

**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, October 28, 2022. Frank Zulski, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

**Commissioners Present:**

Frank Zulski – Chairman      Wade Williams – Vice Chairman      Mark Hoffman - Member

**Staff Present:**

Brent Shank – Engineer/Manager      Travis Horrocks – Engineer/Technician  
John Gray – South Road Foreman      James Godzik – Permit/CADD Technician

**Guests Present:**

Gordon & Edith Kruskie – Readmond Twp.      Bill Dohm – Little Traverse Twp. Supervisor  
Mary Zulski      Alyce Conrad  
Rich Ginop      Joan Swartout

**Guests Present via Zoom:**

Thomas Miller – Trails End Bay Property Assoc.      Ami Wood  
Jim Bartlett, West Traverse Township Supervisor      David Boyer, Emmet County Administrator  
David White, Emmet County Commissioner

**Staff Present via Zoom:**

Michelle Main – Administrative Assistant

**MINUTES:**

It was moved by Zulski, seconded by Williams, to approve the regular session minutes of October 14, 2022, and special meeting minutes on October 24, 25, and 26, 2022. Zulski commented the township meetings were positive, the new reports contained a lot of detail, and these were the best township meetings we have had. He congratulated Shank on a job well done.

Ayes: Hoffman, Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:**

It was moved by Williams, seconded by Zulski, to approve accounts payable for payment of Voucher 2243 for checks 49792 through 49830 in the amount of \$128,334.31. Hoffman inquired on the amount paid to Crystal Flash for diesel fuel and how long the fuel would last. He also inquired about two checks to Alerus Financial; one is for retirement and the other for health care savings accounts.

Ayes: Hoffman, Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

**PAYROLL:**

It was moved by Hoffman, seconded by Williams, to approve payroll and electronic direct deposits for Voucher 2244 for checks 57672 through 57695 in the amount of \$106,358.53.

Ayes: Hoffman, Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- a. Alyce Conrad – Inquired about moving the meeting to a time when it is daylight, less traffic, and sunshine.
- b. Commissioner Hoffman shared that Bear Creek Supervisor Keiser called him to thank the road commission for painting the lines and arrows at Pickerel Lake Road and US 31.

**APPOINTMENTS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. It was moved by Williams, seconded by Hoffman, to award the bid for Stump Grinding on M119 to Always There Tree Care, LLC.

Ayes: Hoffman, Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

- b. It was moved by Zulski, seconded by Williams, to award the bid for Wood Chipping on M119 to Always There Tree Care, LLC.

Ayes: Hoffman, Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

- c. It was moved by Zulski, seconded by Hoffman, to accept all bids and award the bids for annual ice control liquid brine to be used in the best interest of the road commission. Purchase will be based depending on price and availability.

Ayes: Hoffman, Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

- d. It was moved by Hoffman, seconded by Williams, to accept all bids and award the bids for annual ice control liquid organic to be used in the best interest of the road commission. Purchase will be based depending on price and availability.

Ayes: Hoffman, Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

- e. It was moved by Hoffman, seconded by Williams, to approve a resolution authorizing Robert B. Shank, Engineer-Manager, and Lisa M. Kleeman, Finance Director, to Docusign MDOT Contract 22-5475 for Job Number 215822CON, Division Road from Atkins Road to US 31.

Williams inquired on the road commissions share of this contract and Shank replied there is a 20% match and Bear Creek Township Supervisor Keiser has agreed to participate in that match.

Ayes: Hoffman, Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- a. Notice of Straits Area Council Meeting, Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. at Audie's Restaurant in Mackinaw City. Shank, Zulski, and Hoffman plan to attend.

#### **ENGINEER-MANAGER'S REPORT:** Shank offered the following:

- Country Club Road and Robinson Road projects are completed; just waiting for NRCS inspection. Hoffman inquired about sewage line repairs.
- Milton Road project has been completed. Williams inquired about line painting and the variations. Zulski inquired when the detour would start and where the road would be closed. Shank replied it will start in the spring, after weight restrictions are lifted and there are two stages to the project. MDOT will keep the businesses in the area informed on the process. There was additional discussion on the scope of the project and the complexity of the detour.
- M119 detour in place for the slope failure will remain for the winter. It will be north bound one way and south bound across Lake Street. Hoffman inquired if additional signage could be placed for the election and Shank was working with Granger on this.
- Trails End and Stanley Court projects were checked out after the township meeting; the gravel is healing up quite well with minimal rutting. The contractor was completing some topsoil work to deal with some edge drops.
- Depew Road tree will be taken care of this winter.
- Lamkin Road project will begin next week.



