

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Chippewa County Road Commissioners was held in their office located at 3949 S. Mackinac Trail, Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan on March 10, 2016.

The meeting was called to order at 8:01a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Chairman Timmer, Commissioner Ormsbee, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Foreman McConkey, Foreman Erickson, Foreman Pesola, Engineer Krouth, Chief Mechanic Marsh, Union President Hopper.

ABSENT: Commissioner Gagnon, Clerk Price and Surveyor Wiggins.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer that the Payroll in the amount of \$155,524.95 and Vouchers in the amount of \$378,938.34 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

APPROVED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 25, 2016 and place them on file.

APPROVED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kinross Township Supervisor Jim Moore commented that:

1. He spoke with Norris Contracting and they are going to gravel a new road, called, "Short-Cut," this spring.
2. Poles will be going up along the North side of M-80 from Family Dollar up to Caldwell, to run 3-Phase to give power to Payne and Dolan.
3. Met with Rob and the Tribe to get funding for paving in the housing area. Discussion ensued.

STAFF REPORTS

Foreman McConkey

- Mix of Winter and Spring work: Brushing, cutting trees, steaming culverts, patching holes.
- Mechanic Fegan is doing well.

Foreman Erickson

- Water is getting away good. Worked with frozen pipes.

- Frost is coming out fast.
- Gravel Roads are very soft.
- 23" off top, 54" on the bottom as of yesterday, March 9, 2016.

Foreman Pesola

- 44" frost in Eckerman and Brimley. 16" off top.
- Water is getting away good.
- Working on brushing in Hulbert. Moved the Excavator out of there. Patch work.
- Dave Mills is retiring March 18, 2016, the end of next week. We wish him well and hope he gets a lot of fish!

Engineer Krouth

- Went to various training meetings the last two weeks.
- Discussion of Causeway Project ensued.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Catching up on work.
- Working in Cold Storage Building with the crew to organize. Hope to store some trucks and equipment in there next winter.
- Working on Vans and Pickups to make sure they are ready to go.

Union President Hopper

- Asked about the old Salt Barn. Manager Laitinen stated that it will be worked on this summer using a contractor to perform this work.

MANAGERS REPORT

- Worked on weight permits, which were imposed on Wednesday, March 9, 2016. Issuing permits for agriculture and other things, but not really issuing others at this time.
- Sent contract to Bruce Township for 12 Mile Bridge work for Charlotte River Road crossing.
- Estimate for Teets Road Project. 100% funded by the Forest Service. Working on permits and estimates of cost. Might have to rent a larger excavator to help with this job and the Charlotte River job.
- Attended Sugar Island Township meeting and answered questions regarding projects on the island.
- Bruce Township is working on a 5 Year plan to develop local roads other than federal aid eligible.

- Scheduling a planning meeting for both the Sault and Kinross Small Urban Areas. Date not yet decided.
- Will attend Bruce Township Annual meeting in 2 weeks and give roads and funding up-date.
- Will attend Rotary Luncheon to give a funding up-date.
- Very pleased with new brushing equipment.
- Memo in paychecks regarding sick leave.
- Asked by Michigan Tech to develop two, different 1 hr to 1 ½ hour presentations on the causeway project at Sugar Island. One presentation would relate to the unique funding of the project and the second would strictly relate to the implementation of the project.
- Working on addition to Cold Storage Building.

THREE SHORES CISMA DISCUSSION

- Nick Castle was present to address the Board regarding Invasive Species in our local area. Looking to partner with CCRC to work to alleviate these species. Meeting being held at the Holiday Inn Express on Thursday, March 31, 2016. Discussion followed. Manger Laitinen asked about being on the agenda at our Safety meeting at which they agreed. Further discussion followed.

MOTION by Chairman Timmer **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to enroll in membership to the Three Shores CISMA organization.

APPROVED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE

STAFFING DISCUSSIONS

- Manager Laitinen talked about recent retirements and future retirements.
- Asked for the board for approval to hire Chris Hoornstra to full time status. Discussion followed.

MOTION by Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to hire Chris Hoornstra and to waive the 90 day probation period due to his temporary operator hours worked so far.

APPROVED BY UNAMIOUS VOTE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Moore, Kinross Township Supervisor added that:

- Curtis Drive is scheduled for paving.

- Logging around Dukes Lake in Kinross Township. Asked about load limits. Manager Laitinen stated to come out on M-80 or Gaines Highway.
- A project designed for the Department of Public Works Water and Sewer Plan. They brought in 2 pieces of equipment, but work has not yet begun.
- Electric Company putting in new transformer has been approved by the township. More vehicle traffic will ensue.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Chairman Timmer thanked the guys are doing great with the various weather conditions.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Timmer adjourned the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

Brian F. Decker
Office Manager

Richard B. Timmer
Chairman of the Board