

**A REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Chippewa County Road Commissioners was held in their office located at 3949 S. Mackinac Trail, Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan on October 20, 2016.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Timmer, Commissioner Ormsbee, Commissioner Gagnon, Manager Laitinen, Office Manager Decker, Foreman Erickson, Foreman McConkey, Foreman Goodman, Project Manager Jere, David Deatruck Clerk Price and Chief Mechanic Marsh and Union President Hopper.

**ABSENT:** Engineer Krouth, Surveyor Wiggins

**ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Chairman Timmer to add Resolution 2016-20 and Discussion about applying to the Wetland Mitigation Bank to the Agenda.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to approve the agenda as amended.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon that the Payroll in the amount of \$127,124.90 and Vouchers in the amount of \$545,022.87 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 October 6, 2016.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Kinross Township Supervisor Moore asked about signage for the new Short Cut Road off of Gains Hwy. Possibly a "Blind Entrance" sign. Manager Laitinen suggested a road name sign announcing the intersecting road. Supervisor Moore asked about having the intersection lit. Supervisor Moore mentioned that during the heavy

rain on Monday that an area along the ditch of Short Cut Road was eroding. Manager Laitinen mentioned that he would watch it.

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

Foreman McConkey

- Working on 20 Mile guardrail, then seeding and mulching .
- Maintaining Roads, fighting the very active Beaver.
- Shop has been very busy.
- Working on putting out snow markers and Winter Ice sand.

Foreman Erickson

- Working on Lockhart Road slopes and pipes then mulching.
- Dealing with washouts.
- Snow Staking.
- Gravel Road maintenance

Foreman Goodman

- Dealing with water and Beaver problems.
- Snow staking.
- Putting up Winter Ice Sand.

Chairman Timmer thanked Foreman Erickson for the way he communicated to the residents on 12 Mile.

Office Manager Decker

- Because of the shortage of wooden snow stakes and the people willing to cut them we decided to try something new. The purchase of 3000 8ft fiberglass snow stakes was made for use on County Roads. The State made a large purchase of 6ft fiberglass snow stakes. We will be able to compare the two sizes and see what works better.
- State Salt was supposed to be delivered this week but has been pushed back due to the delivery dock being shutdown indefinitely. The proposed solution is to ship it to Canada and haul it across the International Bridge. Discussion Ensued
- Financials for September will be complete soon.

Dave Deatruck

- Engineer Krouth has returned from leave, welcome.
- Working on Federal Aid record keeping, all done to date.
- Working with Project Manager Jere on next year's Federal Aid projects.
- He announced this would be his last day.

Project Manager Jere

- Working on next year's Federal Aid projects.

Chief Mechanic Marsh

- Went through the trucks and trailers to be used for the Sugar Island project.
- All the salt spreaders have been gone through.
- All State Trucks have been converted to green lights.

#### **MANAGERS REPORT**

- Manager Laitinen reported that he had attended the Winter Operations Conference at Shanty Creek. He reported that the show had many great displays of new equipment, including some green light options. Manager Laitinen mentioned that in the future it would be a good conference for the Area Foreman to attend.
- Made arrangement with Norris contracting for sand to use in our salt/sand mixture.
- Little Rapids Bridge will be open in the morning. The temporary road will start coming down on Monday. All the material will be trucked to our Sugar Island pit.
- The paving contractor is doing what they can to complete all the locations on our bid list. Due to the wet weather it is possible that some sites will have to wait until spring. Our pricing will be protected.
- The 12 Mile job was a bad situation. Abandoning the job was best/safest option. Working on plan for next year.
- MDOT is proposing to appeal Act 51. Taking all back to 2015 funding levels. New funding would be through the Grant process. Manager Laitinen reported that he may have to make a couple quick trips to Lansing depending on the progress of the proposal.

- Engineer Krouth is back from maternity leave but away at training today. Thank You Dave Deatruck for your help in her absence.
- Reported that Pete Paramski is the new Director for EUPTA.
- Applications have been received for temporary winter help.
- Going back to 5 eight hour days starting Monday October 24<sup>th</sup>.
- State nights to begin on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS - NONE**

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2016-19 DARK STORE THEORY**

Manager Laitinen read the Resolution to the Board. This resolution is to support the City's Legal battle with the tax tribunal regarding large box stores.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to approve Resolution 2016-19.

**MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE**

**APPROVAL OF CONVERSION OF 457 PLANS TO MORGAN STANLEY**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Gagnon **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ormsbee to move forward with conversion of 457 plans to Morgan Stanley.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2016-20 SUPPORTING PARTICIPATION IN WETLAND MITIGATION BANKING BOARD**

Manager Laitinen read the Resolution to the Board. This resolution is a request for the Board to support Manager Laitinen's participation with the Wetland Mitigation Banking Board.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to approve Resolution 2016-20.

**MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE**

**DISCUSSION OF PARTICIPATION IN WETLAND MITIGATION BANKING**

Chairman Timmer asked that we request a Resolution of support from all the local agencies for our involvement in wetland banking. Manager Laitinen said he would prepare a sample resolution to give to our neighboring agencies asking for their support for Manager Laitinen to serve on the Board and to support a regional study.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Ormsbee **SECONDED** by Commissioner Gagnon to proceed with petitioning our local entities of Government to support us in our request to pursue establishing a wetland bank in the Eastern Upper Peninsula.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Kinross Township Supervisor mentioned the MTA meeting tonight at 6:30. He then asked for a list of eligible roads available for Tribal funds for next year's project list.

Union President Hopper welcomed all to attend the annual Union Dinner on Saturday October 22. He then asked if Tilson Rd was scheduled for any repairs. Manager Laitinen answered that it is on the radar.

Chairman Timmer asked about the funding status of Ranger Rd. Manager Laitinen replied that it is Federal Aid eligible.

Office Manager Decker mentioned to the Board that Autore Oil and Shute Oil have been sold. The Rudyard garage does not have their own fuel tank and has been using the local Shute Station in Rudyard and the Autore Station in Kincheloe for fueling. Waiting to see how the sale will affect us.

Manager Laitinen thanked Union President Hopper for the Union Dinner Invitation.

**ROAD COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

Chairman Timmer thanked the staff and reminded the staff to stay safe.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Timmer adjourned the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

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Amy L. Price  
Board Secretary

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Richard B. Timmer  
Chairman of the Board