

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Iron County was held on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. in the Road Commission office at 800 W. Franklin Street, Iron River, Michigan.

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

Present for the roll call were Chairman Ernie Schmidt, Vice-Chairman Ron Frailing, Commissioners Dan Germic, Jim Cihak and Chuck Battan. Also, present were Finance Director Michelle Johnson, HR-PR Administrators Patti Leonoff and Brynn Tomas, Maintenance Foreman Rob Johnson, Iron County Commissioners Ean Bruette and Mike Stafford, Brian Schiavo, GEI, Brenda Drayton, Michigan Dept. of Treasury, Mastodon Twp., and Attorney Mark Tousignant. Dave Smith, Mastodon Township Trustee arrived at 8:40 a.m.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Finance Director Johnson requested the following addition:

New Business k.) 2023 Act 51 Attest Form

The agenda was accepted, with additions, in a motion by Commissioner Frailing, and support by Cihak.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

The following minutes were presented: Audit and Regular Meetings of July 16th , 2024, and Special Meeting of July 31st , 2024.

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

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

DISBURSEMENTS TO BE APPROVED

The disbursements to be approved included:

a. Payrolls of:	\$ 210,303.94
b. Prepaid Claims of:	231,761.70
c. Accounts Payables of:	490,751.14
d. Garage Bond Payment	115,068.75
Total:	\$1,047,885.53

Motion by Commissioner Cihak, supported by Frailing, to approve the Audit Committee Report dated July 31, 2024, covering the above disbursements.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Toivonen was absent from the meeting; there were no questions regarding his supplied report.

DELEGATIONS

Finance Director Johnson asked Iron County Commissioner Bruette if the County Board had approved an amendment to the drain commission budget; they had.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

d. Equipment- Commissioner Battan had met with the Foremen regarding equipment purchases for next year. Depending on the amount budgeted, they felt the needs were two pickups, a skid steer or a heavy-duty brush attachment for the mower.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brian Schiavo, GEI, provided an update on the fiber optic installation. AEG contracted L & H and there have been three crews working from Crystal Falls towards Amasa. They have been following permits, doing restoration, and following up with the inspectors from GEI as they should be. Work has been slow, but the quality of the work is good.

NEW BUSINESS

AUDIT PRESENTATION-BRENDA DRATON, MICHIGAN DEPT. OF TREASURY

Treasury Senior Auditor Brenda Drayton went over the Annual Audit, highlighting significant changes in revenues and expenses from 2022 to 2023. Overall, the audit went extremely well and there were no audit findings.

ACT 51 TRANSFER FROM PRIMARY TO LOCAL

Finance Director Johnson reviewed the change in fund balance for 2023 and requested the necessary transfer of 1,075,000 from the primary road fund to the local road fund.

Motion by Commissioner Cihak, with support from Frailing to approve the transfer of \$1,075,000 from the primary to local road fund.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

BLADE BIDS

Three vendors submitted bids: H & L Mesabi, Road Machinery and Supplies Co. and Roland Machinery, with H & L Mesabi coming in as the low bid.

Motion by Commissioner Frailing, support by Battan, to accept the low bid of \$42,620.18 from H & L Mesabi.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

MDOT ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF EMPLOYEE-RELATED CONDITIONS

Motion by Commissioner Germic, supported by Cihak, to sign and submit the MDOT Annual Certification of Employee Related Conditions.

Ayes: All

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

MDOT STATE TRUNKLINE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AUDIT REPORT

Finance Director Johnson presented the MDOT Trunkline Audit Report FY 2021.

RETIREE HEALTH FUNDING VEHICLE TRUST AND 2024 CONTRIBUTION

Finance Director Johnson explained how PA 202 has required the contribution into a trust of normal costs for those employees covered by our plan and hired after June 30, 2018, since 2019. The Road Commission has applied for and received a waiver each year regarding the underfunded status and not having established a trust. She recommended and presented a resolution establishing an approved trust through MERS (RHFV), catching up the required normal costs through the end of 2024, totaling \$12, 045 and pledging to contribute the normal cost each year going forward.

Motion by Commissioner Germic, with support from Battan to adopt the MERS Retiree Heath Funding Vehicle Trust Resolution.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

2024 BUDGET AMENDMENT #2

Finance Director Johnson presented budget amendment #2 for 2024.

A motion by Frailing, supported by Cihak, to accept the amendment as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

CRASIF BALLOT-2024 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Moved by Commissioner Germic with support from Battan, to cast votes for Jesse Campbell, Incumbent, Darrell Cass, Incumbent, and Lisa Kleeman, Incumbent.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS-METLIFE AND BRIGHHOUSE

Motion by Commissioner Frailing, with support from Cihak, to adopt the MetLife resolution as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Cihak, with support from Germic, to adopt the Brighthouse Financial resolution as presented.

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

Nays: None

Motion carried.

MERS QUARTERLY STATEMENT

Finance Director Johnson presented the 2024 second quarter statement from MERS.

2023 ACT 51 ATTEST FORM

Motion by Commissioner Frailing, with support from Battan, to sign and submit the 2023 Act 51 Attest Form to the State of Michigan.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Motion carried.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Battan inquired as to the status of the speed bump issue in Alpha. Dave Smith said he had not heard anything since Brad sent them the quotes they requested, but there was a Township meeting that night and something may be brought up then. Brian Schiavo, GEI, offered that he had attended last week's meeting in Alpha and got the impression that given the estimates, they may leave it there to slow down traffic. Nothing was passed regarding it at that time.

Commissioner Battan also offered that he felt the new mower was a good investment.

At 9:14 a.m. with no further business to come before the Board, it was motioned by Battan, supported by Frailing, to adjourn.

Ernie Schmidt, Chairman

Michelle Johnson, Clerk of the Board

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