

FEBRUARY 18, 2004

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 February 18, 2004.

Present: Commissioners Dale Linton and Robert Brundage; Randy Stearns, Managing Director; Jack Johnson, Superintendent; Robert Buckowing, County Highway Engineer; and Karen Swan, Finance Director-Clerk. Absent: Donald McCracken, Member.

Moved by Brundage, supported by Linton, to approve the minutes of February 4, 2004 as presented. Carried.

Moved by Brundage, supported by Linton, to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

Moved by Brundage, supported by Linton, to accept and place on file the following bids opened on February 9, 2004: 2004 Requirements for Culverts and Bridge Materials and 2004 Skip Paving. Carried.

Discussed resolution from Eureka Township requesting that the Road Commission certify roads in Phase I of the Autumn Ridge Site Condo development located at Wise Road and Johnson Road in Eureka Township. Bob Buckowing suggested that he or the Greenville foreman meet with the developer on site to inspect how road maintenance has been done up to this point so that if there are any damages, the developer is made aware of them and acknowledges them before the Road Commission commences maintenance.

Moved by Brundage, supported by Linton, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Eureka Township Board has submitted a request to the Road Commission for Montcalm County to add 66-foot wide public rights-of-way in Phase I of the Autumn Ridge site condominium development, which is located in Sections 5 and 6, T9N, R8W, Eureka Township, Montcalm County, Michigan, to the Local Road System; and

WHEREAS, Autumn Ridge Drive from Wise Road to Meadow Wood Circle (to the south side of lots 19 and 22), a distance of 1,279 feet, has been developed in accordance with the Road Commission's Plat Standards; and

WHEREAS, Meadow Wood Circle, from Autumn Ridge Drive west 819 feet (to the west side of lots 8 and 9) has been developed in accordance with the Road Commission's Plat Standards; and

WHEREAS, the rights-of-way for the above streets have been deeded to the Road Commission for Montcalm County;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Road Commission for Montcalm County has reviewed and approved the request for the addition of the above-listed roads to the Local Road System;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said roads will add an additional 0.40 mile to the Local Road System.

Ayes: Brundage, Linton.

Clerk's Report

- Township contracts have been sent to 14 of the townships. Bob Buckowing has completed most of the estimates for the other six townships. The remaining contracts will be mailed by the end of this month.
- Just a reminder, CRAM's Annual Highway Conference is scheduled for March 16-18 in Lansing.
- We finally received the liability insurance settlement check from MDOT in the amount of \$165,769. This amount also includes money owed to us by MDOT for prior years' audit adjustments that they were holding until the liability insurance issue was settled.

Manager's Report

- Three new Ford pickup trucks have been ordered.
- We, along with all the other counties, have had an inordinate amount of phone calls regarding damaged mailboxes; and several people have been quite irate about the board's policy in this regard. They feel that if they put a \$50 mailbox in, that's what they should get when we replace them—the board's policy is a maximum of \$25—should we consider changing the policy? If it's a \$100 mailbox, they won't be satisfied with a \$50 maximum—you have to draw the line somewhere. Per the Board, the current policy is replacement with a standard metal mailbox or a maximum refund of \$25—there will be no change to the current policy.

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- Before we take bids for a new chipper, we are going to have several of the vendors demonstrate what is available so we can make sure we know what's out there and get what we need.
- Shiawassee County Road Commission came up twice this week to look over and drive one of the new trucks with the patrol wing and Auto10 transmission. They were very impressed with the truck, and their two truck drivers thought the truck was great—a big improvement over their current trucks. They wanted to express their thanks to our driver, Greg Christensen, for taking the time out of his busy day plowing snow to demonstrate the truck and show them how to operate it—they said he really knows his stuff when it comes to running the truck and plowing snow and we agree. Kent County has also looked over and tried the trucks, and they are ordering tandems set up the way our new ones are. They asked me to convey their thanks to the Board for having the foresight to look at a new way of doing winter maintenance—it has really opened up the way road commissions can look at doing a better job.
- We still haven't heard or seen anything about critical bridge funding—checked the state's website this morning.
- The drivers at the Greenville garage are able to park inside the new building now. The well at the Howard City garage will be hooked up in the next 7 to 10 days.

Superintendent's Report

- We are doing anti-icing today in advance of the winter storm warning posted for Thursday night and Friday. We only have two trucks running; the third one had the tank pulled off so we could use it for plowing snow while a plow truck was down.

Engineer's Report

- Reviewed Wal-Mart's revised plan for the northeast corner of M57 at Satterlee Road in Greenville. Will the service road(s) be public or private? The service roads at Meijer are public and maintained by the City of Greenville—do we want to get involved with the roads at Wal-Mart? Who will be responsible for maintenance? This needs to be clarified.
- Reviewed Timberland Estates preliminary plat, which includes extension of existing roads. The road plans meet our Plat Standards; however, the roads exceed the allowed length—concerns about possible congestion with only one ingress/egress off Reed Road. Bob Buckowing will address this with the developer.

Commissioners' Comments

- Dale discussed the need to include more new pickup trucks in the 2005 budget—we have a lot of older, high-mileage trucks that need to be replaced.

Moved by Brundage, supported by Linton, to approve the 2/18/04 bills totaling \$304,598.53 and Payroll #4 totaling \$107,611.08. Carried. Ayes: Brundage, Linton.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk