

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Iron County was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, 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 Ron Frailing. Also, present: Superintendent/ Manager Brad Toivonen, Finance Director Michelle Johnson, HR-PR Administrator Brynn Tomas, Shop Foreman Dean Stolberg, Garage Foreman Rob Johnson, Bates Twp. Supervisor Mike Stafford, Mastodon Twp. Trustee Dave Smith, Attorney Mark Tousignant, and resident Patti Leonoff.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

Moved by Commissioner Frailing, supported by Battan, to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2024, audit and regular meetings, the December 27, 2024 special meeting and the January 2, 2025 reorganization meeting.

Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried.

DISBURSEMENTS TO BE APPROVED

a. Payrolls of:	\$ 259,855.05
b. Prepaid Claims of:	337,952.44
c. Accounts Payables of:	123,947.47

Total:	<u>\$ 721,754.96</u>
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Moved by Commissioner Germic, supported by Cihak, to approve the Audit Committee Report dated December 31, 2024, covering the above disbursements.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Toivonen reminded everyone that January 13th was the anniversary of the death of ICRC employee Larry Leonarduzzi and to keep him and his family in our thoughts.

Superintendent Toivonen reviewed his report:

Building and Inventory:

Construction Material bids will be sent out at the end of January for miscellaneous construction materials. Iron River Salt Shed-The new Chemical Storage Facility Replacement Funding Request Form was submitted to MDOT on 12/16/24. We are looking to build an 80' x 125', with the capability to store 3,000 T of MDOT salt. MDOT can include the tear down of the current shed in the agreement if we decide we want to go that route. FHWA-2023 Spring Flood-An inquiry was sent to MDOT to see if the letting is scheduled for February; if not, we will go for March.

Primary Roads:

2024 Projects have all been submitted for file review.

Co Rd. 424 PH7/ Hagerman Lake Rd PH1-Bid packages are being put together now to go out to contractors next week, with a due date of February 21st.

Local Roads:

Little Finland gate/abandonment request. Nothing has been received in response to the abandonment paperwork that was sent to the property owner requesting it; will follow up.

Email has been sent to the Hematite Twp. Supervisor regarding the 50/50 split with Crystal Falls Twp. for West Townline Rd.

A response was received yesterday from MDOT about the railroad crossing in Amasa that is in need of repaving. There will be a call for projects in July, with projects selected in November-similar to the bridge program. If awarded, MDOT would pay 60%, with a 40% match required from Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad. There is no guarantee that E&LS would be willing to participate.

Investigation is still being done on Homecroft Plat. as to whom the plat is under the jurisdiction of, and where the certified road ends. One of the nearby property owners continues to block off part of the road, affecting the access of the other property owners nearby.

The EGLE permit has been approved for the Section 19 Grant/Barry Rd project and could potentially be let in March.

Finance Director Johnson worked with MCRCSIP and was able to get reimbursement of 90% of the costs from the Buck Lake Rd. guardrail replacement that was done late last year because of a driver accident.

Fleet / Equipment:

Shop Foreman Dean Stolberg updated the Board on the progress on the 2024 Western Star. The box is ready to be fit but they are waiting to mount it as the wing should go on first. It has not yet been received and there is no delivery date update from the manufacturer.

The Samsara units were delivered last week and are in the process of being installed. The schedule c rates for the camera and GPS unit combined is 1.28/hr. for 2025. Since the employee kiosks in the garages are slow and outdated, we did budget to replace them this year. We are investigating replacing them with tablets, which could then be used for pre- and post-trip inspections.

Employment Items:

Advertising will go up in March for probably two heavy equipment operators. A booth has been reserved at the MTU Career Fair on January 28th, to be shared with Ontonagon RC for the Civil Engineer/ Const. Foreman position.

Bridges:

Received word that Crystal Falls Twp. obtained a grant to continue the bike path westerly at the Resort Dr. bridge, with potential 2026 construction. A meeting was held yesterday to discuss the right-of-way transfer issues.

Misc:

MDOT obtained a temporary easement with the new property owner of the old Rex Angeli building and is working on a permanent one to avoid the expense of putting in a new driveway.

There was a lot of discussion at the Great Lakes District meeting regarding bridge funding and the new mandate for oversize/overweight permits from the federal government. CRA has created a committee to create a plan to address stricter bridge inspection and permit guideline requirements. The lack of funding is a major concern. For example, as of November 2024, road commissions receive \$29.00 per year from the MTF for a 53 ft. span bridge on the primary road system and \$32.00 per year for the same size bridge on the local road system.

A virtual meeting was held with Highline on December 16th. The issue with Trueline installing the fiber optic conduit on the wrong side of W. Townline Rd. is still unresolved. Because this is a major line, the thinking is that they will be allowed to run the cable as-is now, but it will need to be corrected in the spring, along with all other punch list items from 2024 before any other drilling begins. JSI is shut down for the winter.

The drain commission budget came in at \$236.00 under budget for 2024. Installing cameras at Stager and Fortune Lake this year could help save some funds because the Foreman wouldn't necessarily have to drive out as often.

DELEGATIONS

Bates Township Supervisor Mike Stafford had some questions about upcoming road projects within his township.

Mastodon Township Trustee Dave Smith commended the great job our guys have done plowing and asks that information regarding the issues with Homecroft Plat be sent to the Twp. Supervisor Chad Skinner.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS**IRS MILEAGE RATE IS SET AT 70 CENTS PER MILE FOR 2025****2025 PICKUP BIDS**

Superintendent Toivonen reviewed the only bid received, from Stateline Chevrolet. The cost per truck was bid at \$52,650 each, and includes the cost of the plow assembly and in cab controller. The utility boxes will be removed from the current Forman pickups and installed by us on the new trucks.

Moved by Commissioner Battan, supported by Frailing, to award the bid to Stateline Chevrolet for the purchase of two 2025 Chevrolet Silverado's, for a total of \$105,300., as bid.

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

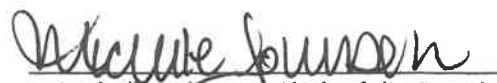
ATTORNEYS REPORT

None.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

None.

At 10:01 a.m. with no further business to come before the Board, it was motioned by Germic, supported by Cihak, to adjourn.


Ernie Schmidt, Chairman
Michelle Johnson, Clerk of the Board

Bid Summary
Iron County Road Commission

2025 - Pickups

	Stateline Chev Buick GMC	Parsons, Edwards, Eagle River Ford	Big Valley, T&Country, Riverside - IM
	2025 Chevrolet Silverado 2500	No-Bid	No-Bid
bid price, each	\$49,900.00		
other			
delivery	April to June 2025		
GVW	10,500		
total cost - 2 each	\$99,800.00		

optional additional

utility box (aluminum)	---		
utility box - paint school bus yellow	---		
utility box (fiberglass)	---		
sprayerliner - (load space, tailgate, bumper, top of compartments)	---		
bedliner service box	---		
plow and assembly	\$2,750.00		
Deviations listed:	delivery dated estimated depending on GM & body company schedules.		
	Includes in cab controller \$300 value		
total - Plow Assembly (1ea)	\$2,750.00		
total - truck/utility box/plow	\$52,650.00		
total - 2 truck/utility box/plow	\$105,300.00		
Warranty info			
Basic			
drivetrain			
corrosion			
rust-through			
roadside assistance			
maintenance			
	Ed Lindwall Stateline Chev Buick GMC 1531 W. Adams St Iron River, MI 49935 Phone: 906-265-2200 Fax: 906-265-2667 E-mail: edlindwall@gmail.com		