

SEPTEMBER 15, 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 September 15, 2004.

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

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the minutes of September 1, 2004 as presented. Carried.

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

Moved by Brundage, supported by McCracken, to open public at 3:05 p.m. hearing to review the proposed 2005 budget and proposed fee schedule. Carried.

Reviewed the proposed 2005 Cash and General Appropriations budgets and the proposed Fee Schedule. Sandra Raines, a member of the audience, asked about proposed wages for salaried personnel and if salaried employees would be receiving a wage increase. Karen Swan explained that the Board has not made a determination regarding salaried wages at this time; however, in the budget funds have been placed in contingency in anticipation of the outcome of the labor agreement that is currently being negotiated with union members and also the Board's decision regarding salaried wages.

The public hearing ended at 3:25 p.m. and the regular meeting convened immediately thereafter.

John Dozier came before the Board to discuss a proposed residential development at Burgess Lake in Eureka Township. At this time it is undetermined whether the roads in the development will be private or public; Mr. Dozier will be building the roads according to the Road Commission's Plat Standards as required by Eureka Township zoning. Mr. Dozier is concerned about having to clear more trees than necessary from the right-of-way; he would like the proposed road to be designated a 'natural beauty road'. The Board stated that it would need more information and asked that Bob Buckowing, County Highway Engineer, meet on-site with Mr. Dozier to look over the area and make some recommendations to the Board.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage to approve and adopt the FY2005 General Appropriations Budget in the amount of \$12,740,723. Furthermore, for the purpose of administering the General Appropriations Budget in accordance with the provisions of Public Act 621 of 1978, as amended, the following provisions are included: 1) Randy Stearns, Managing Director, is designated as Chief Administrative Officer and Karen Swan, Finance Director-Clerk, is designated as Fiscal Officer. 2) The Chief Administrative Officer is authorized to transfer up to 25% of a line item amount approved in the General Appropriations Budget to another line item without prior approval but subject to approval by the Board of County Road Commissioners at their next regular board meeting. 3) The expenditure amount of Distributive Expense, as approved in the General Appropriations Budget, shall be allocated to the various other expenditure line items in the proportion as the allocation of actual Distributive Expense at yearend. Carried. Ayes: McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve and adopt the proposed Fee Schedule, effective October 1, 2004, as presented. Carried. Ayes: McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the year ending September 30, 2004 General Appropriations Budget in the estimated amount of \$13,760,353 plus October 1, 2004 operating funds in the estimated amount of \$593,420. Carried. Ayes: McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the transfer of up to 30% of Michigan Transportation Funds from the Primary Road Fund to the Local Road Fund for the year ending September 30, 2004. Carried. Ayes: McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Reviewed bids opened earlier today for two 2-ton capacity and two 4-ton capacity insulated asphalt patch trailers. Randy Stearns explained that he made a quick review of the vendors' bids against the bid specifications and found them to be in line with what was specified; however, if the Board accepts a bid he would like it to be contingent upon a more in depth review by him and the Fleet Superintendent.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage to accept the low bids from Aloha Equipment for two 2-ton capacity asphalt patch trailers at a cost of \$13,500 each and two 4-ton capacity asphalt patch trailers at a cost of \$18,500 each, contingent upon further review by the Managing Director and the Fleet Superintendent. Carried. Ayes: McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

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Paul Henderson of Roosien & Associates came before the Board to discuss the final plan for Little Whitefish Woods, Phase I, and the preliminary plan for Little Whitefish Woods, Phases 2 and 3, a site condo project located in Pierson Township. Bob Buckowing, County Highway Engineer, stated the following changes need to be made to the plans: 1) the islands shown within the cul-de-sacs on all phases of the plans must be removed and these areas are to be paved; 2) a temporary 'T' turnaround must be built on Huron Drive. Mr. Henderson stated that he would make the requested changes to the plans.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the final plan, as presented, for Little Whitefish Woods, Phase I, a site condo project located in Pierson Township. Carried. Ayes: McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the preliminary plan for Little Whitefish Woods, Phases 2 and 3, a site condo project located in Pierson Township, contingent upon the plans being changed to show the elimination of the islands in all cul-de-sacs and a temporary 'T' turnaround at the north end of Huron Drive. Carried. Ayes: McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to authorize the Managing Director, Randy Stearns, to sign the U.S. Department of Commerce's Financial Assistance Award, as co-applicant with the City of Greenville, for the proposed industrial park to be located north of Van Deirse Street and west of Fitzner Road in Eureka Township. Carried. Ayes: McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the purchase, by Dennis Tissue and the Road Commission, of five years of generic service credit under the MERS retirement plan. Carried. Ayes: McCracken, Brundage, Linton

Manager's Report

- Repairs on steel storage building at Stanton started today.
- Water at the old garage in Howard City has been shut off and pipes blown out. The garage will be painted to match the new garage in the next couple of weeks.
- The contractor will be in next week to grind the bumps on Federal Road between Cannonsville Road and Lake Montcalm Road in preparation for the paving project financed by the county's Solid Waste Committee. The Committee meets next week, and hopefully they can then tell us whether or not they want to use recycled rubber tires in the asphalt mix.
- At the NMARC meeting held last week, we were told that there would not be any workers compensation insurance refunds to any road commissions this year.
- Discussed hiring a temporary person for the Howard City garage.

Superintendent's Report

- Pine Township called and asked for an additional application of chloride; all other townships are done for this year.
- Discussed application of chloride on aggregate shoulders. This year's federal aid projects have already been done; last year's federal aid projects will be done in the spring after the berms are pulled because quite a few areas have already grown over with grass.

Engineer's Report

- Soil contamination issue on Lake Street in the Crystal Enhancement project has been resolved; we can now go ahead with completion of the project. We are going to do a test strip of the decorative concrete sidewalks to make sure it looks okay before we go forward.
- Paving projects are scheduled to start next week.
- We are waiting for Outman Excavating to come in to remove the bridge on Cutler Road in Winfield Township; he's supposed to be in to do it next week.
- Discussed alignment issue at Amy School Road and Lake Montcalm Road. Bob gave cost estimates to Pierson Township and Reynolds Township. The consensus of the Board is that the road should be left where it is; however, curb and gutter should be installed to alleviate problems with vehicles cutting the corners and to help narrow up the intersection on the southwest side.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the 9/15/04 bills totaling \$344,477.32 and Payroll #19 totaling \$71,782.10. Carried. Ayes: McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk