

MINUTES
EMMET COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
HARBOR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN

The Emmet County Board of Road Commissioners met in regular session at the offices in Harbor Springs on January 26, 2018. The Chairman, Frank Zulski, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Commissioners Present: Frank Zulski, Leroy Sumner, and Larry Williams

Staff Present: Brian Gutowski – Engineer-Manager, Bob Genson-Equipment Superintendent, Shawn Beckman – Project Manager, James Godzik-Permit/CADD Tech, and Lisa Kleeman-Finance Director/Clerk of the Board.

Guests Present:

Gordon & Edith Kruskie – Readmond Township
Robert Rogier – Pleasantview Township
John Baker – West Traverse Township
Alice Conrad – Springvale Township
Jonathan Scheel – Emmet County Commissioner

Dennis Keiser – Bear Creek Township
Toni Drier – Emmet County Commissioner
Bill Dohm – Little Traverse Township
Mary Zulski

MINUTES: It was moved by Leroy Sumner, seconded by Larry Williams, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 12, 2018 and special meetings of 01/22/2018, 1/23/2018, and 01/24/2018.

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: The List of Accounts Payable, Voucher No. 1803, checks numbering from No. 43933 to No. 43973, in the amount of \$109,016.81 was presented for approval. It was moved by Larry Williams, seconded by Leroy Sumner, to approve accounts payable for payment of the same.

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

PAYROLL: Voucher No. 1804 for Payroll No. 2, checks numbering from No. 52542 to No. 52599 for regular payroll, in the amount of \$103,039.78, was presented for approval. It was moved by Leroy Sumner, seconded by Larry Williams, to approve payroll for payment of the same.

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Policy No. 2018-011: Local Road Improvement and Township Allocation Policy. It was moved by Leroy Sumner, seconded by Larry Williams, to adopt the policy as presented.

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a. Dennis Keiser, Bear Creek Township Supervisor, apologized for a statement at the Michigan Township Association regarding the road commission and expressed his appreciation for changes to policy regarding allocation and removing charges so money can be spent on local roads. He stated the MTA annual meeting is always well attended and he appreciates the Board and staff for attending and welcomes them to next year's meeting.
- b. Bill Dohm, Little Traverse Township Supervisor, thanked the Board and staff for their contribution to the township meetings, the positive outcome, excellent cooperation and communication.
- c. Jonathan Scheel, Emmet County Commissioner, attended two southern township meetings and was incredibly impressed with the presentations especially the pie charts that show the ratings on the roads then and now. He complimented on the PASER system and for working together and continuing to use the system to improve the quality of the roads. Commissioner Williams gave full credit to Engineer-Manager Gutowski.
- d. Toni Drier, Emmet County Commissioner, after attending the meetings, stated it was evident all 16 townships boards and citizens had an opportunity to speak up and she could see how well the Board works with the townships outside the normal meetings. It has helped Jonathan and her to understand how the allocation and township millages work.
- e. Lisa Kleeman, Finance Director, stated she is very impressed with the Board, Brian and staff at Emmet County Road Commission having seen how the PASER system is incorporated and how they work with the townships to accomplish good things for local roads.

APPOINTMENTS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Policy No. 2018-049: Payment Authorization Prior to Board Approval Policy. It was moved by Larry Williams, seconded by Leroy Sumner, to adopt the policy as presented.

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

- b. County Road Association of Michigan, Northern Michigan Association of Road Commissions' candidate to the CRA Board. It was moved by Frank Zulski, seconded by Leroy Sumner, to cast the vote for Douglas Robidoux from Mason County.

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

- c. Bids for One (1) 4x4 Compact Type Sports Utility Vehicle were reviewed. It was moved by Leroy Sumner, seconded by Larry Williams, to purchase a 2018 Jeep Cherokee with extended warranty from Feeny Chrysler Jeep Dodge of Gaylord in the amount of \$27,153.00.

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

- d. It was moved by Frank Zulski, seconded by Leroy Sumner, to change the February 23, 2018 meeting to February 26, 2018.

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

- e. Littlefield Township requested to accumulate their allocation from 3 years up to 5 years for Crump Road Project. It was moved by Leroy Sumner, seconded by Larry Williams, to allow this request

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ENGINEER-MANAGER'S REPORT: Gutowski reported he will be attending a webinar on 01/30/18 for Thaw Caster Training. This is a new statewide program developed by MTU to assist with frost law training and is just being released. On 1/31/18 he will be attending a training on CCE Emergency Preparedness. There is a Straits Area Council Meeting on 2/6/18. On 2/8/18, he will be meeting with West Traverse Township and Birchwood regarding Middle Road Bridge. Gutowski produced a video for

CRA and MCRC SIP for House Bill 5097. This bill will limit what can be charged for towers in the right of way to \$5,000. Downstate they were charging up to \$20,000 per tower. Maple River Township has abandoned poles and John Eby was inquiring what he should do with them. In Cheboygan County, they pulled poles and it cost the township \$28,000 for removal.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Beckman reported an interesting start to the year. He appreciates being part of the team here and working with the townships. He finds it interesting how the agency and the townships work together to keep evolving with the constant changes and he will try to do his best to service the townships. He continues to work on estimates for 2018.

PERMIT/CAD REPORT: Godzik continues to work on permits and attended weigh master training.

EQUIPMENT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Genson reported our insurance pool, in early April, asked to use our facility for a demonstration on fires in the trucks, for the northern region. They are checking for battery disconnects. It was a rough couple of weeks for the fleet. We lost several differentials and chains on the sanders and they are back ordered until February. Genson also attended the township meetings and it was a real eye opener. He has been here a long time, when there was money and when there wasn't. The townships really stepped up and it was appreciated.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT: Williams stated he enjoyed the camaraderie of the meetings. Sumner commented that we have worked together for a long time and he is glad to see it happen, as it is different in other counties. He shared how he prefers to talk things out and thanked the townships. Zulski stated he appreciates what the townships have done for us and as revenue increases see what can be reprioritized in the future, possibly funding dust control. He desires to continue at a level where we can appropriate the money to provide a better service level from the road commission to free up more dollars for the townships to use on the roads. We hope to continue the excellent relationship and went on record as saying Emmet County has the best local road system in the state of Michigan only due to the townships.

ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT: None.

FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

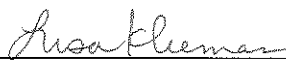
- a. Dennis Keiser asked where the frost is at. Gutowski responded he has not checked yet although some counties downstate have implemented frost laws.
- b. Bill Dohm stated he is perfectly happy with the contribution and would like to see the county focus on adding more money for equipment to keep the roads plowed and mowed. He also would like to see us stay focused on primaries and it would be really great to bring them up to

scale as we have the secondaries. Zulski responded new equipment would mean spending less on repairs and fixing roads requires less patching in the future. He also commented on the Governor's message recently and his desire for \$325 million instead of \$150 million but we won't budget or spend until the money is here.

- c. Bob Genson brought up mowing and asked Gutowski to address new information regarding endangered species. Gutowski discussed the Massasauga rattlesnake and how he recommends mowing to be done this summer with time constraints due to these changes. Also cutting trees in the ROW could be impacted by bat issues.
- d. Bill Dohm suggested inviting our representatives to our meeting and explaining how these issues impact services and asking them to help us deal with it. Zulski and Gutowski stated they will talk to them personally in March and extend the invitation.

With no further business, Mr. Zulski adjourned the meeting at 8:27 a.m.

Gutowski played the video on towers or poles in the right of way.



Lisa Kleeman – Finance Director/Clerk of the Board

2-9-18

Date

