

APRIL 2, 2008

The Board of County Road Commissioners for Montcalm County held a meeting at its office located in Stanton, Michigan at 3:00 p.m. on April 2, 2008.

Present: Commissioners Dale Linton, Robert Brundage and Donald McCracken; Mark Christensen, Superintendent; Randy Stearns, Managing Director; Carol Smith (L.S. Engineering) County Highway Engineer. Absent: Karen Swan, Finance Director-Clerk.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the minutes of March 19, 2008 as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to open a public hearing at 3:05 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing a request to abandon the public right-of-way for the unimproved portion of Deja Road that lies between Briggs Road and Cannonsville Road in Day Township.

Reviewed abandonment request with two of the three property owners who own property adjacent to the right-of-way and who circulated the petition request; was informed that the third property owner is out of town and has expressed his agreement to abandoning the right-of-way. Discussed the need to reserve an easement for utilities. The public hearing ended at 3:15 p.m.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Road Commission for Montcalm County has received a petition to discontinue and abandon Deja Road, an unimproved public road, described as follows: A 66-foot wide right-of-way running along the section line between Sections 22 and 23, T11N, R6W, Day Township, Montcalm County, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the abutting property owners are in agreement to abandon said right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, an on-site review of said right-of-way was made by the Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Road Commissioners of Montcalm County held a public hearing on April 8, 2008;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is determined by the Board of County Road Commissioners that it is in the best interest of the public to absolutely abandon and discontinue the above-described road right-of-way, though hereby reserving the easement for public utilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be published in a newspaper printed and circulated in this county, once each week for three successive weeks, a copy forwarded to the Montcalm County Register of Deeds, the Day Township Board, and the Michigan Department of Transportation and a copy of same be placed on file.

Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Commissioner McCracken offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of County Road Commissioners of Montcalm County hereby approves Contract No. 08-5157 between the Road Commission for Montcalm County and the Michigan Department of Transportation for the performance of preliminary engineering activities for non-motorized pathway work from the east city limits of Greenville northeasterly to Lake Road; and all together with necessary work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Dale Linton, Chairman, and Karen Swan, Clerk, are hereby authorized to sign said contract.

Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Discussed request from United Bank to close Irrevocable Letter of Credit No. 2004-01, which expires February 1, 2009, for Viking Ridge Plat located in Section 33 of Reynolds Township. The Board was advised that the temporary cul-de-sac built by the developer at the current end of Olivia Lane is not in compliance and has not been resurfaced as referenced in a letter from the former County Highway Engineer to the developer in October 2006. The Clerk is in receipt of a recent e-mail reply from the developer stating that Olivia Lane has not been extended as planned and that they no longer plan to extend it.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to deny request from United Bank to close Irrevocable Letter of Credit No. 2004-01 for Viking Ridge Plat. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

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Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the following township contracts. Motion carried.

Ferris Township

- One application of chloride at 1,650 gpm - \$9,558.
- Two applications of chloride at 1,000 gpm - \$11,586.
- Gravel resurface East County Line Road from Kendaville Rd to Lake Montcalm Rd - \$11,145.
- Gravel resurface Blackmer Road from Stanton Rd to Klees Rd - \$11,145.

Manager's Report

- Seasonal weight limits are still on; frost is still about 30 inches deep in the roads.
- Plan to crush the pavement on the Federal Aid road projects next week.
- The Spring Grove Road public versus private issue has surfaced again; it is becoming more of a neighborhood dispute. One party wants to know if the Road Commission is going to get involved. Per the Board—No.
- Received the final plans for the Greenville salt shed.
- Reminder—Seven County Council meeting on April 15th.
- Starting 10-hour day/4-day week next Monday—this will not only help us to save a little on our fuel costs but also help employees a little bit by reducing one day of driving back and forth to work.
- Reviewed 2007 primary and local mowing costs and projected costs for 2008.

Superintendent's Report

- Township estimates are almost completed; last of contracts should go out this week. Thinking that township contributions will be about the same as last year.
- The annual CRASIF safety meeting is scheduled for April 22nd in Big Rapids.
- All but three chloride contracts have been received and first applications have been scheduled.
- Discussed brush spraying.

Engineer's Report

- Safety Program applications were submitted to MDOT last week.
- Working on Critical Bridge applications for Grow Road over Dickerson Creek and Sidney Road over Flat River.
- Working on three DEQ permits.
- Preconstruction meeting for Sloan Road over Fish Creek was held on March 18th. Miller Development was awarded the project for \$356,571. Work is scheduled to begin April 21st and should be completed by August 29th.
- Plans for Federal Road over Rice Creek are progressing though MDOT has notified us that funding may not be available for the project. Our contacts at MDOT are saying other regions have funds available, so it may be funded; we should hear more by the end of April.
- Brief discussion about the need to do some long-term planning in relation to Asset Management, RoadSoft and PASER training.

Commissioners' Comments

- Don McCracken - Discussed posting a voluntary lay-off of five employees from May to October.
- Bob Brundage – Requested cost comparison of outsourcing greasing and oil changes versus hiring a mechanic's helper.
- Reminder—make sure we are finding suitable locations to park equipment to avoid vandalism and theft of fuel.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the 4/2/08 bills totaling \$99,629.23 and Payroll #7 totaling \$80,488.49. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk