

MAY 19, 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 May 19, 2004.

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

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the minutes of May 5, 2004 as presented. Carried.

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

Steve Witte of Nederveld Associates came before the Board to request a variance from the Road Commission's Plat Standards Green Timbers, Phase 5. Mr. Witte is requesting a variance in the maximum allowed slope standard in two locations on Mid Timber Drive. After reviewing the road plans, the Board had some concerns about one of the slope locations and also a proposed residential driveway, which would have ingress/egress on a steep slope. Mr. Witte stated that the roads will be private, and in other counties he has dealt with they will allow up to a 10 percent slope. Commissioner Linton stated that even if the roads are private now, in the future the residents could request that the roads be certified and maintained by the Road Commission—that is why these situations need to be addressed now before the roads are constructed. Mr. Witte stated that the proposed roads have been rough graded. Bob Buckowing will make an on-site review of the roads before the next board meeting and will make a recommendation to the board at the June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, which Mr. Witte will attend.

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

#### Belvidere Township

- Replace storm damaged cross-culvert under Musson Road north of M46 - \$1,268.

#### Day Township

- 200# bituminous overlay on Kendaville Rd from Cedar Lake Rd to Vickeryville Rd - \$29,152

#### Evergreen Township

- Salt stabilize Beardsley Road from Staines Road to Townhall Road - \$5,120.

#### Clerk's Report

- Received a phone call yesterday from Mike Cavanaugh regarding the proposed Vehicle Policy. Mike informed me that the person he needs to speak with at the Treasury Department has been off and was returning to work today. He was unable to have his recommendations ready for today's meeting, but should have them by the June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.
- We may have one last township contract coming in from Reynolds Township/Village of Howard City to pave a half-mile on Maple Hill Road between Lake Montcalm Road and Church Road. The township originally obtained a contract two years ago; however, it was placed on hold because a grant had been applied for. The township supervisor was informed that the grant has been denied, so they would like to renew the contract.

#### Manager's Report

- Last week we had on-site inspections with Mark Post and the contractor at the Greenville and Howard City garages; the contractor has a punch list of items to be completed before final payment is made. Mark Post stated that it's good we built the new garages over the winter, because if we had waited till this spring to start, the rising steel prices would have added approximately \$88,000 to the cost. Fencing and paving at the two garages should be done in the next few weeks.
- Two of the new foremen's pickup trucks are in and on the road; the third one was delivered late yesterday and is being prepped.
- Clinton County Road Commission has purchased a new chip spreader and is leasing a distributor; they have informed the surrounding counties that this equipment is available for rental from them.
- Crystal Township asked if the Road Commission would be willing to pay for the recording of the sidewalk easements, for the Crystal enhancement project, with the Register of Deeds. No, because the easements are to the township not the road commission, and the township is responsible for the construction and maintenance of the sidewalks—they are outside the road project.
- Pavement Recycling is working in the county crushing pavement on local road projects and on Crystal Road north of M46 where the hills will be cut prior to the federal aid project starting.

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- Reviewed spreadsheet and cover sheet provided by Tom Mayan for the Crystal Road enhancement project. Bob Buckowing will contact the Drain Commissioner regarding a question about a drain-related issue on the project.

#### Superintendent's Report

- Discussed proposed Safety Shoe Policy. We were recently informed that another road commission had a MIOSHA inspection, and the road commission was fined \$3,000 per person for each employee that was not wearing safety shoes that meet the ANSI standards outlined in MIOSHA's requirements. According to MIOSHA standards all of our employees, except office personnel, are required to wear safety shoes that meet certain standards; furthermore, employees are required to purchase their own safety shoes unless there is a labor agreement stating that the employer will participate in the cost. At one time we offered to pay \$75 per employee, per year, towards the purchase of safety shoes, but the union didn't want anything to do with it, so we required "sturdy" shoes instead; however, quite a few of the employees are wearing sneakers instead. The Board will take this issue up at the next meeting.
- We have gotten behind on the salt stabilization projects due to all of the rain and related problems. Once we get started again, we'll complete the townships before doing any more primary roads.
- Chloride applications in the townships have been rescheduled due to the rain.
- The rain has created a lot of washouts and culvert problems, which means the culvert crew had to be pulled off the federal aid projects. They are very busy replacing damaged culverts and are unable to work on the federal aid projects; therefore, we would like to have the contractor that is cutting the hills on Crystal Road north of M46 install the culverts too, so they have time to settle. We would like to get quotes for the Sidney Road project too. The Board was in agreement.

#### Engineer's Report

- Reviewed request to place an underground septic tank in the road right-of-way on Dorothy Bowen Drive; the property owner is working with the Health Department and is limited to where the tank can be placed. The Board approved the request.
- Discussed Satterlee Road north of M57. Wal-Mart has been unable to obtain easements, within the road right-of-way, to allow a center turn lane from M57 north past their proposed entrances. If the Road Commission requires Wal-Mart to construct the center turn lane, and as long as the road is built within the road right-of-way, can the property owner deny it? Bob Buckowing will contact Mike Cavanaugh for a legal opinion.
- The pre-construction meeting for the Crystal Road enhancement project is scheduled at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at the Road Commission's office.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the 5/19/04 bills totaling \$237,314.44 plus payroll #10 totaling \$71,023.60. Carried. Aye: McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

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Chairman

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Clerk