

**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, May 17, 2021. Frank Zulski, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

Frank Zulski – Chairman

Wade Williams – Member

Staff Present:

Brian Gutowski - Engineer/Manager

James Godzik – Permit/CADD Technician

Lisa Kleeman – Finance Director/Board Clerk

Shawn Beckman – Project Supervisor

Ed Zmikly – North Road Foreman

Guests Present:

Gordon & Edith Kruskie – Readmond Twp.

Bill Dohm – Little Traverse Twp. Supervisor

Toni Drier – Emmet County Commissioner

Alyce Conrad – Springvale Township

Joe Tomlinson – Readmond Township

Guests Present via Zoom:

David White – Emmet County Commissioner

Thomas Miller – Trailsend Bay Property Assoc.

Dennis Keiser – Bear Creek Twp. Supervisor

Sarah Krupa – Readmond Twp. Clerk

Jim Bartlett – West Traverse Twp. Supervisor

MINUTES: It was moved by Wade Williams, seconded by Frank Zulski, to approve the regular session minutes of April 30, 2021.

Ayes: Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Vacant: One

Motion carried

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Voucher No. 2119 for Accounts Payable checks 47994 through 48067, in the amount of \$579,082.12 were presented for approval. It was moved by Frank Zulski, seconded by Wade Williams, to approve accounts payable for payment of the same.

Ayes: Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Vacant: One

Motion carried

PAYROLL:

Voucher No. 2120 for Payroll No. 10, checks 56624 through 56651 and direct deposit, in the amount of \$100,846.77, was presented for approval. It was moved by Wade Williams, seconded by Frank Zulski, to approve payroll for payment of the same.

Ayes: Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Vacant: One

Motion carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a. Gordon Kruskie, Readmond Township Trustee – Introduced Joe Tomlinson of M119 in Good Hart who offered concerns regarding Robinson Road east of State Road. He requested the board members take a ride on this stretch of road as you cannot drive on the right side of road going east and this is the main road coming from the airport. He also stated this is the main road from I-75 Exit 322 and the airport to Good Hart. Zulski responded he is aware and shares the same frustrations regarding the primary roads in the north portion of the county. Zulski reminded the audience of the \$13 million lost in MTF funding and stated the agency does not have adequate funding to fix all the roads. The tax millage is spent depending on where the township decides to spend the money. Zulski also stated the PASER rating system is used to help determine which roads to fix and he would be more than happy to work with Tomlinson on this issue. Kruskie stated the repair on Robinson Road would cost between \$2.5-3 million and Gutowski said it is on the tribal list and may be moved up if federal funds are received by the tribe. There was much discussion on property taxes, road funding, and project priorities.

APPOINTMENTS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. It was moved by Frank Zulski, seconded by Wade Williams, to award the bid for the Hill Road Hot-mix Asphalt Upgrade in Readmond Township to Rieth-Riley in the amount of \$150,101.38.

Ayes: Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Vacant: One

Motion carried

- b. It was moved by Wade Williams, seconded by Frank Zulski, to sign the contract with Readmond Township for the Hill Road Hot-mix Asphalt Upgrade Project.

Ayes: Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Vacant: One

Motion carried

- c. It was moved by Frank Zulski, seconded by Wade Williams, to sign the contract with Sackrider Excavating for gravel crushing at the Conway and Morrow Pits.

Ayes: Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Vacant: One

Motion carried

- d. It was moved by Wade Williams, seconded by Frank Zulski, to sign the contract with Rieth-Riley for the Troup Road and Terpening Road Asphalt Overlay project in Pleasantview Township.

Ayes: Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Vacant: One

Motion carried

- e. It was moved by Frank Zulski, seconded by Wade Williams, to approve the MDOT North Region Catch Basin Rehab bid for Blair Spray Foam Insulation, Inc.

Ayes: Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Vacant: One

Motion carried

- f. It was moved by Frank Zulski, seconded by Wade Williams, to sign the MTF Engineering Reimbursement form in the amount of \$10,000.

Ayes: Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Vacant: One

Motion carried

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. Notice of MCRC SIP Annual Meeting July 21-22, 2021 at the Soaring Eagle Conference Center in Mt. Pleasant.

