

MINUTES
EMMET COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
HARBOR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN

The Emmet County Board of Road Commissioners met in special session at the Conway Office on October 6, 2025, for the purposes of discussing road issues with township officials from West Traverse, Resort, Littlefield, and Springvale Township.

Commissioners Present:

Frank Zulski, Chairman

Wade Williams, Vice-Chairman

Jim Kargol, Member

Staff Present:

Brent Shank – Engineer/Manager

Travis Horrocks – Engineer Technician

Lisa Kleeman - Finance Director

John Gray – Road Foreman

Guests Present:

Channel Road – Mike Farrimond, David Gleor, Mark Weiss, Dudley Marvin, Roz & Frank Moditz

West Traverse Township Officials:

Supervisor – Ed Murphy

Clerk – Joseph Olson

Treasurer – Kristi Hollingsworth

Resort Township Officials:

Clerk – Rufus Welsheimer

Treasurer – Suzanne Coveyou

Trustee – Tim Howard

Littlefield Township Officials:

Supervisor – Doug Larsen

Clerk – Sondra Festerling

Treasurer - Lorie Grigsby

Trustee – Katie Derrohn

Trustee – Dean Morford

Springvale Township Officials:

Supervisor – Randy McCune

Trustee – Becky Fettig

1. Chairman Zulski called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.
2. Roll was called.
3. West Traverse Township officials were welcomed at 5:31 p.m. with introduction of attendees.
 - a. Road Report – Distributed in August. There was some discussion on Middle Road from State Road to Hughston Road being the worst in the township; this is rated a 3.
 - b. Review of 2025 Projects:
 - i. Lower Shore Drive overlay.
 - c. 2026 Planned Projects:

- i. Large seal coat project is planned on primary roads and a list of potential roads was sent to the townships. Would like to put this out for bid in November in order to obtain the best bid price and contractor schedule.
 - ii. Middle Road from State Road to Amy's Way and Seven Mile Point Ridge was suggested for an overlay.
- d. Maintenance Topics:
 - i. Ice Storm cleanup update and plan for continuing to chip debris. The road commission is taking care of road debris but not residential debris. Cleanup will continue in the spring if needed. The township complimented the road commission and stated overall they are doing a good job.
- e. Other Topics:
 - i. Allocation for 2026 was discussed and will be at least the amount of 2025 which was \$19,358.
 - ii. Franklin Park Road is in one of the worst conditions of the township and probably needs to be torn out and redone; Shank stated it would be a great project. The township is getting a lot of calls on this road.

West Traverse Township officials left the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

- 4. Resort Township officials were welcomed at 5:55 p.m. with introductions of attendees.
 - a. Road Report – Distributed in August, there were no questions.
 - b. Review of 2025 Projects:
 - i. Intertown Road
 - ii. Old US 31 Highway
 - c. 2026 Planned Projects:
 - i. Large seal coat project is planned on primary roads and a list of potential roads was sent to the townships. Would like to put this out for bid in November in order to obtain the best bid price and contractor schedule.
 - ii. Upper Bay Shore Road is a concern; it needs to be pulverized to gravel but Shank suggested an overlay due to dust concerns for the park at an estimated cost of \$223,000 per mile.
 - iii. Reminder to get projects to Shank before winter begins.
 - iv. Old US 31 Highway, second portion, would be a good option.
 - d. Maintenance Topics:
 - i. Ice Storm cleanup update and plan for continuing to chip debris. The road commission is taking care of road debris but not residential debris. Cleanup will continue in the spring if needed.
 - ii. Resort Pike Road at Hibbler Hill needs to be patched.
 - iii. Williams Road has an area that needs to be patched.
 - e. Other Topics:
 - i. Crack seal completed this year worked well.

- ii. Four-way or three-way stop at Intertown and Resort Pike Road was requested. In the past five years there were 235 calls or accidents at this location with 58 involving injuries, according to Coveyou. Shank discussed the parameters for this request; he will look at the accident history and review it to see if it can legally be posted as requested.

Resort Township officials left the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

- 5. Littlefield Township officials were welcomed at 6:33 p.m. with introduction of attendees.
 - a. Road Report – Distributed in August, there were no questions.
 - b. Review of 2025 Projects:
 - i. Lakeview Road and Luce Street ultra-thins
 - ii. Smith Road
 - c. 2026 Planned Projects:
 - i. Large seal coat project is planned on primary roads and a list of potential roads was sent to the townships. Would like to put this out for bid in November in order to obtain the best bid price and contractor schedule. Projects recommended by Shank are Armock, Honeysette, and a portion of Valley Road.
 - ii. South Milton Road is in terrible shape and needs to be reconstructed which includes base correction with fabric or geogrid. They would like this at the top of a five-year plan.
 - iii. Miller Road is a primary road, but the township is receiving calls about this road. They would like to work on a plan for this road in future years and inquire if the county would participate.
 - d. Maintenance Topics:
 - i. Ice Storm cleanup update given and plan for continuing to chip debris. The road commission is taking care of road debris but not residential debris. Cleanup will continue in the spring if needed.
 - ii. Shoulders need to be repaired to keep the asphalt in good condition.
 - e. Other Topics:
 - i. Shank will email the Primary Road & Bridge Report which shows the road commission's project plans for 2026.
 - ii. Their budget is between \$200,000-240,000 and Shank will build suggestions and send them to the township.
 - iii. Allocation was discussed, 2026 is unknown at this time but will be at least as much as 2025.
 - iv. Russell Road was discussed; the residents would have to pay for improvements in order for the road commission to adopt this road. Right-of-way deeded to the road commission could be an impediment.

Littlefield Township officials left the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

- 6. Springvale Township officials were welcomed at 7:00 p.m. with introduction of attendees.

- a. Road Report – Distributed in August, there were no questions.
- b. Review of 2025 Projects – McCune thanked the road commission for cooperation on joint projects.
- c. 2026 Planned Projects:
 - i. Pickerel Lake Road from Botsford Road to the County Line is scheduled for a 2027 Federal Aid project.
 - ii. Banwell Road headed north to Coors Road is scheduled for a 2028 Federal Aid project.
 - iii. Large seal coat project is planned on primary roads and a list of potential roads was sent to the townships. Would like to put this out for bid in November in order to obtain the best bid price and contractor schedule. Shank suggests chip sealing Berger, Ellsworth, Greenwood, and a piece of Johnson Road.
 - iv. Maxwell Road could receive an overlay on another mile heading south from Greenwood Road.
 - v. McCune has concerns regarding Seldon Road. It needs a finalized decision or a meeting to reach a consensus. Shank stated this road needs 1-2 culverts for waterflow and paving; he will build an estimate.
 - vi. Franklin Estates would like to get their roads paved; Shank has had discussion with people on this.
- d. Maintenance Topics:
 - i. Channel Road flooding issues are a serious concern. McCune stated he had a discussion with Arden Bawkey regarding easements to the lake. Shank gave a history and current situation with repairing this area and the homeowners' threatening lawsuits. The biggest issue is getting the water from the road out to the lake, getting more grade in ditches to get a better flow. There was much discussion from the homeowners on the flow of water especially since the road project of several years ago; the ditches appear to be useless and water doesn't flow through them.
- e. Other Topics:
 - i. Two port-a-johns were tipped over.
 - ii. Hidden Drive sign on Mitchell and Twildo Road; Gray is working on it.

Springvale Township officials left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

7. Public Comment: None

8. Chairman Zulski adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.



Lisa Kleeman – Finance Director/Clerk of the Board

10-17-25

Date