

FEBRUARY 15, 2006

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 15, 2006.

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 Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the minutes of February 1, 2006 as presented. Motion carried.

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

Ron Baker, County Commissioner, came before the Board to discuss mowing and clear vision areas at intersections. Mr. Baker stated that last year in his area a number of intersections did not have clear vision areas cut back and that there were disparities in different areas, and he feels this needs to be addressed. Jack Johnson, Superintendent, explained to Mr. Baker that on state trunklines, e.g. M-46, M-91, etc., the state actually owns the clear vision areas at many intersections, and we can mow back much further because there is more right-of-way. However, on county roads the Road Commission does not own any clear vision areas at intersections; therefore, we can only work within the boundaries of the right-of-way. In principle, the property owners should be mowing their property along the roads; however, most don't so we do what we can to keep the roadsides mowed with the manpower and equipment that we have.

Erica Riches from the Sheriff's Department's 911 office came before the Board to discuss the possible renaming of Baldwin Road between West County Line Road and Satterlee Road. With East Baldwin Lake Drive, West Baldwin Lake Drive and two different sections of Baldwin Road, there has been some confusion and delays in emergency situations. With this area of the county growing so fast, now would be the time to make a change while the number of residents that would be affected is still relatively small. The Board realizes that changing the name of the road will be a temporary inconvenience; however, for the sake of current and future residents' safety in the event an emergency vehicle is needed, it only makes sense to make this change and they would recommend so. Erica advised the Board that she will attend a Eureka Township meeting to advise them of the Board's feelings in this regard and then get back with this board.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, that with the best interest and concern for safety of the current and future residents and property owners in mind, it is hereby recommended that Baldwin Road between West County Line Road and Satterlee Road, located in Section 19 of Eureka Township, be renamed to Slawson Lake Road. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Discussed Scott Civil Engineering Company's bridge design proposal for Federal Road over Rice Creek and Sloan Road over Fish Creek. The Board requested that Bob Buckowing contact Scott to request that the proposal be based on a timber bridge for Sloan Road.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to postpone a decision on Scott Civil Engineering Company's bridge design proposal until the March 1, 2006 board meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve and sign the year-ending September 30, 2005 Act 51 Annual Financial Report. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve and sign the year-ending December 31, 2005 Road Certification. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

#### Engineer's Report

- The owner of the property located on the northeast corner of M57 at Satterlee Road (former church site) plans to construct an office building. They will be using the current driveway entrance on Satterlee Road; however, we will require that it be upgraded to commercial standards. Randy and I have also discussed the possibility of requiring a right-turn deceleration lane, but MDOT will have to be involved because it would be within their right-of-way.
- Barrie Electric is putting a commercial building on B Street in Trufant and has requested a variance from the commercial driveway entrance standards. They would like not to be required to install concrete curb and gutter, due to the general makeup of the area and the fact that no other area businesses have curbed and guttered entrances. The Board agreed to the request.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the 2/15/06 bills totaling \$229,805.25 and Payroll #4 totaling \$86,843.59. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

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

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Chairman

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Clerk