

October 23, 2018

The Board of County Road Commissioners of Montcalm County held a regular meeting at its office located in Stanton, Michigan at 1:00 p.m. on October 23, 2018.

Present: Commissioners Dale Linton, Robert Brundage and Michael Scott; also present: Mark Christensen, Managing Director and Kim Alexander, Finance Director-Clerk.

The Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer were given.

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

Moved by Scott, seconded by Brundage, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2018 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Scott, seconded by Brundage to adopt the Compensatory Time/Longevity Plan revision as presented. Roll call: Brundage-yes, Scott-yes and Linton-yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brundage offered the following Resolution and moved for its adoption:

WHEREAS, Roads are the backbone to the social, cultural and economic stability of Montcalm County and our region; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018, allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (also known as “frost laws”) to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and

WHEREAS, It is a fact in Montcalm County and throughout all Northern states that roads become soft in the spring as frost melts, and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading and traffic on soft roads, whether paved or unpaved, is poor public policy that defies common sense when it comes to road preservation, and will lead to significant damage to the road system, economic damage in Montcalm County and increased risk to drivers in our region; and

WHEREAS, SB-396 also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of SB 396 *will result in costly damage to the public road system which is the opposite of what the Michigan Legislature and the people of Michigan called for in the 2015 Michigan Transportation Package*; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of SB 396 *will negatively impact the traveling public* accessing the road system, burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs, as well as increased county and township contributions to maintain the public road system; and

WHEREAS, the provisions in SB 396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system will negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of Montcalm County residents and the traveling public; and

WHEREAS, the Montcalm County Road Commission and the other county road agencies work closely with the logging industry to accommodate this valuable contributor to the Michigan economy, while also continuously monitoring road conditions and permitting the logging industry to move equipment and material on roads when the roads can structurally support such loading without negatively impacting the road system and the traveling public;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montcalm County Road Commission hereby **strongly opposes** SB 396 (S-5); 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.

Seconded by Scott. Roll Call: Yes: - Brundage, Scott, Linton. Motion carried.

Moved by Scott, seconded by Brundage to approve the purchase of a 2019 Chevrolet truck from Bookwalter Motor Sales with the trade in value of the 2018 Chevrolet truck being \$3,000 more than the original purchase price. Roll Call: Yes: - Brundage, Scott, Linton. Motion carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Scott to approve the following contract. Motion carried.

Belvidere Township

- Install 200 foot drain at township hall on Clark Street - \$3,643

Moved by Scott, seconded by Brundage, to approve the bid of \$8,150.00 from Sunrise Heating & Plumbing for replacement of the heaters in the wash bay. Motion carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Scott to purchase \$25 holiday gift cards for the employees. Motion carried.

Manager's Report

- The Laborer II position has been posted and will come down this week.
- It is catch up time around the county now that most projects have wound down. We are grading gravels and both Gradall's are out working every day.
- Shop is in good shape with winter equipment preparation.
- Truck & Trailer is working on the new truck.
- The salt sheds at all three garages are full of salt with the last delivery being made last week.
- Attended the Small Bridge Council meeting with Kelly from Newaygo Co. We had a joint project awarded for the culvert and bridge on West County Line Road to take place in 2021. More details to follow.
- Negotiating Committee met with MDOT last week regarding the grade separation issue. A memo was drafted stating that MDOT is responsible for the guardrail with road commission's taking care of drainage/spillways.
- Still working on salt storage allocation issues with MDOT. Contacted Jim Lower about the need for funding.
- Employee meeting scheduled for November 14th at noon.
- Meeting with chip seal crew on Thursday to discuss and get feedback on what worked and what didn't this last summer.

Clerk's Report

- MCRCSIP refund has been paid to Constellation Trust toward our OPEB liabilities. The amount was \$23,159
- Received payoff from Cat Financial this morning for the Greenville loader. We will do a check next bill run for \$20,795.33 to pay it off.
- We received the amount of the 2018 MDOT Equipment Advance. We should receive the \$20,906 this month.

The November Board Meeting will be held on the 14th at 10:30 a.m. to coincide with the employee meeting.

Moved by Scott, seconded by Brundage, to approve the October 15, 2018 bills totaling \$1,350.95, the October 25, 2018 bills totaling \$757,966.93 and Payroll #22 totaling \$98,582.20. Roll call: Brundage-yes, Scott-yes and Linton-yes. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 1:47p.m.

Chairman

Clerk