

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 9, 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 McConkey, Chief Mechanic Marsh, Engineer VanDorn, Superintendent Erickson, Payroll/HR/Board Clerk Livermore, Union President Mills, Clerk Christensen.

ABSENT: Chief Mechanic Marsh, Foreman Goodman - it was noted by Manager Laitinen that both were attending to other business.

GUEST PRESENT: Jim Moore - Kinross Township Supervisor, Barry Davis - Rudyard Township Supervisor

Clerk Livermore asked for nominations for the office of Chairman.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to nominate Commissioner Timmer as Chairman.

Second call for nominations for Chairman
Third call for nominations for Chairman

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to close nominations and cast unanimous ballot for Commissioner Timmer for Chairman.

MOTION CARRIED

Clerk Livermore asked for nominations for the office of Vice-Chairman.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to nominate Commissioner Ormsbee as Vice-Chairman.

Second call for nominations for Vice-Chairman
Third call for nominations for Vice-Chairman

MOTION by Chairman Timmer **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to close nominations and cast unanimous ballot for Commissioner Ormsbee for Vice-Chairman.

MOTION CARRIED

Chairman Timmer approved agenda as presented.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee that the Payroll in the amount of \$199,711.07 and Vouchers in the amount of

\$559,237.86 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 2 - Motion for meeting dates - Commissioner Gagnon was absent. The motion was by Chairman Timmer.**

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Moore - Rudyard Township Supervisor was impressed by Tom's letter indicating the price reduction in the paving bids.

Barry Davis - asked about parking ordinances and enforcement. Discussion ensued.

STAFF REPORTS

Engineer VanDorn

- Ranger Road - we are set for a March letting
- **MOTION** by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon for the board and manager to sign the coversheet

MOTION CARRIED

- Kincheloe Road and Baker Side Road projects have been marked complete in the MDOT system.
- Attended a precon for culvert liners on I-75.
- Received an updated report from Mackinac Environmental regarding the Paradise garage site. They have data from new borings closer to the water. We can expect a final report to come in January. Discussion ensued.
- Met in St. Ignace with other counties regarding PA325, the Asset Management Bill. Several UP Counties are giving some pushback on the steep reporting requirements and penalties regarding withholding of funding.

Superintendent Erickson

- With all the freezing rain at the start of the year, everyone did an excellent job working together.

Foreman Goodman

- No Report - on behalf of Foreman Goodman, Manager Laitinen extended a thank you to the Kewadin Casino for offering a free dinner buffet on Saturdays in January to all crews working for agencies responsible for responding during the ice storm and its aftermath.

Foreman McConkey

- Worked on 14 Mile and 16 Mile Roads to clear downed trees during most of the storm. The crews did a good job getting things cleaned up.
- Used the new battery powered chain saws. They worked well.

Office Manager Decker

- Found our weak spots during the storm. Identified generators and switches that failed, causing fuel issues due to no power to run the fuel pumps. Working to correct.
- Phones go down when power and/or internet are lost. Did not lose communication with Central Dispatch. We used a pair of hand held radios to relay information from Central Dispatch to crews.
- Our Michigan Transportation Funds are down approximately \$50K.
- This storm is projected to have cost us around \$100K in overtime expense.

Clerk Christensen

- Will be attending Rural and Ready meeting in August and the agenda includes a roundtable on emergency preparedness during a major power outage.
- We received a letter of intent from the attorney regarding the December accident.
- Rode in a plow truck to have a first-hand experience to draw from in an effort to provide the best answers to the calls we receive.

Union President Mills

- Nothing at this time.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- Nothing at this time.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- No report.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Great job to all during the New Year weather event.
- Reported that after observing roads in Arizona during vacation, we should take great pride in our roads as compared to roads out west. We fight freeze and thaw cycles and winter plowing and our roads are in better condition.
- We have completed the interviews for the Area Forman's position. We spoke with seven internal candidates. We should have a decision for the next meeting.
- Started the truck specs with Frank. The JXE truck rep was here to work through the specs. There is a 2-3 month delivery schedule for the cab and chassis

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 2020-01 - Renew Fund Balance transfers.

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to pass Resolution 2020-01.

MOTION CARRIED by **UNANIMOUS ROLLCALL VOTE**

B. Renew transfer authorization for budget line item deficit.

MOTION by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to approve transfer authorization for budget line item deficit.

MOTION CARRIED

C. Renew appointments to Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer:

MOTION by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to appoint Robert Laitinen to Chief Administrative Officer and Brian Decker to Chief Financial Officer for 2020.

MOTION CARRIED

D. Township Road Agreements.

MOTION BY Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to approve letters amending road agreements with Kinross Township and Detour Township to reflect actual township costs.

MOTION CARRIED

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

- 1) **Chippewa Township (chip seal)** - Hungry Hollow Road from M-28 to the end, Sheldon Road between M-123, Company Row between Sheldon Road and South Fish Hatchery Road, and South Fish Hatchery Road between M-123 and Sheldon Road - \$56,845.
- 2) **Kinross Township (asphalt surfaces, milling, shoulder gravel, and pavement marking)** - Ploegstra Road between Tilson Road and Postma Road, White Pine Way between Cedar Grove Drive and Maple Grove Drive, Duke Lake Circle between Wood Lake Road, Hope Lane between Woodside Drive, Erin Place between Woodside Drive, Maki Street from M-80 to West Curtis Street - \$172,886.49
- 3) **Rudyard Township (paving and grading)** - Ploegstra Road between Tilson Road and Postma Road - \$50,636.67

- 4) **Raber Township (crush and shape, 4E1 asphalt, shoulder gravel, and pavement marking) with letter amending terms of cost sharing and timing** - Rocky Point Road from Gogmain Road to South Rocky Point Circle - \$279,060

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

County Commissioners Comments

Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Moore commented on how greatly Kinross was affected by the power outage. They secured generators and invited the public to their townhall and Rec Center to warm up and charge devices.

There will be a meeting on January 15th with EGLE at the Townhall to discuss P-FAS. Testing of wells on 20 Mile West from the end of the road to M-129, due to burning at the end of the runway at the airport.

There is a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for Ed Benoit's wife scheduled at the Kinross Township Hall on January 17th from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. She is in the Hospice House in Pickford.

Thank you to the road commission and crews for all they do.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Ormsbee express his appreciation for everyone.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:26 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Richard B. Timmer
Chairman