

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 June 8, 2023.

Chairman Gagnon called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Gagnon, Commissioner Moser, Commissioner Sprague, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Foreman Goodman, Chief Mechanic Marsh, Union President Cheney, Foreman Rye, Clerk Livermore, Clerk Christensen, Fleet Manager Donajkowski.

ABSENT: Superintendent Erickson, Engineer Boileau

GUEST PRESENT: County Commissioner Jim Traynor, Trout Lake Trustee Dave Hillman, Rudyard Township Supervisor Barry Davis.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to accept the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague that Payroll in the amount of \$175,499.76 and Vouchers in the amount of \$503,612.09 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to approve the regular meeting minutes from May 25, 2023 and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Decker

- Preliminary Audit report is in. Will review it prior to the special meeting on June 22, 2023.
- Most of the culverts (six truck loads) have been received. Thank you to Chris Hoornstra for organizing and verifying receipt of pipes as they have been delivered.
- Pension grant application has been submitted.
- MTF is up 1.3%
- Manless flagging systems arrived. Training to be provided next week.

Superintendent Erickson

- No Report.

Foreman Goodman

- Brushhog working on the Curley Lewis Highway.
- Half a dozen new pipes have been installed.
- Too dry out to grade gravel roads.
- Working on M-123 shoulders.

Foreman Rye

- Finishing the shoulder work on M-129. This has required the cooperation of the garage crews on Drummond and Neebish Islands, Goetzville, and Pickford.
- Gearing up for Pennington Road project.

Engineer Boileau

- No Report

Clerk Christensen

- Finished up the evacuation maps.
- Thank you to Mike, Joel, Chris, and Randy for the help with the front yard landscaping.
- Received three (3) AEDs - to be kept at Sault, Pickford, and Eckerman Garages.

Union President Cheney

- Nothing new to report.

Fleet Manager Donajkowski

- Working little projects.
- Need to call Builders Exchange regarding construction bids for the Sault Garage door expansion. The reason for no bids on the original let, was the original bid spec was too broad for local contractors to take on.
- The three garage door replacements were awarded to Northcountry Door as low bidder meeting spec.

Payroll/H.R./Board Clerk Livermore

- For the payroll landing on the week of July 4, all time must be entered and approved by Thursday, June 29. Paychecks will be processed on Friday, June 30, 2023. Missing time will be paid in the following period.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- The planned winter/spring work to the fleet is complete.
- Diamond mower head is broken again.
- The welder is rebuilding boxes.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Received a request for Road Investment Plan from a consulting firm working with CRA. The contact with the firm is Jim Iwaniki, recently retire manager for Marquette County Road Commission.
- Received notice from MDOT regarding unobligated COVID relief funds. The obligated funds can be used for their intended purpose, but any funds not obligated are being pulled back. All of our funds have been obligated for projects.
- Nothing new on the State budget.
- Receiving numerous calls regarding heavy trucks hauling on Radar Road and the dust being created. There is excess trucking out of commercial pits in that area. A residents group has formed and will be attending the next Soo Township meeting to request a service road be established for these trucks. The Road Commission is not involved at this time.
- Next Rural Task Force meeting is on June 12th. Because of the timing in the accounting rules, Luce County is going to be forced to postpone a project due to overages of other counties.
- Will be posting a bid advertisement for M123 work in Mackinac County. Trying to get an extension of completion deadline from September 30 to sometime in November. Contractors in the area have full schedules and with the short turn around on this project may choose not to bid. The extension may bring more bids in.
- The Lakeshore mailbox case has been dismissed.
- Received an invite to our crew to attend a picnic lunch at ETNA on June 14, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.
- Making arrangements for the delivery and installation of the Pennington Road box culvert.
- On Monday, June 12, 2023 there will be a temporary road closure at H-40 in Fibre. Hopefully only a one day closure.

NEW BUSINESS

- A.) Seasonal Road designation change - 11 Mile Road: Manager Laitinen informed the board of a request from a potential land purchaser on 11 Mile Road. There is a segment (approx. 1,000 feet) past the seasonal road sign we currently use as a turn-around during winter maintenance. Manager Laitinen requested to move the starting point of the seasonal designation and extend the all season designation for this purpose. The road is in good shape and will easily allow for the change in status.

MOTION by Commission Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to reduce the all season section of 11 Mile road by approximately 1,000 feet and move the signage back to correspond with the change.

MOTION CARRIED

B.) Award M-48 Culvert bid: Elmers was the only bidder and submitted a bid of \$153,400. Even though there was only one bid, due to the lateness into the season and availability of contractors, MDOT was satisfied with the bid.

MOTION by Commission Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to award the M-48 culvert bid to Elmers.

MOTION CARRIED

C.) MCRCSIP Ballot - Brett Laughlin, Managing Director for Ottawa County is running for an At Large position unopposed.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to vote for Brett Laughlin.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

- NONE

County Commissioners Comments

- Jim Traynor reported SB 299 and 300 propose changes to the private sewer code requiring inspections at the cost of the owners. Suggested everyone voice their opposition of the bill.
- Hospital sale moving forward.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Chairman Gagnon wants everyone to stay safe. With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:33 A.M.

Bobbie Livermore
Clerk for the Board

Jeremy Gagnon
Chairman