

DECEMBER 16, 2009

The Board of County Road Commissioners for Montcalm County held a regular meeting at its office located in Stanton, Michigan at 3:00 p.m. on December 16, 2009.

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

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the minutes of December 2, 2009. Motion carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of F) Closed meeting requested for disciplinary action and G) Closed meeting to discuss labor negotiations. Motion carried.

Manager's Report

- The job posting process is still ongoing. The Chipper Operator's position is currently posted and will come down next week.
- The deadline for Christine Anderson to remove encroachment from Gratiot Avenue right-of-way is this coming Monday. We made another on-site review and took pictures this morning; retaining wall has not been removed. Ms. Anderson is requesting an extension until after spring thaw.
- Met with Village of Lakeview's manager yesterday. He would like to use some of the Federal Aid funds in 2010; it will require the task force's approval.
- The work release crew from the correctional facility will be back cutting brush next Monday.
- Gravel roads have turned out pretty good considering the weather we have had. Our crews have done a good job trying to keep the gravel roads in shape.
- Tom Mayan has offered to extend his contract for one more year and to reduce his fee to \$200 per month. What is the Board's thought on this? Carol Smith stated that Tom has a wealth of knowledge about Road Commission operations and that while she does not consult with him as often as she did a year ago she does spend about two or three hours a month discussing road issues and Federal Aid projects with him.

Discussed request from Christine Anderson regarding the recent Encroachment Removal Order she received from the Road Commission to remove a retaining wall, which she constructed across the unimproved Gratiot Avenue right-of-way in Crystal. Ms. Anderson is asking for an extension until spring to remove the retaining wall.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to allow Christine Anderson until no later than May 1, 2010 to remove a retaining wall from the Gratiot Avenue right-of-way as ordered in the Encroachment Removal Order dated November 18, 2009. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Linton, to accept Tom Mayan's offer to extend his contract for another year at a reduced rate of \$200 per month. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Superintendent's Report

- The clean-up after last week's storm went well. The crew did a good job.
- Carol, Pat and I worked on a three-year Federal Aid plan. If there is another round of stimulus money, we should do as much seal-coat as we possibly can.

Engineer's Report

- We have been working with Pat to finish up last year's Federal Aid projects. We did a record review and internal audit of his recordkeeping, and he did a great job.
- Last Friday we had the GI meeting for next year's seal-coat jobs; the final plans will be submitted to MDOT next week.

Clerk's Report

- Good news—the MTF check received in December was down only \$189; for the first three months of the new fiscal year the MTF is down \$59,397.
- The next Seven County Council meeting will be held here on January 19th.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the 12/16/09 bills totaling \$184,887.19 and Payroll #25 totaling \$90,056.70. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to go into a closed meeting at 4:35 p.m., as requested by the Finance Director, to discuss a disciplinary action regarding a recent email exchange. Motion carried.

Closed meeting ended at 4:39 p.m.

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Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to go into a closed meeting at 4:39 p.m. to discuss labor negotiations. Motion carried.

Closed meeting ended at 4:50 p.m.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to cancel the January 6, 2009 board meeting and hold the annual organizational meeting on January 20, 2009. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the board meeting ended at 4:50 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk