

**A REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Chippewa County Road Commissioners was held in their office located at 3949 S. Mackinac Trail, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan on May 21, 2015.

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, Engineer Krouth, Surveyor Wiggins, Foreman Erickson, Foreman Pesola, Chief Mechanic Avery and Union President Hopper.

**ABSENT:** Clerk Price, Foreman McConkey, Project Manager Deatruck

Chairman Timmer approved the agenda as presented.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon that the Payroll in the amount of \$116,587.67 and Vouchers in the amount of \$182,900.20 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 minutes from the Regular Meeting held on May 7, 2015 and place them on file.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Kinross Supervisor Jim Moore asked if there was a projected completion date for the I-75 project. He commented that many more people are taking Mackinac Trail than the designated detour route. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Moore asked if there were any plans to repave M-80. Manager Laitinen indicated that MDOT puts out a map showing current and future projects and that M-80 is not on it. Supervisor Moore indicated that the area around the Airport could use some attention. Supervisor Moore mentioned that paving will start in the Kincheloe area soon, and asked about the status of Kinross/Thompson Road interchange paving will begin. Manager Laitinen indicated that he does not have a start date yet.

**STAFF REPORTS**

Foreman Pesola

- Working on shoulders on M-28 from I-75 to M-221
- Lost Lake clearing
- Getting gravel roads ready for brine
- Regular Maintenance

Foreman Erickson

- Changing out culverts and ditching on Shunk Rd
- 13 Mile clearing
- Working on seasonal and gravel roads
- Working on culverts on I-75 within the closure

Engineer Krouth - Nothing to report

Chief Mechanic Avery

- Prepping the new pick-ups
- Everyday maintenance
- RDS bodies for new trucks, removing and refurbishing

Union President Hopper

- No comments

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS - None**

**BOARD POLICY REVIEW-** over the next several meetings all Board policies will be reviewed and reaffirmed.

#13 Township Contract Work Policy: Manager Laitinen discussed the policy. Will need to review in the future and update if any changes are made to prevailing wage law.

#14 Township Cost Sharing Policy: No changes necessary.

#15 Investment Policy: Officer Manager Decker explained and recommended no changes

**MOTION** by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to reaffirm Board Policies 13, 14 and 15 as they currently read.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Manager Laitinen discussed the Social Media Policy presented at a previous meeting. He stated that due to staffing levels it is probably something he is reluctant to implement. Discussion Followed

Commissioner Timmer asked about a Nepotism Policy. Manager Laitinen indicated that no action has been taken as of yet. We will look at other Counties policies.

Manager Laitinen discussed moving the July 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The reason being is the 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday falls on a Saturday. This would move the holiday to Thursday and the floater day to Wednesday.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to move the July 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to June 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm.

## **MOTION CARRIED**

### **MANAGERS REPORT**

- Manager Laitinen reported that he attended the Finance and Human Resource Meeting in Bat City. The agenda dealt with a lot of hiring information.
- MDOT's I-75 detour is now in place. Newberry TSC is doing what they can with signage to help reduce traffic on County Roads. Discussion ensued
- Looking into repairing culverts with a new culvert liner product. A Representative for the product will be here on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. May try on culverts within the I-75 closure area.
- Working on some sub-contract's for MDOT for pipe changes along M-123. Discussion Ensued
- Grader operator training has been scheduled for June 3<sup>rd</sup>. A trainer from LTAP will train 4 people at a time. It's a full 8 hour training, four in house and four in the field. Cost is \$500.00 per day. The plan is to train another four operators later this season
- Attended meeting with Project Manager Deatruck in Gaylord to met with representatives from the National Weather Service and tour their facility
- Arrangements complete for the UPRBA meeting in June in Sault Ste Marie
- DEQ lawsuit is moving forward. Depositions are done and both sides will be presented to the Judge. Discussion Ensued
- Looking at crushing needs and will go to bid when quantities determined.
- Rudyard Township expressed interest in improving Prairie Road and 23 Mile Road. Working on estimates for them
- Working with EUPTA to get Neebish Island ferry prepared for paving. Using Drummond Islander 3 for transport
- Attended meeting related to the Little Rapids Project. Used the same short list of contractors for new proposals. There have been slight changes in proposal regarding funding. Three of the Four contractors have scheduled one on one meetings with us. Dollar amounts seem reasonable with the contractors. Also meet with stakeholders at Cisler Center and at Lake State University

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Union President Hopper asked about who and how the Township contract work is inspected. Manager Laitinen indicated that the policy addressed this issue. He also asked about bumps on Tilson and Forest Roads. Discussion Ensued on both items

### **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Timmer noted that he is happy to see all the maintenance work being done during the transition from Winter to Summer.

There being no further business to come before the Board Chairman  
Timmer adjourned the meeting at 8:46 a.m.

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Brian F. Decker  
Office Manager

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Richard B. Timmer  
Chairman