

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Iron County was held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 8:41 a.m. in the Road Commission office at 800 W. Franklin Street, Iron River, Michigan.

Chairman Frailing led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting.

Present for the roll call were Chairman Ron Frailing, and Commissioners Ernie Schmidt, Chuck Battan, and Jim Cihak. Vice-Chairman Dan Germic was absent. Also present were Superintendent/Manager Douglas C. Tomasoski P.E., Finance Director Michelle Johnson, HR-PR Administrator Patti Leonoff, Interim Superintendent/Manager Brad Toivonen, Foreman Scott Weslin, Foreman Dean Stolberg, Interim Foreman Robert Johnson, Iron County Commissioner Ean Brunette, Attorney Mark Tousignant, and Mastodon Twp Supervisor Frank Siewiorek.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Chairman Frailing requested an addition: 10. Old Business, c.) Packer/Roller/Truck.
Superintendent Tomasoski requested an addition: 11. New Business d.) Policy Review.

Accepted the agenda, with requested additions in a motion from Commissioner Cihak, supported by Schmidt.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

The following minutes were presented: Reorganizational meeting of January 3, 2023

A motion by Commissioner Battan, supported by Cihak, to accept the reorganizational minutes.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The following minutes were presented: Audit of January 10, 2023

A motion by Commissioner Cihak, supported by Schmidt to accept the audit minutes.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The following minutes were presented: Regular of January 10, 2023

The motion by Commissioner Schmidt, supported by Battan to accept the regular minutes.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

DISBURSEMENTS TO BE APPROVED

The disbursements to be approved included:

a. Payrolls of:	\$ 291,543.45
b. Prepaid Claims of:	71,388.15
c. Accounts Payables of:	463,120.39
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Total:	\$ 826,051.99

It was motioned by Schmidt, supported by Cihak to approve the Audit Committee Report dated January 31, 2023, covering the above disbursements.

Roll call vote: Ayes- Battan, Cihak, Schmidt, Frailing
Nays: None
Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Tomasoski then gave his report.

Fuel Tank-Update- All tanks are complete, inspected, filled and in use. Old tanks have been removed.

Equipment- Shop Foreman Stolberg detailed work being done on truck 283 and the loader; the tandem purchased at auction last year (#253) is complete and in use.

General/Misc.-Stager Lake Rd- Rumble strips will be included in spring bids.

Treeline Drive- lawsuit regarding quiet title to Treeline Dr. was summarized and the Road Commission is being represented by MCRCSIP attorney Henn Lesperence PLC. An answer to the complaint was filed February 3, 2023.

Superintendent Tomasoski verbally shared the letter of gratitude received from the Marti Wegner and the Northwoods Quilters regarding accident on February 7, 2023:

On US2 between Iron River and Watersmeet an oncoming log truck lost a logging buckle, which came through the windshield of their vehicle, destroying the dashboard and damaging the interior roof before crashing out the rear window. While no major injuries occurred, all five passengers were covered in glass and shaken up. Foreman Weslin happened by, providing aid, and making sure they were all able to keep warm and safe while waiting for the Sheriff's Dept. and towing. Everyone in the meeting thanked Scott for a job well done!

Idlewild Bridge- Interim Supr./Mngr. Toivonen updated the Board: 2023 grant application forms are not yet available but should be soon. Applications are due April 4th to be awarded sometime in October. Will be getting the engineering process started. Signs have been ordered.

U.P. Road Builders Winter Meeting- Brad Toivonen, Kevin Schiavo and Michelle Johnson, as well as Chairman Frailing, Commissioners Schmidt and Germic attended the UPRB winter meeting on Feb 2-3, 2023. Brad said other road commissions are encountering the same issues with fuel and equipment as we are. He also shared information pertaining to MDOT oversight on federal aid buyouts and the possibility of going to electronic bidding in the future.

Seasonal Weight Restrictions- holding off on road restrictions for now.

DELEGATIONS

Mastodon Township Supervisor Frank Siewiorek asked whether a task force meeting was scheduled (there is not) and about the criteria for allocating Federal Forest Funds. Supr./Mngr. Tomasoski explained that while most roads in Iron County would qualify, he focuses on those that experience heavier timber usage, generally primary roads. The funds can only be used toward construction and reconstruction, not maintenance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- d) Equipment-Commissioner Battan requested an update on the Navistar rebate. Dean is working on the timing of the expiration of the rebate vs. delivery date of the truck.
- e) Safety- Commissioner Battan inquired about safety and CPR training. Doug is working with MCRC SIP to schedule safety training since we have a lot of new employees. Commissioner Schmidt also requested that we investigate getting defibrillators for each location.
- g) Parks and Recreation-Chairman Frailing relayed that the grants the County had applied for were turned down.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Iron County resident Mark Bromley was present and asked about signage for Idlewild Bridge- Signs were ordered last week. Additionally, Commissioner Schmidt explained that the bridge will be partially open for four-wheelers. Mr. Bromley thanked the Road Commission for doing a nice job on the roads this winter.

OLD BUSINESS

- a) Generators- MJ Electric has not provided any new updates or information on generators. Dean mentioned looking into getting a used generator instead of new.
- b) Commissioner Reimbursement- Commissioner Frailing and Supr./Mngr. Tomasoski will be attending the County Board meeting today at 4:00 P.M. regarding an increase in the reimbursement schedule.
- c) Discussion was had about the purchase of a roller/packer or second truck this year. Management and Foremen feel a new truck is a priority for this year as there is a major concern about the current spare trucks not being suitable much longer. The Equipment Committee feels a truck is a "need" not a "want". The hope is another used truck can be obtained and reworked just as the tandem purchased at auction last year was.

A motion by Commissioner Battan, supported by Schmidt to reallocate the 50,000 budgeted funds from the packer to the purchase of a second used truck.

Ayes: Battan, Schmidt, Cihak, Frailing

Nays: None

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS**BANK AUTHORIZATION-SIGNATURE CARDS**

A motion by Commissioner Schmidt, supported by Cihak, to add Interim Supr./Mngr. Toivonen as signer to the Road Commission accounts.

Ayes: Cihak, Battan, Schmidt, Frailing

Nays: None

Motion carried.

FOREST ROAD FUNDS- ALLOCATION

A motion by Commissioner Schmidt, supported by Cihak, to approve the allocation of Forest Road Funds as presented.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

CRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS BALLOT

A motion was made by Commissioner Schmidt, supported by Battan, to cast a vote for Robert Lindbeck, PE

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried

POLICY REVIEW

A policy review memo was provided by Supr./ Manager Tomasoski for review prior to next meeting with suggestions or revisions.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

None.

At 9:52 a.m. with no further business to come before the Board, it was motioned by Schmidt supported by Cihak to adjourn.



Ron Frailing, Chairman



Michelle Johnson, Clerk