

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 November 20, 2025.

Chairman Gagnon called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Gagnon, Commissioner Moser, Commissioner Sprague, Manager Laitinen, Engineer Boileau, Office Manager Livermore, Foreman Johnston, Foreman Goodman, Foreman Johnson, Clerk McLean, Union President Bumstead, and Fleet Manager Donajkowski.

ABSENT: Clerk Sillers and Chief Mechanic Marsh.

GUEST PRESENT:

Rudyard Township Supervisor John Krentz and County Commission Jim Traynor

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

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague that Payroll in the amount of \$195,595.81 and Vouchers in the amount of \$211,771.80 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to approve the regular meeting minutes from November 6, 2025, and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Livermore - Given by Clerk McLean

- **MERS Quarterly report** - \$900K gain on investment for the quarter - \$1.9M YTD
- At the Clerks meeting in October, a discussion was started regarding ADA compliance and websites. Greystone Technology has provided a quote of approximately \$15K to overhaul our current website and make it compliant. Will provide more information at a later date.

Foreman Johnston

- Gravel roads are in rough shape. Crew is out working on them.
- Beavers are causing issues. Have trappers out.

Foreman Goodman

- Getting ready for winter.

Foreman Johnson

- Getting roads shaped up for winter.

Engineer Boileau

- Will cover items in new business.

Clerk Sillers

- No Report.

Union President Bumstead

- Expressed appreciation for donated sick time to a co-worker out due to surgery.

Clerk McLean

- Nothing new to report.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- No Report.

Fleet Manager Donajkowski

- Approximately 98% complete on the central dispatch project.
- Working on annual inventory counts and adjustments with Office Manager. Culverts are complete. Next week work on parts inventory and guardrail begins.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Been off. Hired one mechanic and reviewed truck specs to be covered in Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Award 2026 Pavement Bid - Engineer Boileau reviewed the bids received. Payne and Dolan were the low bid by approximately \$500K.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to award the 2026 paving package to Payne and Dolan.

MOTION CARRIED.

- b. Award 2026 Pavement Marking Bid - Engineer Boileau explained the bid came in significantly lower than anticipated. Requested additional \$75,000 in funding for potential additional striping if budget allows later in the year.

MOTION by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to authorize Engineer Boileau to enter a pavement marking contract with PK Contracting for \$125,000 for 2026 with an authorization of up to an additional \$75,000 for additional work, providing cashflow supports this work later in the year.

MOTION CARRIED

- c. Authorization to sign Title Sheet for H40 Bridge.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to authorize board, manager, and engineer to sign Title Sheet JN220731 - H40 Bridge.

MOTION CARRIED

- d. Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA) policy for administrative staff - Manger Laitinen read the proposed draft of the policy to the board and provided background information of the passing of the new law. Those employees covered under a collective bargaining agreement are not subject to ESTA until the ratification of a new collective bargaining agreement.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to approve the ESTA policy.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Tandem Truck Bid award - Manager Laitinen reviewed the bids that did not meet specifications. He then reviewed the two bids that met specifications. Peterbilt was the low bid by just over \$10K per truck at \$174,838.36. The recommendation to the board was to award the bid to purchase six (6) units from JX Peterbilt.

MOTION by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to award the truck purchase to JX Peterbilt.

MOTION CARRIED

County Commissioners' Comments

- Commissioner Traynor reported having survived knee surgery.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Chairman Gagnon echoed the sentiment and wished everyone to "stay safe".

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to enter Closed Session in accordance with MCL 15.267 Sec. 8(1)(c) for the purpose of strategy for negotiation session connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement.

MOTION CARRIED by UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to re-enter the Regular Meeting at 9:34 a.m.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to authorize Manager Laitinen to begin negotiation process under the limits/parameters discussed in closed session.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 A.M

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Jeremy Gagnon
Chairman