

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 June 4, 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, Fleet Manager Donajkowski, Union President Bumstead.

ABSENT: Engineer Boileau, Foreman Johnson, Clerk McLean, and Clerk Sillers.

GUEST PRESENT: None

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 \$260,508.16 and Vouchers in the amount of \$511,013.08 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

It was noted that this run of Payroll included \$70K in vacation/sick payouts to retirees and three (3) major bills totaling \$350K included in accounts payable were for Brow Crushing, health insurance, and MERS.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to approve the regular meeting minutes from May 21, 2026, and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Livermore

- The ACT 51 report for 2025 is complete. A reporting deadline extension was granted until June 15th, but the report was completed by the original May 31st deadline.
- Summer hours (4 - 10 hour days) are in effect. Please have all timecards for the week entered and approved by end of day on Thursday each week. The office staff works Monday - Friday, making Friday an optimal day to catch up timekeeping so processing paychecks can begin on Monday.

- Notices went out to the garages regarding the timing of the payday to happen the week of the July 4th holiday. For the first pay in July:
 - Timecards must be entered and approved by **Friday, June 26th**.
 - The **BOARD MEETING** will be Tuesday, June 30th.
 - **PAY DAY** will be Wednesday, July 1st.
 - **Paper Checks** will be available to pick up in the office on Wednesday, July 1st.
 - **The office will be CLOSED Thursday and Friday in observance of the holiday.**

Foreman Johnston

- Dunbar By-pass road completed.
- Maintenance work done on a few seasonal roads in Dafter.
- Replaced some cross-pipes.

Foreman Goodman

- Patched up some of the washouts and did some culvert replacement.
- Gravel roads shaping up.

Foreman Johnson

- No report.

Engineer Boileau

- No report.

Clerk Sillers

- No report.

Union President Bumstead

- Attended the meeting in the office to review the Blue Cross renewal. It will be presented to the entire union at a meeting to be held in a week or two.

Clerk McLean

- No report.

Fleet Manager Donajkowski

- Fuel and oil bids went out and should be ready for approval at the next meeting.
- Shop is busy.

MANAGER' S REPORT

- Met with the union to review health insurance renewal. This renewal came with a 12% increase. Tentatively we have agreed to a small increase to the employee share.
- The PLOW Act as introduced by Congressman Jack Bergman is gaining traction and he is pushing it for the industry. Received an

invitation to offer testimony regarding the significance of this piece of legislation. The hearing was yesterday. Prior to the hearing, received and submitted a letter of support signed by all 15 Upper Peninsula counties. Received additional letters of support from County Road Association (CRA) and Rural Road Alliance of Michigan (RRAM). Greg Postma from Central Dispatch provided a letter of testimony from the perspective of an emergency services employee who worked from vehicles covered under the emergency services exemption and how it affected his ability to do his job.

- From a project standpoint, paving on Drummond Island and in DeTour is complete. Working on Spectacle Lake Road in Bay Mills.
- There is a possibility the project on 12 Mile might start in a couple of weeks. The paver is ahead of schedule and might look to start that.
- Had a meeting with the design engineers for the 3 Mile Road project for 2027/2028 construction season.

NEW BUSINESS

- a.) Signature on Act 51

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to authorize Chairman Gagnon and Office Manager Livermore to sign the cover page to ACT 51 for filing.

MOTION CARRIED

- b.) Bay Mills Access Road discussion: Manager Laitinen reported Bay Mills Township has received permits from EGLE and the Corps of Engineers to put a boat launch in next to the township hall. Their next step will be to request a permit from the Road Commission. We have spoken to MCRCSIP regarding this, and received guidance to grant the permit.

OLD BUSINESS

- NONE

County Commissioner's Comments

- Nothing to report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- None at this time

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to enter closed session under MCL 15.267 Sec. 8(1)(c) for the purpose of

strategy and negotiation session connected to the negotiations of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANAMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE AT 8:25 A.M.

MOTION by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to enter back into the Regular Meeting at 8:48 A.M

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to authorize Manager Laitinen to negotiate up to the amounts presented in closed session.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 A.M

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Jeremy Gagnon
Chairman