

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 13, 2025.

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

PRESENT: Chairman Gagnon, Commissioner Moser, Manager Laitinen, Foreman Johnston, Fleet Manager Donajkowski, Office Manager Livermore, Foreman Johnson, Foreman Goodman, Union President Eavou, Chief Mechanic Marsh.

ABSENT: Commissioner Sprague, Engineer Boileau, Clerk Christensen, Clerk McLean.

GUEST PRESENT: County Commissioner Jim Traynor, Kinross area Residents Andrea Abbott and LeaAnne Strange.

Office Manager Livermore requested item c be removed from new business and be addressed at a future meeting.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Chairman Gagnon to accept the agenda with the amendment.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Chairman Gagnon that Payroll in the amount of \$250,646.38 and Vouchers in the amount of \$711,721.54 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 27, 2025, and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Resident, Andrea Abbott addressed the board. First, she complimented and praised the road crew, citing Chippewa County Roads being the best maintained roads in comparison to neighboring counties. She then requested information regarding timing and operations during the spring thaw to address standing water issues in Kincheloe. Manager Laitinen addressed the issue, noting unclear conveyance documentation on the ownership of the storm water drainage system. Work is being done to set up a meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers to identify and address the needs and secure funding for this system. Discussion ensued.

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Livermore

- Reminded all in attendance of the meeting date for the next meeting. Chairman Gagnon asked for the meeting to be moved to Tuesday. The next meeting of the Chippewa County Road Commission will be **TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.**
- The financing for the new tandem trucks will be completed next month. Stoop's does not require payment until the entire truck order is in and complete, pushing delivery of the trucks to us out. Bob Brandstrom from 1st National St. Ignace, has set up the loan in a way that we will only be borrowing what we need as we need it.

Foreman Johnston

- Lots of water. Have two excavators and a backhoe out digging ditches to keep the water off the road.

Foreman Goodman

- Got 1 ¼" rain last week. Everything is flooded. Working to stay on top of water issues.

Foreman Johnson

- Same as Soo and Rudyard.

Engineer Boileau

- No Report.

Clerk Christensen

- No Report.

Union President Eavou

- Nothing new to report.

Clerk McLean

- No report.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Went to Traverse City to look over the new trucks. All eight chassis are in.

Fleet Manager Donajkowski

- Kevin from MDOT wants to have all of the salt sheds evaluated and repairs identified so he can prepare a TWA for the repairs.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Seasonal weight and speed restrictions were imposed on Monday, March 10th. So far very few requests for hauling permits have been received.
- Received the renewal from the Corps of Engineers for the license at the ferry dock for Neebish Island.
- The governor gave the State of State address with considerable emphasis on roads and road funding. Several bills have been introduced by both parties. CRA has testified in front of the House Committee. Provided a synopsis of the bills, recognizing the funding provided in these bills is very needed and without the passing of these bills, the road commission cash flow could be in trouble.
- Responded to a FOIA regarding the proposed boat ramp in Bay Mills Township.
- Participated in a Bridge Operations workgroup.
- Working to schedule a conversation with the Army Corps of Engineers to discuss the storm sewers in Kinross.
- Mackinac Trail bridge project to start Monday, March 17.
- The Tower Road project is just about ready to let out for bid.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Award 2025 Gravel Crushing Bid - Brow was the only vendor to submit a bid at \$396,450.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Chairman Gagnon to award the gravel crushing bid to Brow.

MOTION CARRIED

- b. Award M-221 Repair Bid - Norris Contracting and Payne and Dolan submitted bids. Norris was the low bid at \$24,950. Manager Laitinen recommended the bid be awarded to Norris Contracting.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Chairman Gagnon to award the bid to Norris Contracting.

MOTION CARRIED

County Commissioners Comments

- Commissioner Traynor reported receiving a call from Representative Fairbairn regarding the opening of a quarry in Goetzville. This quarry is an MDOT approved vendor. Also reported working on a resolution in favor of a hunting season for wolves.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Chairman Gagnon wished everyone to "Stay Safe". The meeting adjourned at 8:40 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Jeremy Gagnon
Chairman