

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 October 29, 2020.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 A.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Chairman Timmer, Commissioner Ormsbee, Commissioner Gagnon, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Engineer VanDorn, Foreman Rye, Payroll/HR/Board Clerk Livermore, Clerk Christensen, Union President Mills.

ABSENT: Superintendent Erickson, Foreman Goodman, Chief Mechanic Marsh.

GUEST PRESENT: Barry Davis, Rudyard Township Supervisor.

Chairman Timmer accepted the agenda as presented.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon that the Payroll in the amount of \$150,605.35 and Vouchers in the amount of \$104,972.86 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to approve the regular meeting minutes from October 15, 2020 and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Engineer VanDorn

- Local Paving -
 - Francis Street and Harold Street in Pickford are complete.
 - Nicolet Road crush and shape will be postponed until next year. But Four Mile portion will be paved.

- Whitefish Township -
 - SIDOCK has reviewed the plans and they have been resubmitted for GI Review.

- Nine Mile Culvert -
 - Bid package nearly ready for Nine Mile culvert material bid.

- o Met with EGLE regarding failing pipe and all are in agreement - the pipe must be replaced.
- o Working to get material in the yard ahead of failure.

Office Manager Decker

- A quick review of this year as compared to last year has been provided.
 - o MTF is flat as compared to an expected 20% increase.
- The completion of several projects this year has improved our financial position and ability to meet financial obligations, despite the cut in funding.

Superintendent Erickson

- No Report.

Foreman Goodman

- No Report.

Foreman Rye

- Crews are finishing up snow stakes and preparing sand-salt.
- Last week's rain and the beavers have created several water issues.

Clerk Christensen -

- We were awarded the MIOSHA grant. This is approximately \$7,500 in match funds for expenditures related to workplace sanitation due to COVID, including our purchases of masks, disinfectant, hand sanitizers, etc.
- Completed office training for CPR and First Aid.
- Next week all garages to gather emergency contact information, review accident procedures, ensure equipment is properly secured in the trucks, etc.

Union President Mills

- All is good.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- All of the winter temps have been onboarded and are ready to start working.
- There has been updated information provided from the Liability Pool for review.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- No report.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Working on the Neebish Island land purchase agreement. As part of the agreement, the seller is currently working to get the scrap iron removed from the site.
- Spent time interviewing for four seasonal-temp positions. In the process of hiring three temporary employees for Eckerman and one for Goetzville.
- There is a signed agreement with the MI Wetland Board regarding the small piece of property on Neebish Island. The site visit is also done.
- Getting ready for the fall Rural Task Force meeting.
- There have been continuing weekly discussion with MDOT regarding a contingency plan for illness/COVID this winter.
- Been contacted by the Sault News to provide information regarding contingency plans for COVID so the public knows.
- Working with Office Manager Decker, foremen, and mechanic to compile our capital outlay priorities for next year.
- The shoreline work at the Paradise property will begin soon.
- Attended the JATC meeting remotely. Protecting the monarch butterfly while doing vegetation control and road projects were the topic of the meeting.
- There has been some communication with the Sault Tribe regarding a plowing agreement for their Shunk Road area sub-division. One of the county commissioners contacted our office after being contacted by the tribal chairman regarding the possibility of an agreement. As a tax funded agency, a written agreement would have to be drafted that included the tribe funding the cost of labor (including fringe), materials, and equipment. Neither the tribal chairman nor the tribal comptroller have contacted our office to negotiate a deal. The tribe's transportation department contacted us and seemed to be under the impression a deal had been negotiated. Their transportation department has been notified that at this point, we do not have the resources available and cannot take this on.
- We are keeping an eye on stream crossings and washouts at Nine Mile, Hay Point Road on Sugar Island, and Twenty Mile Road.

NEW BUSINESS

- None at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

County Commissioners Comments

Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Chairman Timmer wished everyone to Stay Safe.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:39 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Richard Timmer
Chairman