

**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 November 10, 2021.

Due to a scheduling miscommunication, the meeting start was delayed by one (1) hour. Barry Davis, Rudyard Township Supervisor, arrived for the 8:00 meeting and was invited to join at 9:00. He reported he had no official business to conduct at the board meeting and had other business elsewhere.

The meeting was called to order at 8:55 A.M.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Timmer, Commissioner Gagnon, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Engineer Boileau, Foreman Goodman, Clerk Livermore, Union President Mills, Chief Mechanic Marsh.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Moser, Superintendent Erickson, Foreman Rye, Clerk Christensen.

**GUEST PRESENT:** None

Manager Laitinen requested Cover Sheet signatures be added as f.) under New Business and the Drummond Island Resort gate issue be added under Old Business.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer that the amended agenda be approved.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer that Payroll in the amount of \$156,875.34 plus \$118.11 for deposit slips and Vouchers in the amount of \$445,119.75 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve the regular meeting minutes from October 28, 2021 and place them on file.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve the Special Meeting minutes from November 2, 2021 and place them on file.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**STAFF REPORTS**

Office Manager Decker

- Traveling back and forth to Pickford and Eckerman during installation of the new fuel tanks. Pickford is up and running. Eckerman should be done by next week after the electrician fixes a couple of items and we have another electrical inspection completed.

Superintendent Erickson

- No Report.

Foreman Goodman

- Finished hauling ice/sand for winter. Pretty much ready for the weather to change.

Foreman Rye

- No Report.

Engineer Boileau

- Working on getting projects into the MDOT letting system.

Clerk Christensen

- No Report.

Union President Mills

- New Floor looks good.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- Received MERs 3rd Quarter Statement. We earned \$79K or approx.. .664% on our investment for the quarter. This performance is comparable to market with the S&P 500 at .6% and our Morgan Stanley at almost -2%.
- Met via Zoom with Jessica at Morgan Stanley. In addition to a review of our OPEB, she has negotiated a pricing package for us based on acquiring the county as a new customer but included us with them for group pricing but separate entities.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- New truck is in Gaylord for a D.E.F. quality sensor. It could be three months before the part is in. Manager Laitinen will contact vendor.
- Waiting for parts for the ABS Valve on truck 704.

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Attended the Rural Task Force and Small Urban meetings yesterday. Projects under consideration are Six Mile Road next year and resurfacing sections of Mackinac Trail in 2023.
- The census numbers were provided for Chippewa County and while the numbers are smaller than in past years, the net effect on funding should be fairly small. Discussion ensued.
- The new fuel tax rate will go into effect in January and we will see the affects in the funds received in March.
- Condolences from the Road Commission are extended to Bob Ault in the loss of his mother a couple of weeks ago and to Ben Richwine in the unexpected loss of his father.
- Received notice from Kieth Campeau, Brimley Garage Foreman, of his resignation to allow him to further his own business. We wish him well.
- We will be selecting four seasonal temps this year.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A.) UP Road Builders Winter Meeting is coming. Clerk Livermore will email information to the board and make arrangements for this interested in attending.
- B.) Used Equipment Bid - Manager Laitinen reviewed the used items included in the bid with the board. He indicated, based on overall weight, the two blower trucks, the loader, and flatbed truck (#135, #449, #349, and #473), the Road Commission could receive more for them if they were loaded and delivered to the scrap yard than what the received highest bid was. The bid prices on the air compressor and fuel tanks are fair. He recommended the board reject the bids on blower trucks and loader and accept the bids for the air compressor and fuel tanks.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to award the bids for the compressor and fuel tanks and reject all bids for blower trucks #135 and #449, JD Loader #473, and flatbed truck #473. The rejected items will be let for bid again.

**MOTION CARRIED**

C.) Resolution #2021-12 - Preventative maintenance Gogomain Road Bridge structures #1638 and #1639 MDOT Contract.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve Resolution #2021-12.

**MOTION CARRIED BY UNANAMOUN ROLL CALL VOTE**

D.) Resolution #2021-13 - MDOT ROW Permit for new year.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to approve Resolution #2021-13.

**MOTION CARRIED BY UNANAMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE**

E.) Goetzville property - Manager Laitinen presented the board with a possible opportunity to purchase 16 acres adjacent to the Goetzville Garage. The asking price has decreased significantly from the original price.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to authorize Manager Laitinen the authority to offer up to \$32,000 for the property.

**MOTION CARRIED**

F.) Cover sheets for two projects - Manager Laitinen presented the coversheets for the Six Mile Road project and the Industrial Park Drive project.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to sign the cover sheets for both projects.

**OLD BUSINESS**

A.) Manager Laitinen informed the board that a letter was received from the attorney representing the Drummond Island Resort/Conference center regarding the gate that was installed in the Road Commission right-of-way. The letter contained a request to decertify a portion of the road that is impacted by the gate. To abandon this particular section would create significant legal issues. Manager Laitinen presented an alternate option of decertifying that section of road way on our maps to remove our responsibility for that part. The Resort has verbally committed to construction of an alternate turn-a-round for us to use during winter maintenance. The board supports this idea providing the Resort provides a written commitment to the concession.

**County Commissioners Comments**

- NONE

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- None.

**ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

Chairman Timmer reminded everyone to be safe.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:41 A.M.

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Bobbie Livermore  
Clerk for the Board

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Richard Timmer  
Chairman