

MINUTES
EMMET COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
HARBOR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN

The Emmet County Board of Road Commissioners met in regular session at the office in Harbor Springs on June 26, 2019. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Zulski at 8:00 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

Frank Zulski - Chairman Robert Notestine - Vice Chairman Larry Williams - Member

Staff Present:

Brian Gutowski - Engineer-Manager Shawn Beckman - Project Manager
Robert Genson - Equipment Superintendent John Gray - South End Road Foreman
Lisa Kleeman - Finance Director/Clerk of the Board James Godzik - Permit/CADD Technician

Guests Present:

Jim Kargol - Emmet County Commissioner Bill Dohm - Little Traverse Township
Toni Drier – Emmet Count Commissioner Alice Conrad – Springvale Township
Cindy Baiardi – West Traverse Township Karla Buckmaster – Bear Creek Township
John Eby – Maple River Township Mary Zulski and Asher Zulski

MINUTES: It was moved by Robert Notestine, seconded by Frank Zulski, to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 13, 2019.

Ayes: Williams, Notestine, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: The List of Accounts Payable, Voucher No. 1925, checks numbering 45711 through 45725, in the amount of \$228,858.43, was presented for approval. It was moved by Frank Zulski, seconded by Robert Notestine, to approve accounts payable for payment of the same.

Ayes: Williams, Notestine, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

PAYROLL: Voucher No. 1926 for Payroll No. 13, checks numbering 54744 through 54804, for regular payroll in the amount of \$115,919.27, was presented for approval. It was moved by Larry Williams, seconded by Robert Notestine, to approve payroll for payment of the same.

Ayes: Williams, Notestine, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. It was moved by Larry Williams, seconded by Robert Notestine, to award the bid for Ultra-thin Asphalt on 9 segments of road in Pleasantview Township to Payne & Dolan for the amount of \$143,820.25.

Ayes: Zulski, Notestine, Williams

Nays: None

Motion carried

- b. The bids for the Hedrick Road Asphalt Overlay Project in Pleasantview Township were rejected and the project will be held until 2020.
- c. It was moved by Larry Williams, seconded by Robert Notestine, to sign the contract with Pleasantview Township for the Ultra-thin Asphalt project.

Ayes: Zulski, Notestine, Williams

Nays: None

Motion carried

- d. The contract with Pleasantview Township for the Hedrick Road Asphalt Overlay project was not signed as the project will be held until 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a. Karla Buckmaster, Bear Creek Township, read minutes from 5/30/19 regarding a Pickerel Lake Road painting request and an additional statement that is attached regarding Pickerel Lake Road and the intersection of East Mitchell and Alcan.
- b. Jim Kargoł, Emmet County Commissioner, inquired about the Atkins Road Project start date. Gutowski stated July 8, 2019 is the bid opening. Shawn Beckman commented the crew will be working on cross culvert work on that road the beginning of August.

APPOINTMENTS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- e. It was moved by Frank Zulski, seconded by Larry Williams, to award the bid for Engineering Services for Banwell Road over Cedar Creek culvert/bridge installation and Snider Road culvert replacement to Huron Engineering in the amount of \$21,550.

Ayes: Zulski, Notestine, Williams

Nays: None

Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ENGINEER-MANAGER'S REPORT: Gutowski reported the following:

- Wilderness Park Drive - received DEQ clearance for this project but we have to stay within the footprint of the existing road. US Fish and Wildlife Environmental Assessment has been completed with nine potential endangered species identified and none will be impacted by the project. Six culverts will need to be replaced and require DEQ permits.
- MDOT Grade Inspection for 2020 Sign Safety Project, Tuesday, July 2, 2019, 9:00 a.m.
- Atkins Road Project bids will be at the next Board meeting
- Lane line painting will begin soon. Gutowski and Godzik answered questions from Karla Buckmaster regarding painting instructions to contractor and paint specification.
- Beach Road had a culvert failure, along with several others that have been occurring recently. This culvert took two days to replace and Gutowski thanked the crew.
- Driveway Fines need to be addressed and it was suggested the first offense be a \$100 fine, a second offense be \$500, and a third offense be \$1,000. Zulski stated the reason for the amount of the fines is to encourage compliance as the fines are more than the cost of putting a gravel driveway in place. A Public Hearing will be held regarding fines. Zulski also explained his conversation with the Timberman's Association and the intent of the law and they will help get the law changed so new driveway's still require a permit. Notestine asked if the fine assessed covers the individual and the location and not just the individual. Buckmaster suggested adding a time frame limitation to the fine and offense process. Gutowski will talk with Ed Noyola on parameters.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Beckman reported on the following:

- John Henry Excavating has finished driving pile on the Gill Road Bridge and our crew will start putting abutment walls in
- Pennsylvania got paved and shoulder restoration will be completed today
- Devil's Elbow was paved Saturday and shoulders are getting done this week
- Waldenwood/Forest Ridge was paved yesterday
- North Conway Road - building berms, ditches, check dams, cross culverts, and curbs are being poured today
- Dust control for Maple River Township will be done soon as roads are being prepared
- Miscellaneous administration work being completed to finish up projects
- State Road plan specifications are being completed for BIA

PERMIT/CAD REPORT: Godzik gave a reminder of permit fees going up July 1, 2019 and this has been posted on our website and Facebook. He is also in the process of sending this information to Emmet County Planning & Zoning, Building Department, and court house.

