

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, MI on March 12, 2026.

Chairman Gagnon called the meeting to order at 8:02 A.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner Gagnon, Commissioner Moser, Manager Laitinen, Engineer Boileau, Office Manager Livermore, Foreman Johnston, Foreman Johnson, Fleet Manager Donajkowski, Clerk McLean.

ABSENT: Commissioner Sprague, Foreman Goodman, Clerk Sillers, Union President Bumstead.

GUEST PRESENT: Rory Diamond from Platinum Auto Service

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Chairman Gagnon to accept the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Chairman Gagnon that Payroll in the amount of \$229,180.96 and Vouchers in the amount of \$605,624.31 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Chairman Gagnon to approve the regular meeting minutes from February 26, 2026, and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Livermore

- Nothing new to report.

Foreman Johnston

- Drainage issues with warm stretch.
- Crews are working dark to dark to stay on top of issues.

Foreman Goodman

- No report.

Foreman Johnson

- Winter/Spring/Winter leaves water problems. Crew managing best they can.

Engineer Boileau

- Conferences and 2027 grants and contracts.

Clerk Sillers

- No report.

Union President Bumstead

- No report.

Clerk McLean

- Nothing new to report.

Fleet Manager Donajkowski

- Truck issues, mostly related to emissions. Mechanics working a lot of hours.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Issues with the trucks, mostly attributable to emissions problems. Sent a letter to the EPA and the Whitehouse outlining the problems with the emissions on the fleet and affect it has on the service to the roads with winter still several weeks from ending. The letter included a request for exemption for Road Commission fleets to the Clean Air Act as has been granted to Police and Fire. Got a thank you note from the Whitehouse and no response from the EPA. Currently we have eight (8) trucks down with a storm on the way tonight. Everyone is frustrated and working a lot of overtime. As a measure, a report was presented this morning showing the Sault Garage has worked nearly 300 hours more overtime this year over last year, and last year had a lot of overtime. The dedication by everyone in all of the garages is appreciated.
- With the warmup and seasonal road restrictions beginning, been working on permitting. The last frost read shows 21".
- Worked on the millage renewal language. Thank you to Kelly Church for the deadline reminder. Putting this renewal on the ballot should come with no cost to the Road Commission.
- From the funding side, thought a portion of the new funding should have been seen in March. Got clarification from MDOT, and we should see something in April.

NEW BUSINESS

- a.) Award 2027 Peterbilt Truck Upfitting - Manager Laitinen reviewed the bids received for the upfitting the six (6) Peterbilt trucks. Recommended Truck and Trailer be awarded the bid based on cost difference in excess of \$100,000 to complete the six trucks.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Chairman Gagnon to award the upfitting of six (6), 2027 Peterbilt trucks to Truck and Trailer Specialist.

MOTION CARRIED

- b.) Subcontract for Drainage system at Kinross Base - Manager Laitinen reviewed the issue with the storm drainage system in Kinross and compounding spring flooding. Engineer Boileau presented a quote for work by Matheny, requesting authorization to enter an initial contract with Matheny for \$10,000 to start the process of cleaning out the catch basins with authority to contract additional work, if necessary, up to an additional \$45,000.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Chairman Gagnon to authorize Engineer Boileau to contract Matheny for catch basin clean out, not to exceed \$45,000.

MOTION CARRIED

- c.) Due to a schedule conflict, the next board meeting has been rescheduled to **MONDAY, MARCH 23rd at 12:30 p.m..**

OLD BUSINESS

- NONE

County Commissioner's Comments

- None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Chairman Gagnon wished everyone to “stay safe”.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 A.M

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Jeremy Gagnon
Chairman