

MAY 18, 2005

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 4, 2005.

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 May 4, 2005 as presented. Motion carried.

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

Bill McClinchey and Alger Abbey came before the Board to discuss the Honeymoon Heights Association's proposal to construct, at its cost, Cedar Street between Cherry and Spruce, which is currently a platted, uncertified right-of-way. If the construction of this road is approved, the association would like the road to be maintained by the Road Commission, which is why they are seeking input from the Road Commission. Mr. Abbey stated that at one time there was a road there, but 10 to 15 years before the roads were turned over to the Road Commission in the 1980s, the road reverted back to unused land because the west end of the road was so steep. Bob Buckowing stated that some items in their construction proposal do not meet the Road Commission's Plat Standards, and Mr. McClinchey and Mr. Abbey are here to request a variance from the Plat Standards. Bob explained that the slope is 10.6%, which is higher than our standard. Also the level area on the west end of Cedar by Cherry is only 30 feet long rather than the 50 feet required. The plan calls for a two-foot valley gutter along both sides of the road from the top of the slope west to the intersection. Bob stated that the contractor would also have to seed the slopes along the roads in order to control erosion. Mr. McClinchey asked if the Road Commission would certify the road prior to it being paved; the Board stated that the road must be paved with a 2 ½-inch thick bituminous mat before the Road Commission would accept it.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the road construction plans for Cedar Street between Cherry Street and Spruce Street, within the platted right-of-way in the Honeymoon Heights Plat, contingent upon the road being constructed to the Road Commission's Plat Standards and allowing the following variances: 1) a slope of 10.6% will be allowed with the placement of bituminous valley gutter, spillways, rip-rap and proper grading and seeding of the slopes to mitigate potential erosion; and 2) an approach area of 0% to 1% slope at the Cherry Street intersection can be limited to a 30-foot length instead of 50 feet as long as proper grading is utilized to provide proper sight distance and storm water runoff. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes – McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Mike Petersen of P.O.C. Fleet Services came before the Board to discuss a fuel price management program as a way to manage the fuel budget and lessen the big surprises that everyone has experienced this year with ever-increasing fuel prices. The Board stated that they would get back with Mr. Petersen in this regard.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve Contract No. 2005-0254 with the Michigan Department of Transportation for the transfer of Federal Aid funds from the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) in exchange for State Trunkline Funds at a rate of seventy-five cents in state funds to one dollar in Federal funds allocated to Montcalm County to provide more flexibility of funding dollars for the road system in Montcalm County and to authorize Dale Linton, Chairman, to sign said contract. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

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

Day Township

- Paint centerline on Neff Road from Stanton Rd to Lake Montcalm Rd - \$1,800.

Fairplain Township

- Salt stabilize Jenks Road from end of pavement west of Carlsen Road to South County Line Road - \$1,964.
- Salt stabilize Grow Road from County Farm Road south to Grow Road south - \$1,964.

Manager's Report

- Pavement Recycling was in the county last week and did all of the crushing for the local road projects. They will be back in to do the projects on Sidney Road and Johnson Road when we call to schedule them, which we will do as soon as we receive the funds from the state.

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- One of the new trucks is here. The second one required some repairs when the fan shroud broke and damaged the fan, but it will be ready soon.
- The new mowers should be delivered sometime next week.
- L & D Carey is working on gravel resurfacing projects in Bushnell Township and then is going to Fairplain Township.
- The union, through its representative in Lansing, has provided a long list of questions regarding the time clocks and the timekeeping policy to Michael Kluck, labor attorney; Mike will be putting together a reply to the union.

Superintendent's Report

- Salt stabilization projects in the Greenville area are done. Stanton's projects have been started, but everything is on hold while Michigan Chloride is doing townships' dust control. We plan to start back up after June 1st.
- Chloride applications are going well.
- Paving preparations are going smoothly; Central Asphalt may be able to do some paving next week when they're in the county working on M46.
- The curb and gutter installations on the local road projects have started in Indian Lakes. We ran into some problems with residents having sprinkler systems in the right-of-way. Randy contacted the township supervisor and asked her to contact the property owners to move them as quickly as possible, because the paving won't be done until the curb and gutter is installed.
- Cato Township's project on Tamarack Road is coming along well; getting it ready for paving.
- The culvert crew is doing good getting culverts installed on the paving projects—they may be done this week but next week for sure.

Engineer's Report

- Nagel Construction has started the punch list on the Crystal enhancement project; they hope to be done by the end of next week. Consumers Energy hasn't replaced the sidewalk sections that they removed; Nagel is willing to do it for them and bill them, but nothing has been settled yet.
- Discussed water main project that will be placed in the road right-of-way from the Village of Lakeview out to the airport. Bob has met with the village manager. Bob and Randy will go over the Utility Extension Agreement to see how it affects the Road Commission.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the 5/18/05 bills totaling \$259,034.41 and Payroll #10 totaling \$74,888.81. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes – McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk