- Was approached by Chrysler Corporation. They are looking for a location to do a photo shoot displaying their new trucks. They were going to look at the Kinross and Eckerman locations. A small location payment may be available.
- Working on year end.
- Closing out 2015 with State Auditors.

Surveyor Wiggins

- Working on DEQ permits for the Riverside Dr. crossings.

Engineer Krouth

- Working on the upcoming road projects.
- MDOT is pushing for electronic processing. Discussion followed.

Project/Safety Manager Jere

- Had a vest safety poster developed. One will be put in each garage.
- Planning on inspecting each garage for any possible MIOSHA violations.
- Midway Rental is offering safety jackets at a great price. Parts Manager Piche has samples in his office. The Road Commission has agreed to share in the cost of the high visibility jacket.
- Commissioner Ormsbee asked Safety Manager Jere to approach the local Amish families and see if they are willing to improve their visibility at night.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Shop is running well.
- Old snow blower is out and running.
- 594 is done and in use.

Union President Hopper

- Reported that M-28 is taking a beating with the conditions this winter. Chairman Timmer mentioned that M-123 is rough too.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS None

MANAGERS REPORT

- Michigan DEQ's State of the Great Lakes Report had a good mention about the Little Rapids project and our involvement.
- After the last meeting we had an office visit from Mr. Quinn. He has been talked to by the local authorities and asked not to return to the office without an appointment. There have been no more issues. Discussion ensued about office safety.
- Have been patrolling the roads and monitoring conditions. The grader is out cutting back banks.
- Working on presentation for the Bridge Conference in March.
- Have been appointed to the Wetland Mitigation Board. The first meeting is next Thursday. Watching new legislation closely.
- Will be attending the Joint Agency Transportation Committee meeting to be held on January 25th in Lansing.
- Taking place in a Webinar next Wednesday on replacing old diesel technology with new.
- Working with Sign Foreman Young on specs for the new sign truck.

- Attended Managers Meeting this week. They are looking for committee members. Now that the work is done on the State Maintenance Contract He will apply for the General Policy Committee. They were also looking for members for the Commissioners Committee. Commissioner Ormsbee offered to serve on the Committee.
- Plow truck will make a visit to the Soo Co-op Preschool next Tuesday the 17th for a safety presentation.

OLD BUSINESS None

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Chairman Timmer mentioned that there needs to be a capital outlay discussion on maintaining our fleet of trucks and heavy equipment.

Commissioner Ormsbee asked if we had any old blower pictures. He asked what type of bulbs we are using in our truck headlights. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Gagnon asked about plowing in the Arbor Ridge sub-division. Foreman McConkey said he would speak with him about it. He mentioned that he has heard from a visiting sales person that the roads in Chippewa County were the best.

Commissioner Gagnon stated that a review should be set up for Manager Laitinen.

Chairman Timmer mentioned he has been hearing good feedback on our care of the roads, and then reminded the staff to stay safe.

There being no further business to come before the Board Chairman Timmer adjourned the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Amy L Price
Deputy Clerk for the Board

Richard B. Timmer
Chairman