EQUIPMENT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Genson reported being very busy and the oldest vehicle in the fleet will be retired with a busted frame. This is a 30 year-old service truck from the Levering garage which has been rebuilt twice. He is searching for a used replacement.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT: Commissioner Notestine questioned Beckman on the status of projects and the ability to get them completed before fall. Beckman discussed the reconstruction projects that have been awarded but not started. Notestine also questioned the Pickerel Lake Road intersection and the ability to get help from MDOT on this location. Gutowski stated we will revisit this topic with MDOT at meeting scheduled for later today; specifically about a recessed stop bar/safety lines, a round-about, and safety improvements at this intersection. Buckmaster stated that Planning & Zoning have announced in the newspaper that they are proposing an increase in the density of population in this area. Commissioner Zulski asked Gutowski to send an email to Planning & Zoning to address this.

ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT: Gray commented on damage from the rain and lots of projects are in the works but being held up with the delay in getting Miss Dig to mark them. Gutowski and Kargol offered comments as to why Miss Dig is so far behind and the impact to the agency.

FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT: Kleeman reported the MDOT State Trunkline Audit for 2017 has been finalized with an amount owed to MDOT of \$15,373.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a. Karla Buckmaster, Bear Creek Township, inquired about the Alcan and East Mitchell intersection regarding a blind dip for westbound traffic who want to turn east. Gutowski asked Godzik to take site distance shots in this area.
- b. Toni Drier, Emmet County Commissioner, inquired about mowing on the north end of the county. Gutowski stated the plan is to mow highways before July 4 and then the primary and local roads. Gray commented state highways are done and they have begun mowing the primary roads.

With no further business, Commissioner Zulski adjourned the meeting at 8:35 a.m.



Lisa Kleeman, Finance Director-Clerk of the Board

7-11-19

Date

I want to remind you of my 05/30/19 ECRC meeting...

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a. Karla Buckmaster, Bear Creek Township, commented the paint on the bottom of Pickerel Lake Road hill has been scrapped off by plowing and requested that it be painted again before summer begins. Gutowski stated painting is to begin next week. Buckmaster also requested a stop bar be painted on Alcan Road so traffic doesn't cut the corner off East Mitchell.

So far this roadway painting which Brian said would have begun 21 days ago now, has NOT happened. In 2017, when I begged for this same action, it took until October 2017, after Pickerel Lake corner's summer visitors were GONE, and just before the plows would begin to scrape the new paint off, before Pickerel Lake corner was painted then. I believe that was the last time that corner has been painted.

Since my recent May request, I have called Brian telling of my husband's near wreckage experience at the bottom of Pickerel Lake hill. He was waiting in the left turn lane, which is not really visible, and someone else pulled up to his right and just on top of the hint of the slash marks. None of the markings are very obvious for those who are unfamiliar with the turning situation there. The other car pulled out to turn left at the same time that my husband had the right-of-way to turn left. Close calamity. Painted markings could have helped in this situation.

That corner, however, truly does have other hazards that should have been dealt with years ago, so a light could be placed there. But now, the least this road commission could do is to get the lines painted for everyone, not just locals, to know where the turn lanes are.

AND oh, how I wish the stop bar on the bottom of Alcan Drive entering on to East Mitchell Roadway had already been painted, to help keep people from turning too quickly, cutting the corner too short, and creating a driving hazard there. Again, like on Pickerel Lake corner, the ingress/egress of Alcan Drive and East Mitchell Road seriously needs to be addressed, also having a huge road engineering hazard. Just a few years back that Alcan/Mitchell "intersecting T" was reworked... Brian should remember how recent that was because the engineering of the grade of Alcan entering Mitchell had to be redone shortly after just having been reconstructed! Cars could about bottom out even at a slow pace because the dip entering Mitchell was so drastic. It is still bad, but is better than it had been. The very worst part of that entire corner fiasco is that Mitchell was engineered in such a way that when a driver heads east, but hopes to turn on to Alcan, an unmarked blind spot exists, hiding vehicles heading west on Mitchell. It is very easy to be in the middle of a left turn from Mitchell on to Alcan, and a vehicle from the other direction is suddenly out of the dip, and right on top on you. That entire area needs to be Readdressed! Sunday, a young man was killed in that very

area, when two vehicles collided. I do not know what the circumstances were... drivers' errors perhaps, or possibly inattention... inattention by the road commission in addressing situations already called to your attention. Both Pickerel Lake and Alcan are huge traffic junctures. Please do not wait for another death, or warrant, as they are often referred, before taking action in getting the pavement markings painted, AND now, getting the Mitchell Street/Alcan Drive intersection re-engineered, and constructed with safety and saving lives as the main priority!