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

- US Representative Jack Bergman's office informed us there will be no special funding available for Lakeshore Drive or Brutus Road. Therefore, wedging will begin on Van Road and then proceed to Lakeshore Drive until budgeted funds are exhausted.
- Mike Reaves, Emmet County Administrator, stated there will be no reimbursement for the 2020 MTF shortage of \$750,000 via the funds the county will receive for Covid-19 reimbursed expenses estimated at \$6 million.
- Bridge and Pavement Asset Management trainings continue for several more dates in May and June and the comprehensive report should be done by the first week of June.
- Field Meeting on Wilderness Park Drive project on May 24, at Second Beach with J & N Construction as they want to start June 1. Roger Moore, Wawatam Township Supervisor and Village of Mackinaw will attend. Zmikly stated stumping and culverts are done but there is some restoration to complete.
- May 25 there is a meeting with Dennis Keiser, Bear Creek Township Supervisor, MDOT, Tammy Doernenburg of Planning & Zoning, and Amanda Swiss, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, regarding the US 31 intersection/corridor from Division to Pickerel Lake Road. Keiser hired OHM to look at a preliminary design to be reviewed with MDOT.
- CRA recognition was given for retired Road Commissioner Larry Williams for 12 years of service to the Road Commission Board.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Beckman gave an update on the following:

- Country Club Road is finished, just need final inspection
- Crump Road was started last week with culvert work
- Stutsmanville Road, 4.63 miles of wedge and cap, overlay is finished and shoulder gravel will be placed this week.
- Banwell Road bridge - pile driving is done on the south side, culverts have been removed, and the north side pile driving will begin today. Krenn Timber Bridge has been informed there is a staff shortage and the bridge will not be here until the middle to end of June. They are still planning on opening the road before July 4.
- Lake Road and Eppler Road projects will be started this week.

PERMIT/CAD TECHNICIAN'S REPORT: Godzik gave an update that the crew has completed the Howard and Lears Intersection project for power pole removal and slope restoration improving site distance. There has been an increase in permits and land divisions.

EQUIPMENT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: None

ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT: Zmikly reported some of the crew has been working with MDOT on traffic control for the I-75 crack seal project. He also stated five employees attended a grader training school which received very positive feedback. Hill Road will be stumped and restoration complete in the next few days. He is getting ready for the first round of dust

control to begin early next week by D & J Bowen Company. Kruskie mentioned a few priorities for dust control in Readmond Township and he will get with Zmikly.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Kleeman reported there is an Annual CRA Finance & HR Meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, May 18-20, 2021.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT: Commissioner Zulski commented facing the same frustration for funding and US Representative Bergman's update on lack of funding for Lakeshore Drive as well as not receiving any Covid funds from the county; these two losses total \$1 million in shortage. If the federal infrastructure package passes, some funds may come through tribal funds. If any funds come through, the northern primary roads will be first priority. Commissioner Williams asked about staking for the signage upgrade for the intersection change.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a. Toni Drier, Emmet County Commissioner- gave an update on county Covid funds saying it is a two-year process and they are still learning what the funds can be spent on. She also stated the appointment for the Road Commission Board will occur on May 20. She thanked the Board for having the conversation regarding the north end primary roads and she encouraged more education needs to be done aimed at the township level on how funds are prioritized and used. Gutowski will compose a newsletter with the Board's input.
- b. Alyce Conrad asked when Banwell Road bridge detour will be opened and Gutowski and Beckman replied by July 4. She also reminded the Board there are primary roads in poor condition on the south end of the county also.
- c. Gordon Kruskie, Readmond Township Trustee – Lamkin Road needs additional gravel added. Gutowski will get the township an estimate.
- d. Joe Tomlinson – Lamkin Road residents would like the road paved, not additional gravel. Gutowski informed him because it is a natural beauty road there has to be a petition with 51% approval to get this done. Tomlinson stated he will proceed with this process.
- e. Thomas Miller, Trailsend Bay Property Association – Inquired when Great Lakes Energy will be in the area for tree cutting. Godzik has a phone call scheduled for today at 10:00 a.m. and will get back with Miller.

Commissioner Zulski adjourned the meeting at 8:48 a.m.



Lisa Kleeman, Finance Director-Clerk of the Board

5-27-21

Date