

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 April 23, 2026.

Chairman Gagnon called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM

PRESENT: Chairman Gagnon, Commissioner Moser, Commissioner Sprague, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Livermore, Foreman Johnston, Foreman Goodman, Clerk McLean, Clerk Sillers, Union President Bumstead.

ABSENT: Engineer Boileau, Fleet Manager Donajkowski, Foreman Johnson.

GUEST PRESENT: County Commissioner Jim Trayner and Chub Creek Residents Sheila and Hanna Wilde.

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

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser that Payroll in the amount of \$230,181.52 and Vouchers in the amount of \$325,295.35 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to approve the regular meeting minutes from April 9, 2026, and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Shelia Wilde, Chub Creek resident, addressed the board requesting information regarding rumors indicating work to raise Chub Creek Road. Manager Laitinen responded that the Road Commission has not received a Township Road Agreement for this road. With the turnover in township supervisors, the priorities have shifted in the area. To raise the road and improve the road requires 50% township contribution. Discussion ensued.

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Livermore

- ACT 51 nearly complete. Waiting on the infrastructure entries from the auditors.
- Audit visit complete. The draft report should be ready mid-May.
- Received notification from Kirk Harrier, Otsego County Road Commission Manager and MERS Board representative, sent notice that the MERS board has approved extending the 1,000 hour of

service waiver until December 31, 2035. This waiver has been beneficial to CCRC over the last couple of years to provide coverage when we have been faced with short staffing. There is still a requirement for a bona fide 60-day separation of service.

Foreman Johnston

- A lot of water. Five roads closed due to wash-out. Finished the last of those repairs yesterday.

Foreman Goodman

- Gravel patching and blading. Couple of washouts. West end is just starting to break up.

Foreman Johnson

- No report.

Engineer Boileau

- No report.

Clerk Sillers

- Snow stakes lists sent out to place our annual Spring order.
- Safety meeting on Monday.

Union President Bumstead

- Nothing new to report.

Clerk McLean

- Nothing new to report.

Fleet Manager Donajkowski

- No report.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Welcomed the temps to the full-time crew. At the end of winter operations four seasonal temp employees accepted full-time positions. Welcome Luke Eagle, Grant Gann, Sean Waybrant, and Nick Nelson to the crew.
- Monday is the safety meeting and the start of 10-hour shifts (6:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m).
- Ballot language for the millage renewal was approved. This item will be on the primary election ballot in August. If not passed at that election it will again appear on the ballot during the general election.
- Received a letter from Congressman Jack Bergman regarding support for granting the 2012 emergency vehicle exemption from heavy-duty diesel derate requirements. Congressman Bergman intend to introduce legislation in the 119th Congress to make this change in statute.

NEW BUSINESS

- a.) Authorize purchase of 2016 Peterbilt 567 tractor truck from Forge Truck Centers for \$102,377.63. Manager Laitinen reviewed the specs of the truck, indicating they match exactly what we would look for in a new truck. This truck would replace unit 604 that has reached its end of life due to frame degradation.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to authorize purchase of Peterbilt Truck for \$102,377.63.

MOTION CARRIED

- b.) Soo Township Road Agreement - 5 Mile Road from Ridge to Nicolet, township share \$308,000.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to authorize signature of Township Road Agreement.

MOTION CARRIED

- c.) An Audit Exit Meeting date - Office Manager Livermore indicated immediately following the regular June 18th meeting would be an acceptable date for the auditor to return to meet with the board. The Board agreed. A Special Meeting will follow the regular meeting of the board for the purpose of the Audit Exit.
- d.) Authorization for signatures on bank accounts held at Central Savings Bank.
- e.) Authorization for signatures on new accounts held at Morgan Stanley.

Office Manager Livermore reviewed the necessity for signatures at CSB due to a change in County Treasurer. The new savings account to be opened at Morgan Stanley was approved at the last board meeting. The paperwork to be signed are the signature cards related to the account.

MOTION by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to authorize the signatures for the bank accounts at Central Savings Bank and Morgan Stanley.

MOTION CARRIED

- f.) Authorize purchase of FAE BL Mulch head from AIS for \$53,639.70 Manager Laitinen presented reason for need for this piece of equipment this year and confirmed this is a MI Deal business.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to authorize purchase of mulch head from AIS for \$53,639.70.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- NONE

County Commissioner's Comments

- Commissioner Traynor nothing new. It's been quiet.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Commissioner Moser started a conversation regarding the data processing centers.
- Manager Laitinen presented an invitation to the Pat Harmon Memorial Trap Shoot hosted by AIS on May 14th.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Chairman Gagnon thanked every for the work during the storm and wished everyone to "stay safe".

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 A.M

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Jeremy Gagnon
Chairman