

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 11, 2023. 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 Mark Hoffman - Member

Staff Present:

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

Guests Present:

Bill Dohm – Little Traverse Twp. Supervisor Dennis Keiser – Bear Creek Twp. Supervisor
Ed Kuligowski – Pleasantview Twp. Supervisor Gordon & Edith Kruskie

Guests Present via Zoom:

David White - Emmet County Commissioner Dave Boyer – Emmet County Administrator

MINUTES:

It was moved by Hoffman, seconded by Williams, to approve the regular session minutes and closed session minutes of April 28, 2023.

Ayes: Hoffman, Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

It was moved by Williams, seconded by Hoffman, to approve accounts payable for payment of Voucher 2319 for checks 50424 through 50461 in the amount of \$82,293.57.

Ayes: Hoffman, Williams, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

PAYROLL:

It was moved by Hoffman, seconded by Zulski, to approve payroll and electronic direct deposits for Voucher 2320 for checks 58023 through 58041 in the amount of \$102,188.14.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a. Bill Dohm, Little Traverse Township Supervisor – Thanked Shank for organizing the round-about meeting.

APPOINTMENTS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. It was moved by Hoffman, seconded by Zulski, to sign the MDOT Act 51 Engineering Reimbursement form for 2022-2023.

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

- b. It was moved by Zulski, seconded by Hoffman, to award the bids for grader and wing blades to be used in the best interest of the road commission and to rebid for underbody scraper blades as none of the bids received met specifications.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. Notice of U.P. Road Builders Association Summer Meeting to be held June 14-15, 2023, at Island Resort & Casino in Harris, Michigan was received; no one plans to attend.

ENGINEER-MANAGER’S REPORT:

- At the Straits Area Council Meeting held last week, it was relayed that County Road Association will no longer refer to Act 51 but to use the language Michigan Transportation Fund Act as it more accurately represents the several updates and modifications to the original act.
- Mineral well brine permitting has been put on hold by EGLE until June. This issue will continue to be negotiated by CRA and monitored closely.
- MCRCSIP has released their new Employment Practices Guidelines. There is a copy available for each board member.
- He attended CRA’s Managers Workshop last week and there was discussion on the public’s perception of the road commission, future revenue expectations, road funding laws, board direction, and how to communicate with the public.

- Round-about on Pleasantview and Hathaway Road was discussed with regards to accommodating truck traffic. There was additional discussion about placing a left turn lane instead of a round-about as well as driver error and other causes for accidents at this location. Commissioner Zuluski asked for additional public comment and stated while the study is appreciated and we understand the safeness of a round-about, in this particular location and due to the size and placement of the proposed design, it is not an appropriate solution at this time. Commissioner Hoffman also commented he believes the volume of traffic is an issue. Supervisor Dohm stated he appreciates the discussion and evaluation on this issue. He also discussed the No Passing signage that was put in place and he would like to let more time pass to evaluate if that will be effective. He is interested in safety but not by inconveniencing the public. Zuluski instructed Shank to see if LTBOI would participate in the cost of placing a left turn lane and Dohm stated his township would participate in the cost. Supervisor Kuligowski stated he does not believe it is an adequate design at this location and it is trading one problem for another. Genson inquired about installing a stop light and the results of the safety study were discussed with the recommendation involving the best method for flow of traffic. There was much other discussion on this issue including driver distraction, passing on the right, installing additional signage, and snow removal.

ENGINEER-TECHNICIAN'S REPORT: Horrocks reported the following:

- Little Traverse Township paving on West Conway Lane and Green Leaf Drive have been completed; just waiting for seeding, mulching, and painting. There is an issue with the paint supply that has been ongoing since Covid.
- East Hathaway Road project should be done today with shoulders happening Friday and awaiting painting to follow.
- Atkins Road project will be paved Friday with shouldering next week and awaiting painting.
- Camp Petosega Road project is being based crushed right now with paving scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday next week. Shoulders should be completed by the end of next week and awaiting painting.
- Mission Road is scheduled for base crushing from Banwell Road to the lake mid next week.
- Roy Road project should be starting mid to end of next week.
- Douglas Lake Road bridge project should be started by mid-June contingent on bridge delivery.
- Project schedules change often; please contact Horrocks or Shank directly for updates.
- Lamkin Road project update was given; Rieth-Riley has been working on this and it should be looking good.

PERMIT/CAD TECHNICIAN'S REPORT: Godzik stated permits are in full swing and right-of-way issues are being taken care of.

EQUIPMENT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Genson stated there are two trucks remaining to be switched over for summer.

ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT: Gray stated they are recycling hot mix for patching potholes, brush cutting on gravel roads before the roads get too dry, and there have been two culvert failures this past two weeks.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: None

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT: Commissioner Hoffman stated the Mower Max needs a lock on the def cap. He also inquired about Maxwell Road and South Ellsworth Road; both roads are in bad shape and he specifically asked if we can put a cap on South Ellsworth Road. Shank responded it would be about \$50,000 in asphalt materials to put a cap on this road and funds would have to be moved from another line item in the budget. Hoffman inquired about closing the road because he gets calls and letters; Shank responded the road could be ground for about \$25,000 and taken back to gravel but the curve and possible rutting does not make this a good option. Shank discussed other options and budget plans; he agrees these two spots are on his radar.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a. Gordon Kruskie – Inquired to Commissioner Williams how the MDOT project was going; he responded well, there are complaints on the traffic flow, but it will be worth the sacrifice in the long run.
- b. Ed Kuligowski, Pleasantview Township Supervisor – Bridge that services the private roads at the Islands will be replaced in July. He is working with them on this project.
- c. Dennis Keiser, Bear Creek Township Supervisor – He inquired on Bellmer Road, the gravel part, there is water running there. He also commented on the shoulder drop resulting from winter.

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



Lisa Kleeman, Finance Director-Clerk of the Board

5-25-23

Date