

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Iron County was held on Tuesday, July 18, 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 Interim Supr./ Mngr. Brad Toivonen, Finance Director Michelle Johnson, HR-PR Administrator Patti Leonoff, Shop Foreman Dean Stolberg, Foreman Robert Johnson, Interim Foreman Dylan LaMay, Iron County Commissioner Ean Bruette, Attorney Mark Tousignant and Brenda Drayton, Senior Auditor, Treasury.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

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

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

The following minutes were presented: Audit of June 13, 2023

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

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The following minutes were presented: Regular of June 13, 2023

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

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The following minutes were presented: Special of June 22, 2023

A motion by Germic, supported by Schmidt to accept the special meeting minutes.

Ayes: All

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

DISBURSEMENTS TO BE APPROVED

The disbursements to be approved included:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| a. Payrolls of: | \$ 152,311.76 |
| b. Prepaid Claims of: | 183,731.69 |
| c. Accounts Payables of: | 467,905.96 |

Total: \$ 803,949.41

It was motioned by Cihak, supported by Schmidt to approve the Audit Committee Report dated June 30, 2023, covering the above disbursements.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Interim Supr. Toivonen then reviewed his report:

Fuel Tank Update- Ordered fuel for Oss Garage 7/17/23; waiting to order for the Iron River tanks until the levels are lower and a full tanker can be ordered.

Primary Roads-CR 424 Phase 5 is nearly complete; monument boxes will be done on July 28th. CR 424 Phase 6-Still needs to review proposals but still feels that the loss of the federal funding pushes it back in the plan to its original timeline.

Baumgartner Rd / Brule Mt. Rd. PH4: GI Inspection meeting July 24th with submissions due August 1st to get money obligated. Culvert patchwork was completed last week.

PH5: Culvert replacements will be done in August. Even with the loss of CRRSA funding, this project is still on track.

Ponozzo Rd-Possibly cut half of the amount budgeted here pending discussions with Michelle to free up funds for the purchase of another used truck.

Stager Lake Rd./ Stager Lake Park- Mastodon Twp. Supervisor requested pricing on flashing lights/ signs with a painted crosswalk, like in school zones. Estimate of \$6,672 was received for two solar signs; will be discussing further with the Twp.

FEMA-Primary- Federal relief process for the Primary Road system has begun. We received notification last minute of a close deadline and received an extension of July 26th for submission of the required forms. The initial damage assessment as of May 10th was \$781,883 (threshold is \$720,000) and it is expected that FHWA may cover 80%.

Local- Met with five other Counties, CRA, and CRA attorneys at the U.P.-Road Builders Meeting last month. After a review of the events with the FEMA teams and not using the EGLE codes and standards in computing the damage repair estimates, a group letter was drafted and approved, with plans to submit it to Governor Whitmer. However, the Governor simultaneously submitted her own letter to President Biden requesting a declaration of disaster on her own, therefore the group letter was not submitted, and we are waiting to hear if President Biden declares the emergency regardless of the dollar amount.

Local Roads- Only Bernhardt, Bara and University have yet to be completed; University is scheduled to start after Labor Day. A third-party contractor has been hired to monitor these last three projects.

Equipment- Update on the new chassis purchase from International: We were informed that there would be an extra \$4,000 fee for the HV 615 and an extra \$6,719 for the HX due to emissions upgrades. Additionally, the Maxxforce rebate credits would not be able to be used. Because of this, we informed them we were no longer interested in purchasing the truck. Dean reached out to Western Star to ask whether they could honor their bids from December; they could not. Will continue to look at used trucks. Dean requested to rebid for a new chassis-2024 model year.

We have rented a skidsteer through United Rentals to do clear vision areas as part of MDOT maintenance.

Employment- Put one month of advertisements in The Reporter, Iron Mountain Daily News, CRA and Zip Recruiter for the Civil Engineer/ Construction Manager position. Kevin's last day was last Thursday.

Bridges-Resort Drive-Fortune Cr-Discussed concerns of MDOT, Crystal Falls Twp., the Road Commission and GEI regarding the bridge inspections, possible abandonments, right-of-way, and the MDNR rec. trail and grants. There is a meeting scheduled for July 27th with Dan Kari (MDOT), GEI, Crystal Falls Twp., and Brad to discuss it in more detail.

Wild Rivers-Iron River- (culvert to bridge) -Still working with Geri Grant from Superior Watershed Partnership to have a contract in place with all contributors in the project. She has locked in grant funding for their portion of \$169,130. We have previously budgeted \$50,000 in anticipation of this project but did not this year. It will be budgeted again in 2024 and put toward construction costs.

Fiber Optics/ Permitting- Possibly will investigate utilizing the third-party contractor to conduct inspections on Fiber Optic permits as well.

MCRCSIP- We (Brad and Michelle) attended a property insurance meeting and will be reviewing and revising our insured equipment, with Dean's help, to make sure it is properly insured. This will be ongoing as it is a large undertaking.

Rural Task Force- As of the last RTF meeting, it sounds like we will begin to see obligation money decreasing over the next three years as the extra funding that had been coming in is ending.

Drain Commissioner-Sunset Lake Dam-Received calls about someone placing mud, rocks, and debris in front of the dam as well as a cut tree hanging over the water. Crews went out with law enforcement and restored the site to its previous condition.

Fortune Lk. Dam- Foreman found a nearby bench had been destroyed and physically screwed onto the dam railing. There was also tampering done to the board. Site was restored and a report filed with the Sheriffs Dept.

-Misc.- A big thank you to all that contributed to the amazing bench dedication for Larry Leonarduzzi.

DELEGATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

INTERNATIONAL-TRUCK AXEL TRUCK CHASSIS

Discussion was previously held during the Superintendents report.

Motion by Commissioner Battan, supported by Schmidt, to go out for bids on a new chassis for 2024.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

BRENDA DRAYTON, TREASURY-AUDIT PRESENTATION

Treasury Senior Auditor Brenda Drayton went over the Annual Audit. The audit went very well. Our net position increased by \$471,136 from last year. Our net pension liability increased while our OPEB liability decreased, mostly due to the change in assumptions. There was only one audit finding, and it was due to the implementation of GASB 87, requiring the reclassification of leased equipment, causing three accounts to be over budget.

Regular Meeting
Tuesday July 18, 2023

UPDATE INVESTMENTS

Finance Director Michelle Johnson provided an update on Road Commission accounts. For all road commission funds to be FDIC insured, a sweep account was implemented on our savings account with Northern Interstate Bank. All savings funds have been deposited into this account. Interest rates will continue to be investigated each time CDs mature.

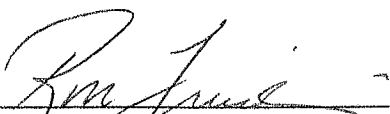
ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.


COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Battan feels that the used truck purchases we recently made were good decisions and that we got good equipment for the prices we paid.

At 9:19 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