

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 October 24, 2024.

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

PRESENT: Chairman Gagnon, Commissioner Moser, Commissioner Sprague, Manager Laitinen, Foreman Johnston, Foreman Johnson, Foreman Goodman, Union President Eavou, Fleet Manager Donajkowski, Engineer Boileau, Clerk McLean.

ABSENT: Office Manager Decker, Clerk Livermore, Clerk Christensen, Chief Mechanic Marsh.

GUEST PRESENT: Chippewa County Commissioner Jim Traynor. 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 October 24, 2024, Payroll in the amount of \$185,394.81 and Vouchers in the amount of \$578,307.61 be approved and authorized for payment from the County Road Fund subject to audit.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Commissioner Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from October 10, 2024, and place them on file.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- NONE

STAFF REPORTS

Office Manager Decker

- No Report.

Foreman Johnston

- Grader training last week; went well and recommend continuing this type of training.
- Claybank subdivision vegetation removal finished.
- 8 Mile culvert replacement and vegetation removal underway.

Foreman Goodman

- West end ice sand ready.
- Snow stakes up except for town areas.
- Patching turnarounds

Foreman Johnson

- Set precast deck on Prentiss Bay. Last of earthwork today.
- Grading roads.
- Working on Drummond Island and Goetzville trucks.
- Getting truck ready for Pickford Trunk or Treat event.

Engineer Boileau

- Asphalt plant closed Tuesday, October 22.
- Switching to winter mode - bidding for 2026/27.

Clerk Christensen

- No report.

Union President Eavou

- Nothing new to report.

Fleet Manager Donajkowski

- Learned a lot from onsite visit at Charlevoix CRC. Looked at their shops and inventory process.
- Attended winter operations conference in Bellaire this week.

Clerk Livermore

- No Report.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- No Report.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- M-28 Railway crossing reopened 10/23.
- All construction projects wrapped up for the season.
- Next MDOT Negotiation Committee meeting on 11/18 in Gaylord. New contract being negotiated this year.
- Commissioner Moser's is up for reappointment. He is preparing to turn in his paperwork.
- Statewide employee compensation survey results are in. We are one of a few road commissions who were asked to submit wage data. It includes salary/hourly rates and benefit information.
- The crew will return to 8-hour shifts next week, beginning 10/28. Night shifts will begin 11/9/2024.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. A Public Hearing to change the permit fee schedule is going to be held in the Road Commission office immediately following the next regular meeting. The date is November 7 and it should start at approximately 8:45 a.m.
- b. Approval of Consultant Contract for Mackinac Trail over Chub Creek. Manager Laitinen recommended moving forward with AECOM due to pre-existing relationship and prior good experience with this team on the Sugar Island Bridge.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to approve the contract with AECOM for consulting services.

MOTION CARRIED

- c. Approval and Signatures of traffic control order for South Scenic Drive.

MOTION by Commission Sprague **SECONDED** by Commissioner Moser to approve the traffic control order.

MOTION CARRIED

- d. RESOLUTION 2024-22 Renaming of Shortcut Road in Kinross - a request to rename Shortcut Road to Moore Drive was received in honor of the late Jim Moore, Kinross Township Supervisor.

MOTION by Commissioner Moser **SECONDED** by Commissioner Sprague to pass RESOLUTION 2024-22.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANAMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE

OLD BUSINESS

None

County Commissioners Comments

- Commissioner Traynor reported he spoke with Senator DaMoose's office regarding the running of rabbit dogs during deer hunting season. DNR is being resistant. The Neebish Island ferry schedule discussion is starting again. There is an open house for the new building for the Sheriff Search and Rescue on 11/2. Grant applications for road work have been provided to the townships.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Rudyard Township Supervisor Barry Davis reported he will not be re-running for supervisor in the fall. Thanked Manager Laitinen, Forman Goodman, and Engineer Boileau for all the work done and shared knowledge.
- Manager Laitinen and Commissioners Moser and Gagnon thanked Supervisor Davis for his involvement with our operations.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

None.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Gagnon wished everyone "Stay Safe" and the meeting adjourned at 8:23 A.M.

Stephanie Boileau
Deputy-Clerk for the Board

Jeremy Gagnon
Chairman