

MARCH 21, 2007

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 March 21, 2007.

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

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to approve the minutes of March 5, 2007 as presented. Motion carried.

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

Brian Hamersma came before the Board to discuss minor corrections that need to be made to the previously approved final plat for the KBH Plat, which is located along Johnson Road south of Wise Road in Eureka Township. The corrections that need to be made are based on new state requirements and do not affect the actual layout of the plat. The Board agreed to the minor changes as requested and directed the County Highway Engineer to provide a letter listing the approved changes to Mr. Hamersma.

Kirk Faber came before the Board to discuss property he is building a house on along North Shore Drive at Crystal Lake in Crystal Township. According to Mr. Faber, the new structure will be 16 feet closer to the road than the existing structure. Mr. Faber also provided a survey showing that the actual road is slightly outside of the right-of-way and on his property. There was discussion that there are other homes in this area that are just as close, if not closer, to the road and that the speed limit is 25 mph in this area. Dale Linton stated that he thought there was either an underground drainage structure or shallow drainage ditch in the vicinity of Mr. Faber's property that should be looked at.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to approve the request from Kirk Faber to construct his new home, located at 1249 North Shore Drive at Crystal Lake, 16 feet closer to the existing road than the current structure, contingent upon the County Highway Engineer's inspection for drainage to verify that the new structure will not hamper drainage in this area. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-Brundage, Linton.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to approve the following township contract. Motion carried.

Sidney Township

- Three applications of chloride at 1,650 gpm - \$28,566.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to accept and place on file all bids for emulsion, HMA paving and HMA skip paving. Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report

- Spring break-up on gravel roads was not as bad as in past years; we had to close a few roads but all in all it wasn't too bad. We still have frost coming out of the roads in some areas, but the warmer weather next week should help a lot.
- On paved roads we had areas that have always been a problem in the spring where nothing happened this year; and there were areas where we rarely have a problem that did break up badly—it has been hit and miss. Will be talking to the townships about areas on township roads that would benefit from skip paving.
- Attended the Solid Waste Committee meeting last week. Payment for the project on Cannonsville Road at Federal Road will be made shortly. There is a small amount of brush that needs to be dealt with; I advised the Committee that it would be done as soon as possible. The Committee asked if the Board would be willing to contribute to the cost to widen this intersection on the east side of Federal Road to provide a by-pass lane for the northbound side. The Board stated that it would be willing to provide the labor and equipment to do the job. The Committee stated that it would like to see a drawing of the current layout of the intersection and the proposed layout along with an accurate estimate showing the Road Commission's labor and equipment costs along with material and subcontractor costs.
- MIOSHA inspected the Howard City and Stanton garages this week. No infractions at the Howard City garage. Six small infractions at Stanton and five were corrected the same day. Anyone operating the overhead cranes now has to be trained and licensed.
- Kent County Road Commission did some frost borings on Sunday night and found that the first 12 inches is clear of frost, but then there is about six to eight inches of frost below that point. Weight limits will remain on until all of the frost is gone—hopefully by April 1st or 2nd.
- Night Patrol will end March 30th.
- Discussed maintenance gravel on township roads and a way to keep parity among the townships. Will keep track of what is put down on a month-to-month basis and let the foremen know where each of the townships are by comparison.

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Clerk's Report

- The next Seven County Council Meeting is 9:00 a.m. on April 10th at Eaton County Road Commission.
- Eureka Township has requested that Dale Linton, Randy Stearns and/or Mark Christensen attend an informational meeting at the township hall at 4 p.m. on March 28th to discuss the M57 corridor west of Greenville.
- When does the Board want to start the 10-hour day, 4-day schedule?

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to start the 10-hour day, 4-day schedule on Monday, April 9th. Motion carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to approve a request from Reynolds Township to remove the 11-ton weight limit, which was requested by the township several years ago, on Reed Road from M46 to North County Line Road to allow heating fuel deliveries and to post seasonal weight limits as needed. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-Brundage, Linton.

Engineer's Report

- Rich Buskirk and I have completed the aggregate classes at Ferris State and have been certified.
- Now that we have paving and emulsion prices the townships' estimates can be completed. Just waiting on prices for slag, which we buy through Kent County's bid; they are opening bids on March 29th.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Linton, to approve the 3/21/07 bills totaling \$280,930.22 and Payroll #6 totaling \$112,345.84. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-Brundage, Linton.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk