

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Iron County was held on Tuesday, August 8, 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, 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, Garage Foreman Rob Johnson, Interim Foreman Dylon LaMay, and Iron County Commissioner Ean Bruette. Vice-Chairman Dan Germic attended via Zoom and is not considered as part of the quorum.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

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

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

The following minutes were presented: Audit of August 31, 2023

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

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The following minutes were presented: Regular of August 31, 2023

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

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

DISBURSEMENTS TO BE APPROVED

The disbursements to be approved included:

a. Payrolls of:	\$ 153,224.06
b. Prepaid Claims of:	230,695.23
c. Accounts Payables of:	528,572.81
<i>Check 16988 adj void/cleared</i>	<u>350.06</u>
Total:	\$ 912,842.16

Motion by Commissioner Schmidt, supported by Cihak to approve the Audit Committee Report dated August 31, 2023, covering the above disbursements.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Interim Supr. Toivonen then reviewed his report:

Timber Sales Update: We received the final payment for the Oss timber; total for all timber was 50,849.04, with Van Oss Forestry retaining \$5,084.90 in handling fees.

Fuel Tank Update- There was a billing issue discovered when Patti and Michelle reviewed the invoices and OPIS reports for the last delivery. Because of this, they, and Insight, went back through all the previously paid invoices as well and we have a credit of \$1,373.08 on our account for use with our next delivery.

Sand- Brad heard from Gene Mottes yesterday and he should have enough for this year's order. Delivery should be in October, with Iron River receiving theirs first as they have less sand in inventory.

Gravel-Northern Crushing and Screening-Oss crushing is complete. Very pleased with the job the new company has done.

Office Lighting Upgrade- Joe Goriesky has been hired to replace the dusk till dawn lighting outside the office, as well as upgrade the interior ceiling lighting to LED and install new outlets in the board room.

Primary Roads:

CR424 PH5- Jim Waara, Consultant and retired MDOT employee, has been contracted to help close out this project and submit to MDOT for review. He started with us last week on review of some of our Township jobs.

CR424 PH6-NEPA paperwork was submitted to MDOT on August 18, 2023.

Baumgartner Ph4- All paperwork has been submitted and the project should be let in October, but it may get pushed back.

Brule Mountain Rd.-Paperwork will be submitted in November, once MODT releases the updated amounts for Federal Aid projects. There is a possibility that we will be losing some federal aid dollars as a result of the HIP/CRRSAA funds being rescinded earlier this year.

Stager Lake Rd./ Stager Lake Park-Some of the signs ordered have been received, but not all.

FHWA- A virtual meeting was held with MDOT to go over final submittal of the 18 sites submitted. Other involved counties are still submitting and once they are all received by MDOT the site inspections are expected to begin. There is an 80/20 funding split.

Hagerman Lake-The Hagerman Lake Association reached out to make sure the construction project is still on schedule. Phase 1: 2025, Phase 2: 2026, with a possible Phase 3 in 2027. Patchwork was cancelled for 2023 due to contractor availability, cost of the mix and being close to construction.

Local Roads: Brad has spoken with all townships except Bates regarding the 2024 projects.

Bates Twp- Brad met with Ed Benson regarding a relocation of a waterline. There is some inconsistency between deeds in reference to a 133' right-of-way. Mark feels that this has no impact on the road commission at this time and Bates Twp and/ or the property owner should investigate further with the Register of Deeds.

Iron River Twp- Bernhardt Rd. work has been started, with culverts being placed a week ago, and gravel and pulverizing starting next week.

Mansfield Twp- A meeting with Twp. Supervisor Brock VanOss is scheduled for next week to discuss road project process.

Mastodon Twp- Bara Rd. and McClaren Rd. are complete and turned out well.

Stambaugh Twp- FA Industries began ditching and culvert work this week out by Golden Lake.

FEMA- FEMA disaster relief was denied; however, the plan is to appeal the decision. The affected counties want to get CRA involved on our behalf to write a letter and consider using "laws and specifications" vs. "codes and standards" in reference to EGLE requirements for submitted estimates.

Section 19 Flooding Disaster Relief-Brad and Michelle met with the new Iron Co. Emergency Manager Chris Peterson on August 24th at the Courthouse. There is a \$250,000 maximum for damage repairs. Barry Rd. was submitted for reimbursement in the amount of \$250,000 which includes the engineering, construction/design and culvert upgrade. A follow up meeting is scheduled for September 13th. Because we must apply through the County, a resolution is needed from the Iron County Board as well.

Fleet/ Equipment Upgrade- Shop Foreman Stolberg went to Calumet to look at another truck but felt it was mechanically rough and does not want to move forward on it. The 2024 International Chassis specs have been sent to the factory for the truck that was approved in August. There is a 2008 International Paystar Dean looked at last week that will be discussed in detail later in the meeting. A bulk purchase of fittings was obtained from IRS in Crystal Falls due to their closing and was a huge cost savings to the road commission. AED's may possibly be shipped this month.

