

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 January 16, 2025.

Clerk Livermore called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner Gagnon, Commissioner Moser, Commissioner Sprague, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Engineer Boileau, Foreman Goodman, Foreman Johnston, Foreman Johnson, Clerk Livermore, Fleet Manager Donajkowski, Clerk Christensen.

ABSENT: Chief Mechanic Marsh, Clerk McLean, Union President Eavou.

GUEST PRESENT: County Commissioner Jim Traynor.

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

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague that Payroll in the amount of \$264,546.17 and Vouchers in the amount of \$1,354,032.30 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 January 2, 2025, and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Decker

- Yearend work with Clerk Livermore.

Foreman Johnston

- Busy with winter maintenance.
- Thanked all the drivers for making weekend coverage easy and filling the seats when needed.

Foreman Goodman

- The party reported by Commissioner Traynor has moved to the Keldon area.
- Winter weather keeping the crew busy.

Foreman Johnson

- Winter maintenance.
- During the short weather lull worked on some state cutting and brush work.

Engineer Boileau

- The bid for the 16 Mile Bridge replacement came in 2% over the estimate and was awarded to J&N Construction.
- The bid for the 12 Mile Bridge removal came in significantly under the estimate and was awarded to M&M Excavating.
- Working on the Safe Routes to School / Safety grant with the Bay Mills Tribe.

Clerk Christensen

- Yearend prep.

Union President Eavou

- No Report.

Clerk McLean

- No Report.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- Working with BMCC to provide a student with the capstone internship opportunity. Through May 2, we will have a student intern in the office periodically observing and practicing the skills necessary to complete their office administration degree.
- Working on yearend close out with Office Manager Decker.
- Making Highway Conference reservations/registrations this week. Please let me know if you plan to attend. Conference is March 25 through 27 (Tues - Thurs) in Lansing.
- Reminder - UP Road Builders is Feb 6 & 7 in Marquette.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- No report.

Fleet Manager Donajkowski

- Continuing to clean up data for inventory.
- Rebuild truck project going well.
- Getting equipment bids ready to go.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- I-500 committee reached out for equipment support as they have in past years. The road commission will have two (2) graders on site. Also ran advertising with local radio stations which will include PSAs on the new 200-foot law for plow trucks.

- On the legislative front, the funding bills have not been introduced yet, but the new Speaker has called for their completion before the final budget.
- Worked on the UP Legislative Banquet. Found out the date of the conference was pushed out by a couple of weeks this year and the Senate will be on Spring Break. The event has been cancelled for this year.
- Met with Jay Gage. He was the representative for Debbie Stabenow's office. He now represents Senator Alissa Slotkin.
- Received a FOIA request related to the traffic control on Lake Shore Drive.
- Holding the first negotiating session with MDOT today for renewal of the State Maintenance contract.
- PA152 changes are on hold by the new Speaker of the House, Matt Hall.
- Received the annual MSP contract for frost law enforcement. Request approval by the board to sign this annual contract.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to authorize Manager Laitinen to sign the contract with MSP for Frost Law enforcement.

MOTION CARRIED

- Presented an opportunity to potentially purchase two used graders from Menominee County Road Commission. If purchased, this will require an amendment to the passed budget. Requested support to look over the needed equipment with potential to present a request to the board for purchase if the equipment meets condition and pricing requirements.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- NONE

County Commissioners Comments

- Commissioner Traynor noted the county is facing equipment issues including a generator failure at the jail. Also noting reappointment to committees from prior term.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

With no further business to come before the Board, thank you to everyone and stay safe. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Jeremy Gagnon
Chairman