**ENGINEER-TECHNICIAN'S REPORT:** None**PERMIT/CAD TECHNICIAN'S REPORT:** Godzik discussed the following:

- DTE will be starting on Resort-Pike with Miller Pipeline and plan to be completed by November 14.
- He met with Jim from Roesse Contracting regarding projects on Atkins, Cedar Valley, and Lakeview Road.
- Zulski discussed a prevailing issue at the township meetings were utilities; can we bond, how often do we bond, and what can be done as the system is not working the way it is. Godzik discussed working with Charter and using an irrevocable letter of credit and he mentioned working with Shank and the board on this issue. Williams asked for clarification on working in the right of way; what is the deadline as it appears they are working all winter? Godzik stated the deadline is November 14 but he has allowed some contractors to work all winter. Shank discussed some of the MDOT detour route projects may need to be permitted this winter. Shank also stated they need to see who the problem is with. Zulski stated for Shank to run the direction they need to and let the board know what needs to be in place but the current system is not working. There was much discussion on this issue. Shank will take a look at it this winter and see what recommendations for changes need to take place in the policy.

**EQUIPMENT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:** None.

**ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT:** Gray stated they are aggressively brushing and finishing up a couple projects as well as maintenance of patching and fixing potholes. Scharffe is heading up the M119 tree project with the summer employees and other entities, and is doing an excellent job.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** None.

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORT:** Commissioner Hoffman discussed the proposed changing of snowplowing and he doesn't want to change anything; he wants to make sure they keep plowing like they have been to keep things safe. He also discussed changing asphalt depth from 3" to 4" and this hasn't been decided yet by the board. Even though this is an engineering thing, it has to be discussed further. Zulski gave reasons why asphalt depth needs to be addressed and the options that are available depending on the circumstance. Williams stated it was discussed as a possible option. Hoffman is not against going to 4 or 5 inches of asphalt but he thinks as a board they have to discuss how to pay for roads they can't fix. Shank discussed more will be decided when they look at the five-year plan.

Commissioner Williams inquired about clearing the intersection of Milton and Powers Road because of the discussion of all the traffic on Milton Road. Gray stated he was waiting to see if the township acquired the property before he cut this area; he needs hard numbers on where the right of way is. Williams said the trees on Powers Road are way infringing and should have been removed when Powers Road was done. Gray discussed having issues with property

owners when removing trees. Williams also stated he believes traffic volume will multiply after the detour is over because people will have found a good cut across. Gray would like to remove the poplar trees and all the pines between Powers Road and Subway. Zulski and Shank heard the township was not going to acquire the property. Williams discussed when a good time to remove the trees would be and Zulski inquired to Godzik when he could get the right of way marked out definitively. Gray stated before winter is the best time to get this done. Williams reiterated this will be a real bad intersection because the hill is always slippery and traffic volume.

Commissioner Zulski asked about the delineators on the bike path near Bay Harbor; it was determined they have been removed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- a. Amy Wood, Wilderness Park Drive – She stated the project is beautiful. She has a brick driveway, she spoke with some people at the road commission, but some of the driveway bricks are not on pallets and the bricks that are on pallets are not on her driveway but on the shoulder of the road and she can't move them. It was her understanding the bricks were supposed to be on pallets and on her driveway. Shank informed her if they are not in the proper place, we will have them moved and will follow up with her.
- b. Gordon Kruskie – The new mower is doing a terrific job with the brush cutting, especially the Robinson Road area. It is an amazing difference for safety.
- c. Thomas Miller, Trails End Bay Property Association – He thanked Shank for listening to the township on the creek crossing and beginning to address the situation. He also discussed the steep slope on the east side of the creek crossing that may washout in the spring and will need riprap and also it needs reflectors or marking in this area for people to see in the dark because it is a deep crossing. He also discussed shoulders south of the creek didn't get as much fill making the slopes steep.

Commissioner Zulski adjourned the meeting at 8:41 a.m.



Lisa Kleeman, Finance Director-Clerk of the Board



Date