Employment- There were two resignations last month- one HEOP and a Mechanics Aide. Advertisements for the openings have been put in the paper, as well as the seasonal positions. Our West Side Foreman is back to work. Dylon LaMay did a great job filling in for him.

Bridges:

Resort Drive-Fortune Cr.- Nothing new to report; waiting to receive deeds from adjacent property owners from Scott Kenney.

FH-16 North and South Branches- EGLE permit was approved, and a meeting will be set up soon with Ayers to set up construction bids for spring.

Wild Rivers-Iron River- UPEA Engineering plans to start surveying the first week of October, EGLE permitting and designs to follow.

Biennial bridge inspections will be conducted this month, along with the bridge scour inspections that are federally required because of the spring flooding.

General/Misc:

MCRCSIP and CRASIF performed safety and garage inspections. There were a couple of minor deficiencies that are being corrected and submitted for compliance.

Gaastra's CR424 project should be starting this week according to the progress schedule we received from GEI.

The Iron County Road Commission received an award from CRASIF for keeping our experience modification factor below 1.00 for the 2022-2023 coverage year.

Fiber Optics/ Permitting- Third party agreements have been signed by AEG and the \$20,000 deposit has been received. Permit review should begin the week of September 18th. GEI has been contracted to perform the third-party inspections.

Finance Director Johnson worked to update our Title VI Policy.

Drain Commissioner: Dam inspections will be completed in September at the same time as the bridge inspections. A resident on AmVets Hwy is having issues with beaver dams and trees; the possibility of beaver trapping is being investigated.

Great Lakes Council-PASER ratings and distracted driving laws were discussed by MCRCSIP, while CRA had information on where the agg. mining permit issues between EGLE and the townships is currently. The Council voted unanimously to keep the permitting with the townships, as it currently is.

DELEGATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

2025 TANDEM AXEL TRUCK CHASSIS BIDS

The bid documents from August included an option to purchase a second chassis and both International and Western Star will still honor the bid amounts submitted at that time. Shop Foreman Stolberg and Interim Supr. Toivonen would like to act on the purchase of a second chassis. A discussion comparing the chassis specs, dealer issues and pricing from both dealers ensued.

Motion by Commissioner Battan, supported by Schmidt, to authorize the purchase of a chassis from Western Star as bid in August. (2025 47X Series, \$154,900)

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Cihak, Battan, Schmidt, Frailing

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT 80/20 HEALTH CARE COSTS, PA 152

Finance Director Johnson reviewed the increase premiums for 2024. Staying with the hard cap option would cause an increase of 27.20 per employee, per check. Electing to use the 80/20% would mean a decrease in the 2024 weekly premiums for employees by 61.29 for single, 32.24 for two-person and 4.08 for a family plan.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidt, supported by Battan to adopt the 80/20% option for the medical benefit plan year January 1 - December 31, 2024.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Cihak, Battan, Schmidt, Frailing

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION-STATE DISASTER RELIEF CONTINGENCY FUND GRAND (SECTION 19)

Proposed resolution submitted by Finance Director Johnson:

STATE DISASTER CONTINGENCY FUND GRANT RELIEF RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF IRON, STATE OF MICHIGAN,

WHEREAS, the COUNTY OF IRON is a political subdivision within the State of Michigan with an official Emergency Operations plan in compliance with Section 19 of the Emergency Management Act, Act 390, Public Acts of 1976, as amended.

And WHEREAS, the IRON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION, COUNTY OF IRON sustained severe losses of major proportions brought on by the Spring Flooding in May 2023, resulting in the following conditions: culvert failures, shoulder washouts and roadway collapse.

WHEREAS, the BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS certifies that the County Emergency Operations Plan was implemented at the onset of the disaster that began May 10, 2023 and all applicable disaster relief forces identified therein were exhausted.

WHEREAS, as a direct result of the disaster, public damage and expenditures were extraordinary and place an unreasonably great financial burden on the IRON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION totaling \$250,000.

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the IRON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION desires the COUNTY OF IRON to request of the Governor to authorize a grant on its behalf from the State Disaster Contingency Fund pursuant to Section 19, Act 390, Public Acts of 1976, as amended.

FURTHERMORE, Michelle Johnson, Finance Director, is authorized to execute for and on behalf of the IRON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION the application for financial assistance and to provide to the State and information required for that purpose.

Moved by Commissioner Cihak and supported by Cihak to support the above resolution.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Battan, Schmidt, Cihak, Frailing

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

2023 BUDGET AMENDMENT #3

Finance Director Johnson presented the third budget amendments for 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidt, supported by Cihak to accept the amendments as presented.

Roll call vote: Schmidt, Battan, Cihak, Frailing

Nays: None

Motion carried.

POLICY 28-TITLE VI

Finance Director Johnson presented an updated Title VI Policy.

Motion by Commissioner Battan, supported by Schmidt to approve Policy 28-Title VI with changes.

Ayes: All

Nays: None.

Motion Carried.

MDOT STATE TRUNKLINE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AUDIT REPORT

Finance Director Johnson presented the MDOT Trunkline Audit Report FY 2020.

Regular Meeting
Tuesday September 12, 2023

USED TRUCK CHASSIS

Shop Foreman Stolberg traveled to Marquette City to look at a used 2008 International PayStar single axel 4WD that was listed on the Wisconsin Surplus Auction site. There are multiple counties interested and the auction ends this Friday.

Moved by Commissioner Battan, supported by Schmidt to authorize a purchase amount up to \$65,200 on the 2008 International PayStar.

Roll call vote: Schmidt, Cihak, Battan, Frailing

Nays: None

Motion carried.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Battan commended the crew for their mowing of the highway intersections.

At 9:54 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

Board of County Road Commissioners

Of

IRON COUNTY

800 W. Franklin Street

IRON RIVER, MI 49935-1047

Telephone: (906) 265-6686

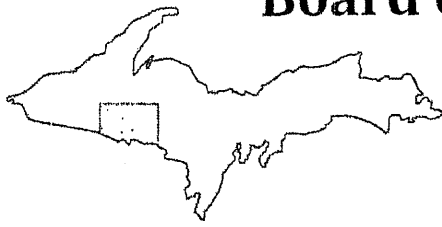
FAX: (906) 265-6680

www.ironcountyroads.com

Michelle Johnson
Finance Director/Clerk

Patti Leonoff, HR-PR/
Assist. Finance Director

Brad Toivonen, Constr.
Foreman / Interim Supt-Mgr



Ron Frailing, Chairman
Dan Germic, Vice Chairman
Chuck Battan, Member
Ernie Schmidt, Member
Jim Cihak, Member

Douglas C. Tomasoski, P.E.
Superintendent/Manager

STATE DISASTER CONTINGENCY FUND GRANT RELIEF RESOLUTION

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The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner Cihak and supported by Commissioner Schmidt.

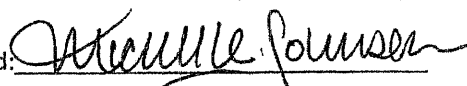
On a roll call vote:

Ayes- Battan, Schmidt, Cihak, Frailing

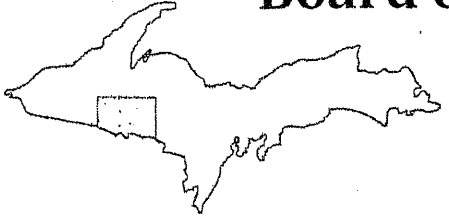
Nays – None

Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution offered and duly adopted by the Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Iron at a regular meeting held this 12th day of September 2023

Signed: 
Michelle Johnson
Finance Director/Clerk

Board of County Road Commissioners



Of

IRON COUNTY

800 W. Franklin Street

IRON RIVER, MI 49935-1047

Telephone: (906) 265-6686

FAX: (906) 265-6680

www.ironcountyroads.com

Ron Frailing, Chairman
Dan Germic, Vice Chairman
Chuck Battan, Member
Ernie Schmidt, Member
Jim Cihak, Member

Douglas C. Tomaso, P.E.
Superintendent/Manager

Michelle Johnson
Finance Director/Clerk

Patti Leonoff, HR-PR/
Assist. Finance Director

Brad Toivonen,
Interim Superintendent/ Mngr.

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT 80%/20% EMPLOYER/EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE COST
OPTION AS SET FORTH IN 2011 PUBLIC ACT 152, THE PUBLICLY FUNDED
HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION ACT**

WHEREAS, 2011 Public Act 152 (the "Act") was passed by the State Legislature and signed by the Governor on September 24, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Act contains three options for complying with the requirements of the Act; and

WHEREAS, the three options are as follows:

- 1) Section 3 - "Hard Caps" Option - limits a public employer's total annual health care costs for employees based on coverage levels, as defined in the Act;
- 2) Section 4 - "80%/20%" Option - limits a public employer's share of total annual health care costs to not more than 80%. This option requires an annual majority vote of the governing body;
- 3) Section 8 - "Exemption" Option - a local unit of government, as defined in the Act, may exempt itself from the requirements of the Act by an annual 2/3 vote of the governing body;

WHEREAS, the Iron County Road Commission has decided to adopt the 80%/20% option as its choice of compliance under the Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Road Commissioners of the Iron County elects to comply with the requirements of 2011 Public Act 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, by adopting the 80%/20% option for the medical benefit plan coverage year January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

On a roll call vote:

Ayes: Cihak, Battan, Schmidt, Frailing

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution offered and duly adopted by the Board of County Road Commissioners of Iron County at the meeting held this 12th day of September 2023.

Signed:

Michelle Johnson, Finance Director/Clerk