

JULY 21, 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 July 21, 2004.

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

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to approve the minutes of July 7, 2004 as presented. Carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of H) Pierson Township-Request for Weight Limits. Carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to approve and sign the following "Rescinding Orders Controlling Speed or Parking on County Highways" as received from the Michigan State Police. Carried. Ayes: Brundage, Linton.

- TCO P-R 59-91-04 to rescind no parking at any time within the right-of-way on the northerly side of Smith Street from Main Street to a point 75 feet easterly thereof in Crystal Township.
- TCO P-R 59-92-04 to rescind no parking at any time within the right-of-way on either side of Peck Road between Vining Road and a point 700 feet easterly thereof in Montcalm Township.
- TCO P-R 59-93-04 to rescind no parking at any time within the right-of-way on Federal Road between respective points located 300 feet northerly and 300 feet southerly of Kendaville Road in Pierson Township.
- TCO P-R 59-94-04 to rescind no parking at any time within the right-of-way on the easterly side of Federal Road from a point 500 feet southerly of Kimball Road to a point 300 feet northerly of Kimball Road in Pierson Township.

Charlie Braman came before the Board to discuss one of the catch basins that were installed 14 years ago by the developer of the NorWest Tack Plat—specifically the catch basin located on the northeast corner of North Shore Drive and Pine Grove Road in Crystal Township. Mr. Braman stated that the catch basin was paved over and is no longer draining water from the development and is forcing the water onto his property. Mr. Braman also stated that when the contractor hired by the Road Commission a couple years ago was cleaning and repairing culverts and catch basins along North Shore Drive prior to the paving project, this particular catch basin was not done. Jack Johnson stated that possibly the catch basin was already covered over at that time and the contractor did not find it, because the contractor cleaned, repaired and installed new drainage structure everywhere else along the road, including along the road by Mr. Braman's property. Dale Linton advised Mr. Braman that the Road Commission would check into this and correct the problem as quickly as possible. Mr. Braman also stated that he was dissatisfied with the house-moving contractor, who was given a moving permit by the Road Commission, to move a house down North Shore Drive past his property. Mr. Braman feels the Sheriff's Department should have been escorting the house move and the Road Commission should have had someone on site during the move. Dale Linton advised Mr. Braman that the Road Commission would check into this.

Reviewed a request from the Pierson Township Board to install permanent weight limits signs on several roads in Pierson Township. The township would like to control truck traffic from a gravel pit located on Kimball Road; there have been complaints from area residents that the gravel trucks are tearing up the roads.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to approve Pierson Township's request to install weight limits signs on the following roads in Pierson Township: 1) Trufant Road between Federal Road and Maple Hill Road; 2) Henkel Road between South County Line Road and Kimball Road; and 3) Kimball Road from the gravel pit east around the curves to Jones Road. Carried. Ayes: Brundage, Linton.

Two representatives from Winfield Township's road committee came before the Board to discuss some concerns. The road committee had complaints that two roads were missed when the township roads got their last application of chloride. They were advised that residents should call us as soon as they see that their road has been missed, so we can contact the contractor and have it taken care of. Also discussed a request the committee has received from the Indian Lakes Association about setting up a special assessment district to raise the funds to improve and pave the roads in the Indian Lakes Plat. They were advised that the Winfield Township Board would be responsible for setting up a special assessment district and advised to talk with Cato Township or Montcalm Township, both of which have done special assessment districts in the past.

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Scott Zerka and Greg Ray came before the Board to discuss North Shore Drive (a private road) south of Briggs Road in Douglass Township. Mr. Zerka came before the Board several times last year to request that a portion of this private road from Briggs Road south be made public and certified by the Road Commission. Mr. Zerka and Mr. Ray have obtained an easement for additional right-of-way, for a total of 66 feet; however, they would like to have the Road Commission accept a longer length of road than was originally discussed. The Board stated that it would only go as far south as the 66-foot right-of-way goes; however, if they can obtain additional right-of-way to the south they would consider going to that point. Mr. Zerka and Mr. Ray stated the road would be constructed to Road Commission standards once the right-of-way issue has been settled; however, they asked if the Board be willing to accept a permanent 'T' turnaround at whatever point the south end will terminate. The Board stated it would be willing to consider it.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to appoint Randy Stearns as voting delegate and Donald McCracken as alternate for the annual County Road Association Self-Insurance Fund meeting to be held September 8th in conjunction with the Northern Michigan Association of Road Commissions' annual conference. Carried.

Clerk's Report

- Mike Cavanaugh called this morning; he has finally received an approval on the proposed vehicle policy, as amended by him, from the Michigan Department of Treasury regarding vehicle usage. Mike will have a letter and the amended policy to us for the next Board meeting.

Manager's Report

- Youngman Road south of M57 was paved on Tuesday. Randy spoke with George Bosanic to remind him that the city agreed to put up barricades so it doesn't become a through-street and until such time that the city constructs the turnaround on the north end of the road.
- Pavement crushing is scheduled to start on Sidney Road east of M91 tomorrow.
- The culvert on Church Road between Amble Road and Bailey Road has been installed; the overlay should be done in the next couple of weeks.

Superintendent's Report

- If you're interested in attending, Diamond Wet Blade® is putting on a demonstration at Ionia County Road Commission tomorrow. Their product cuts brush and applies an herbicide at the same time.
- Chloride applications are on schedule.

Engineer's Report

- We have had a few problems and some surprises on the Crystal Enhancement Project. We've found some sewer leads that weren't properly done in the past, but nothing major. The project is coming along okay.
- All of the culverts have been installed on Crystal Road north of M46
- The curb work on Sidney Road east of M91 started today; crushing should start tomorrow. The contractor hopes to pave the road next Thursday.
- Discussed neighborhood dispute regarding possible encroachment in right-of-way on White Road at Little Whitefish Lake.
- Discussed Timberland Estates in Reynolds Township. The developer lost the option on property he was proposing to purchase and use for further development. If things do not work out, he may not be able to extend the current road and would like to know if the Board would give him an exception to the standards for the turnaround. The Board would prefer a cul-de-sac built to Road Commission standards.
- A resident from Indian Lakes called about damage done to his underground sprinklers by the Road Commission's plow truck and wants to know what we are going to do about it. Are the sprinklers in the right-of-way; and if so, does he have a permit to put them there? The sprinklers are outside his platted property line and in the right-of-way; he does not have a permit. The property owner stated that the company that installed the sprinkler system told him a permit wasn't required. Wrong, a permit is required for any permanent encroachments; and no, we are not going to pay for any damage.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to approve the 7/21/04 bills totaling \$586,282.67 and Payroll #15 totaling \$71,479.65. Carried. Ayes: Brundage, Linton.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk

