

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Iron County was held on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 8:30 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, Vice-Chairman Dan Germic, Commissioners Ernie Schmidt, Chuck Battan, and Jim Cihak. Also present were Superintendent/Manager Douglas C. Tomasoski P.E., Interim Supr./ Mngr. Brad Toivonen, Finance Director Michelle Johnson, HR-PR Administrator Patti Leonoff, Const. Forman Kevin Schiavo, Interim Foreman Robert Johnson, Interim Foreman Dylon LaMay, Iron County Commissioner Ean Bruette, and Attorney Mark Tousignant.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

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

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

The following minutes were presented: Audit of April 11, 2023

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

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The following minutes were presented: Regular of April 11, 2023

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

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

DISBURSEMENTS TO BE APPROVED

The disbursements to be approved included:

a. Payrolls of:	\$ 187,321.64
b. Prepaid Claims of:	96,358.95
c. Accounts Payables of:	163,621.68
Total:	\$ 447,302.27

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

Roll call vote: Ayes- Cihak, Battan, Schmidt, Germic, Frailing

Nays: None

Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Interim Supr. Toivonen then reviewed his report:

Timber Sales- Oss: Cutting at the Oss Pit Expansion is complete, and wood is in the process of being hauled.

We have received the first check from Van Oss.

Fuel Tank Update- Fuel prices from the most recent delivery were provided. Trimedia- A Pollution Incident Prevention Plan for the Amasa and Oss salt sheds were added to the plan at \$2,250 each to be State compliant. SPCC and PIPP plans are nearly complete.

Primary Roads-CR424 PH5 has a preconstruction meeting scheduled for May 11th with an anticipated start date of just after Memorial Day. CR424 Overlay is tentatively anticipated to be completed before Memorial Day. Waiting to hear back from Payne & Dolan to coordinate scheduling for the Osterlund Rd Overlay. Baumgartner Rd PH4-waiting to hear back from MDOT regarding questions that came up about the monument box. Phase 5 was also discussed.

An email received from W. Hagerman Lake Rd. resident Jon Wierda and the response sent from Superintendent Tomasoski, explaining the federal aid and State-D project schedule for 2025 and 2026 for Hagerman Lake Road was presented and discussed.

Local Roads-2023 Projects are finalized. A verbal confirm was received for Andreski Plat. Long lake Rd. is tentatively scheduled for before Memorial Day. A new product called Geogrid is going to be used in this year's projects to add strength.

Equipment- Proof of Loss for truck 291 insurance claim from the March accident will be submitted today. Finance Director Michelle Johnson discussed equipment damage and submission of insurance for labor and repairs; expecting 100% reimbursement.

Radio-Brief discussion about the quotes obtained from Motorola repairs: purchase and leasing options of radios. Interim Supr. Toivonen would like to budget next year for the purchase of four radios for each garage.

Employment- We have five summer new hires for each garage. Doug Bonno started on May 1 and two of the college kids started yesterday. Interviews for the HEOP position are set for May 16th, and the job posting for the mechanic position closed on May 8th.

Dylon LaMay has been filling in for Scott Weslin.

Kevin has been organizing flood repairs, assessing damage, and doing site visits with EGLE.

Bridges- Great Lakes Council Meeting update on statewide bridge funding: In 2023, 388 applications for a total of 470 million dollars were received statewide; of that, 53 applications totaling 45 million dollars were submitted for the U.P. Approx. 83 million was allocated for bridge funding in 2023.

General- COVID-19: The Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 is expected to expire at the end of the day on May 11, 2023. It is still recommended to follow CDC guidelines.

Great Lakes Council Mtg./CRA update- discussed concerns with possible regulatory changes regarding mineral well brine and the State taking over gravel/aggregate sources.

Seasonal Weight Restrictions are still on.

There are still several roads closed due to flood damage. Interim Supr. Toivonen updated the Board on the status of the FEMA cost estimates as submitted for funding consideration, completed/pending repairs, and emergency funding qualifications. Local roads are eligible for FEMA funding, with an 18.5 million minimum threshold. Iron RC has consolidated with several other counties to exceed the minimum eligibility requirement. Primary roads are eligible for funding through the FHWA, with a 750,000 minimum threshold, which as of now we are estimated to meet.

Discussion was held about chloride vs. emulsion for dust control. Fahrner has a new, but expensive product, using recycled roof shingles mixed 1:1 with gravel.

Fiber Optics/Permitting: The new infrastructure bill for high-speed internet- utility companies are submitting extremely large permits that are vague and incomplete, as well as issues with permits not being followed. Iron RC received the first one, with over 100 pages, that was reviewed and will be sent back for revisions, clarifications, and resubmission. Toivonen is working with Gogebic for consistency in permitting, inspections

and penalties for non-compliance to try and avoid the problems occurring in other Counties down state.

Commissioner Schmidt also passed on a thank you from former Mastodon Twp. Supervisor Frank Siewiorek as he has resigned from the Township.

DELEGATIONS

Iron County Board: Commissioner Bruette will be bringing the gravel/aggregate sourcing issues to the County Board in the event that a resolution request is made in the future. Additionally, Commissioner Schmidt asked him to investigate the potential of the Road Commission being able to obtain some of the marijuana funding Iron County receives in future years as the County roads go right to the shops where the marijuana taxes are coming from.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

c) Township Liaisons-Commissioner Germic attended the Mansfield Twp. meeting a few weeks ago. He was able to answer questions regarding Doug's retirement and Brad's appointment as his replacement.

e) Safety- Chairman Frailing reported that the CPR and wound training held last week was excellent and informative.

g) Parks and Recreation-Commissioner Germic-there was not a meeting- next one is next week.

h) Personnel Committee-Commissioner Schmidt reiterated that there are interviews scheduled next week.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

IDLEWILD RD-FORTUNE CREEK BRIDGE DESIGN ENGINEERING PROPOSAL

Design engineering proposals from UP Engineering, GEI Consultants and Coleman Engineering were received and presented for the Idlewild Rd. Bridge.

Interim Supr. Toivonen recommended UP Engineering as the low bidder.

A motion was made by Commissioner Schmidt, supported by Battan, to award the design engineering bid to UP Engineering for the total cost of \$56,150.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Cihak, Germic, Battan, Schmidt, Frailing

Nays: None

Motion carried.

PROTECTING MI PENSION GRANT PROGRAM RESOLUTION

The resolution was read by Chairman Frailing and is included below:

PROTECTING MICHIGAN PENSION GRANT PROGRAM RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF IRON, STATE OF MICHIGAN recognizes the requirements of Public Act 202 of 2017;

WHEREAS, the BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF IRON, STATE OF MICHIGAN is committed to protecting the security of retirement benefits for its retirees and current employees;

WHEREAS, the BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF IRON, STATE OF MICHIGAN wishes to apply for the Protecting Michigan Pension Grant Program and authorize Michelle Johnson, Finance Director as the Chief Administrator role of the grant, described hereunder,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF IRON, STATE OF MICHIGAN approves the submission of the Protecting Michigan Pension Grant Application and has assigned Michelle Johnson, Finance Director, as the Chief Administrator role on behalf of the Iron County Road Commission, and who shall be responsible for filing the claim for the grant payment as well as entering, updating, and submitting compliance reports for said program.

On a roll call vote: -

Ayes: Germic, Cihak, Schmidt, Battan, Frailing

Nays:

MDOT ENGINEERING REIMBURSEMENT

Commissioner Schmidt approved the recommendation to apply for the Engineering Reimbursement from MDOT. Support was by Battan.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Germic, Battan, Cihak, Schmidt, Frailing

Nays: None

Motion carried.

GRAVEL CRUSHING BIDS-AMASA PIT

Gravel crushing bids from Bacco Construction, Payne & Dolan, Iron City Enterprises and Northern Crushing & Screening were received and presented, with Interim Supr. Toivonen recommending Iron City Enterprises as the low bidder.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cihak, supported by Schmidt, to award the gravel crushing bid to Iron City Enterprises in the amount of \$60,750.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Battan, Schmidt, Cihak, Germic, Frailing

Nays: None

Motion carried.

ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN CERTIFICATION

A motion was made by Commissioner Battan, supported by Germic, to certify the 2022 Transportation Asset Management Plan.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Schmidt, Battan, Germic, Cihak, Frailing

Nays: None

Motion carried.

UPDATE ON INVESTMENTS

Finance Director Johnson provided an update on the interest received in April from both the six-month and one-year CD's with Multibank Securities. Additionally, the six-month CD matured on April 19th and the \$250,000 was rolled into a new 9-month CD at 4.8% interest.

TERRA LANGHAM FROM MERS WILL BE PRESENT AT THE JUNE 13TH MEETING.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

None.

At 9:45 a.m. with no further business to come before the Board, it was motioned by Schmidt supported by Battan to adjourn.

Ron Frailing, Chairman

Michelle Johnson, Clerk