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, September 24, 2026. Chairman Frank Zulski 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 James Kargol – Member

Staff Present:
Brent Shank – Engineer/Manager James Godzik – Permit/CADD Technician
Art Beach – South Road Foreman Tony Shaler – Shop Foreman
Travis Horrocks – Engineer Technician Lisa Kleeman - Finance Director/Board Clerk

Guests Present:
Bill Dohm – Little Traverse Twp. Supervisor Don Mapes-Emmet County Commissioner
Garrett Muir – Bear Creek Twp. Supervisor

Guests and Staff Present via Zoom:
Chelsea Drayton – ECRC Admin. Assistant Brad Coulter – Resort Township Supervisor
David White – Emmet County Commissioner Sarah Krupa

AGENDA:
It was moved by Zulski, seconded by Kargol, to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Kargol, Williams, Zulski
Nays: None
Motion carried

MINUTES:
It was moved by Kargol, seconded by Williams, to approve the regular session minutes of September 10, 2026.

Ayes: Kargol, Williams, Zulski
Nays: None
Motion carried

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:
It was moved by Zulski, seconded by Williams, to approve accounts payables as follows:
Voucher 2640 for checks 61940-61981 and electronic payments in the amount of $172,703.88
Voucher 2642 for an electronic payment in the amount of $57,515.06

Ayes: Kargol, Williams, Zulski
Nays: None
Motion carried

PAYROLL:
It was moved by Williams, seconded by Kargol, to approve payroll Voucher 2641 for checks 61982-61986 and electronic deposits/payments of $112,284.05.

Ayes: Kargol, Williams, Zulski
Nays: None
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

a. It was moved by Kargol, seconded by Williams, to approve the garage door bids and award to Compaan Garage Doors.

   Ayes: Kargol, Williams, Zulski
   Nays: None
   Motion carried

b. It was moved by Zulski, seconded by Williams, to approve the PLOW Storms Act resolution. See attached.

   Ayes: Kargol, Williams, Zulski
   Nays: None
   Motion carried

c. It was moved by Zulski, seconded by Williams, to approve Warwick Road Base Crushing quotes and award to Pavement Recycling, Inc.

   Ayes: Kargol, Williams, Zulski
   Nays: None
   Motion carried

d. It was moved by Zulski, seconded by Williams, to approve the NMARC 2026 Board Member Trustee Ballot for Jalene Sandel, Donna Lowe, and Karl Hanson.

Ayes: Kargol, Williams, Zulski
Nays: None
Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ENGINEER-MANAGER REPORT: Shank discussed the following:

- Lower Shore Drive Slope Failure update. Design is complete and OHM Advisors are working on final plans, specifications, and an estimate for next year. This road is recommended to remain closed for the winter.
- Click Road Bridge load ratings bridge report from Spicer Group is still in process.

ENGINEER-TECHNICIAN REPORT: Horrocks gave the following update:

- Division Road culvert lining project was completed yesterday.
- Brutus Road project was completed Tuesday.
- Pennsylvania Avenue and Cedar Lane were paved; restoration will occur next week.
- North Conway Road overlay project will begin Saturday.
- Levering Road slope failure repair just east of Larks Lake Road will begin soon.
- Terpening Road project will begin soon.
- Pickerel Lake Road BIA and Federal Aid buyout project bid specs will begin soon.
- Click Road Bridge repair for deck lift off and pile restoration bid specs will begin soon.
- Guardrail Safety Project on hold for environmental and historical review; should be clarified in the next 10-15 days.
- Gravel production for 2027 may occur this fall at the Morrow and Conway Pit.

PERMIT/CAD TECHNICIAN REPORT: Godzik had nothing to report.

SHOP FOREMAN REPORT: Shaler reported on the following:

- Equipment changeover for winter started Monday.
- Safety Day occurred last Friday and topics included electric vehicles, Great Lakes Energy on electrical safety, CPR training, and the Sherrif's Department reviewed drug paraphernalia that could be found on the side of the road.
- Last flat rack pickup will be picked up today.
- All six big trucks have been upfitted and are onsite.
- We will host a MCRCSIP Truck Rodeo onsite, October 15, 2026, for newer employees.

ROAD FOREMEN REPORTS: Beach stated they have been ditching, culverts, patching, blading gravel roads, spillway cleanouts, cutting brush with fecon head, and finished mowing. There is a big rock project for MDOT on US31 starting tomorrow and winter salt delivery will begin today.

FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT: Kleeman distributed and briefly discussed:

- Michigan Transportation Funds Distribution for August.
- CRASIF Board Meeting in Mt. Pleasant on Monday afternoon and Tuesday.

- Anderson, Tackman & Company will no longer be performing governmental agency audits out of their Kincheloe office, but one of their partners and our auditor, Ken Talsma, has joined A., Cedric, and Michaels CPA's, PLLC. It was requested to utilize the new firm for one year due to the long history with Anderson, Tackman & Company, and decide future services after that.

  It was moved by Zulski, seconded by Kargol, to approve the Engineer-Manager to sign a Consent to Transfer of Engagement and Files from Anderson, Tackman & Company, PLC, to A., Cedric, & Michaels, CPA's, PLLC.

  Ayes: Kargol, Williams, Zulski
  Nays: None
  Motion carried

- 2027 Draft Board Schedule was distributed and can be approved in December.
- Next meeting is October 15, 2026, which is not the regular rotation schedule.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

- Kargol - They did a nice job on traffic control for the Division Road culvert lining project.
- Williams - None
- Zulski – Inquired about M119 road failure and Shank responded that MDOT is bringing in out of state engineers to access the situation. Zulski also stated the crew did a really good job on trees on State Road. Shank stated that paint has been scheduled for State Road.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Commissioner Zulski adjourned the meeting at 8:25 a.m.

Lisa Kleeman Digitally signed by Lisa Kleeman
Date: 2026.10.15 12:20:39 -04'00'

_____

Lisa Kleeman, Finance Director-Clerk of the Board

EMMET COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE PLOW STORM ACT

WHEREAS, the Emmet County Road Commission is charged by state law with maintaining safe and efficient transportation on county roads and highways for the residents, businesses, emergency responders and visitors to Emmet County; and

WHEREAS, county road agencies provide critical winter maintenance services, including snow and ice removal operations that allow law enforcement, fire departments, emergency medical services, school transportation, utility crews and the traveling public to safely access Michigan's roadways during winter weather events; and

WHEREAS, many county road agencies throughout Michigan, particularly in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula, conduct snow and ice removal operations on a near-daily basis during the winter season, often under severe weather conditions that include substantial snowfall, extreme cold temperatures, and prolonged storm events; and

WHEREAS, county road agencies operate specialized heavy-duty snowplow trucks equipped with front plows, underbody blades, wing plows, and material spreaders that are essential to maintaining passable roadways and ensuring continuity of transportation services; and

WHEREAS, modern diesel emissions systems installed on these specialized winter maintenance vehicles have demonstrated significant reliability challenges during snowplowing operations due to the unique operating conditions associated with winter maintenance activities, including prolonged idling, low-speed operation, stop-and-go movement, repeated maneuvering, highly variable engine loads, and extreme temperatures; and

WHEREAS, emissions-related system failures frequently result in engine derating, reduced vehicle performance or complete removal of snowplow trucks from service during active winter weather events when reliable operation is most critical; and

WHEREAS, county road agencies serve as "pre-responders" during winter weather emergencies by opening and maintaining roadways so that police, fire, emergency medical services, utility crew and other emergency responders can perform their duties; and

WHEREAS, emergency vehicles are currently afforded exemptions under federal diesel emissions regulations in recognition of their public safety mission, yet municipally operated snowplow equipment performing similarly critical public safety functions is not included within those exemptions; and

WHEREAS, the PLOW Storms Act would recognize the unique operational requirements and public safety role of municipally operated snow removal equipment by including such vehicles within the existing

emergency vehicle framework of the federal Clean Air Act while engaged in winter maintenance operations; and

WHEREAS, passage of the PLOW Storms Act would improve the reliability of winter maintenance fleets, enhance public safety, reduce costly downtime, and help ensure continuity of essential transportation services during severe weather events;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Emmet County Road Commission hereby expresses its strong support for the PLOW Storms Act and urges its prompt consideration and passage by the United States Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission respectfully urges Michigan's congressional delegation to support legislation recognizing the critical public safety role of municipally operated snow removal equipment and the need for reliable winter maintenance operations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a vote hereon be taken by aye and nay and spread at large on the minutes of the Board.

Commission Chair, Emmet County Road Commission

Commission Vice Chair, Emmet County Road Commission

Commissioner, Emmet County Road Commission