

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 23, 2020.

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

PRESENT: Commissioner Timmer, Commissioner Ormsbee, Commissioner Gagnon, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Foreman Goodman, Foreman Rye, Chief Mechanic Marsh, Engineer VanDorn, , Payroll/HR/Board Clerk Livermore, Clerk Christensen.

ABSENT: Superintendent Erickson, Union President Mills

GUEST PRESENT: Jim Moore - Kinross Township Supervisor

Chairman Timmer approved agenda as presented.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon that the Payroll in the amount of \$181,625.11 and Vouchers in the amount of \$140,167.06 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon that the special Payroll in the amount of \$33,541.29 for retiree payout be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve the regular meeting minutes on December 24, 2019 and place them on file with the following correction:

- **Page 3** - change Phone to Phones.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Moore - Rudyard Township Supervisor commended and gave his appreciation to the Kincheloe crew for their work. - Good Job

STAFF REPORTS

Engineer VanDorn

- Worked on the Six Mile Bridge (Waiska River) project. The Request for Proposals will go out next week. Received a letter from the State of Michigan confirming there are no federally or state protected mussels.
- Working on BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) funding for the remaining bridge funds.

- Meeting with Bay Mills Environmental and Department of Natural Resources for grants to fund culvert and/or bridge crossings in the Waiska River watershed.
- Preparing Asset Management and back-dating road surfacing projects for the last 10 years into the Roadsoft software.
- Paving package 2020 - have all township agreements signed except Trout Lake. Residents of Trout Lake have submitted a petition to fix Wegwas Lake Road.

Superintendent Erickson

- No Report

Foreman Goodman

- The crew powered through another storm on Saturday. Used Monday and Tuesday to wing.
- The Soo has had the blower out to do some snowbank work.
- Good job to the night crew.

Foreman Rye

- Thank you to the crew for doing a good job, especially when we've been shorthanded the last couple of weeks.

Office Manager Decker

- Made the down-payment on the generator for Neebish Island.
- Received word from the electrician that he believes the current generator at the Sault garage has enough power to run the office in addition to the garage. We will explore this more before purchasing a generator for the office.
- Ordered a new garage door for Eckerman.
- Received a quote for a generator on Sugar Island. We are looking at options.
- The plow order outlined in the capital outlay plan has been placed.
- We have a P.O. for the new fuel system for the Sault Garage.
- The furnace in the Brimley Garage died and has been replaced.
- The truck from the Riverside Drive accident was considered "totaled" by the insurance company and we've received the claim funds.

Clerk Christensen

- Working with a local vendor to develop a plaque commemorating our last few retirees.
- Sat in on the Safety Committee meeting with six others. There will be more to come as this committees develops.
- Been updating the current safety policy book.

Union President Mills

- Nothing at this time.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- Been communicating frequently with the auditor from the Unemployment Insurance Agency, answering follow-up questions and sometimes answering the same questions again. We hope to have her findings soon. With the up-coming clerks meeting at UPRBA in Marquette, this will be added to our discussion.
- Lots of year-end payroll reporting.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Super busy with shop repairs (nothing major).
- The truck that was totaled in the Riverside accident we have bought back and have starting taking parts from it for use on other vehicles.
- We are waiting for the adjuster's determination on the backhoe that was in a rear-end collision last week. Discussion ensued.
- Working with Abby to get the truck chassis bids ready to go up. Anticipate the bids will go out today or tomorrow.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Received a letter from Soo Township to the Board with a sincere thank you for dedication, long hours, ect. by the staff during the recent ice storm.
- Congratulations to Steve McConkey in his retirement and thank you for the many years of service.
- Congratulations to Bob Rye. After conducting seven internal interviews for the Regional Foreman position, Bob was selected.
- Bob's move creates a vacancy in the Pickford garage for an operator. We will post a temporary position at this garage until Spring, when the state removes the night shift. Due to an internal transfer, the full-time position will likely be in the Eckerman garage.
- During the budget meeting in December, the addition of another mechanic was approved. We will advertise this position soon.
- St. Mary's school has a service group - Seek Ye First - that came to the garage with a special token of appreciation for our drivers.
- As mentioned earlier, the safety committee is getting started. It's a great group of people and they will try to meet monthly.
- Next pay period, beginning February 1, 2020 will include contractual rate changes.
- Met with Denny Olson from Great Lakes Timber Professionals. Their association has joined CRA as an associate member and has asked the road commission to join their group as an associate member. Discussion ensued.
- As presented earlier, we have ordered the parts for our fuel system through RW Mercer. RW Mercer assisted us in developing the specifications. We've looked for other vendors, but due to the specialized service and work the company provides, we are utilizing the "Technical Services" clause of the purchasing

policy due to the extreme technical aspect of the equipment and software and absence of near-by competitors.

NEW BUSINESS

A. CRA Board of Directors Ballot.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to support Jim Iwanicki from Marquette for CRA Board of Directors.

MOTION CARRIED

B. Township Road Agreements.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to approve the following road agreements:

- 1) **Soo Township (5E1 HMA overlay, pavement markings and gravel shoulders)** - Nicolet Road from Riverside Drive to 5 Mile Road and 4 Mile Road between Riverside and Nicolet - \$137,039.
- 2) **Pickford Township (chip seal, flex patch, fogseal, and pavement markings)** - Hancock Road between Townline Road and M-48 - \$85,348.
- 3) **Pickford Township (chip seal, flex patch, fogseal, and pavement markings)** - 23 Mile Road between Hancock Road and Steele Road - \$41,600
- 4) **Pickford Township (overband crack seal, chip seal, flex patch, fogseal, and pavement markings)** - Steele Road between Townline and 23 Mile Road - \$39,153
- 5) **Pickford Township (road excavation, base repairs, HMA paving, and pavement markings)** - Harold Street from North Manila Road to the end - \$26,542
- 6) **Pickford Township (HMA paving, road widening, and pavement markings)** - E Church St. from Meridian Road to S Pleasant St., School St. from Meridian Road to S Pleasant St., Frances St. from Meridian Road to S Pleasant St., N Manila Road from Harold St. to E Gogomain Road, N Dewey Road from Harold St. to E Gogomain Road, E Elmo Street from N Manila Road to the end, E John Street from N Manila Road to N Dewey Road, E Church Street from S Manila Road to Dewey Street, E School from S Manila Road to Dewey Street, and S Hwer Road from E Gogomain Road to M-48 - \$334,073
- 7) **Bruce Township (HMA overlay, pavement markings, and gravel shoulders)** - 7 Mile Road from Shunk Road to Riverside Drive - \$158,998

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

County Commissioners Comments

Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

It was asked if on Tone Road in Kinross the No Parking signs have been removed. Can we find the traffic control order for those and replace them?

Jim Moore inquired to know if we had any conversations with the Soo Tribe for road funding. Discussion ensued.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Ormsbee asked for the staff to investigate job postings on INDEED. Several with other county agencies are showing as CCRC postings.

Chairman Timmer is working and watching on developments regarding federal aid buy-out. Discussion ensued.

Stay safe.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:21 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Richard B. Timmer
Chairman