

JULY 22, 2009

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 July 22, 2009.

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

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the minutes of July 1, 2009 as presented. Motion carried.

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

Roger Lyndrup and Mike Martin came before the Board to discuss their thoughts about possible future development on the east side of Satterlee Road, south of M-57, and the possibility of building a public road between Ridgewood Estates and Satterlee Road in Eureka Township. Their thought is that the road could not only serve as a service road to future commercial development but also provide easier and safer westbound egress from Ridgewood Estates out to the traffic light at M-57 and Satterlee Road. The Board stated it would not be opposed to such a road, but the road would have to be built to commercial standards if it is going to provide service to future commercial development.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve Permit No. 09-037 to the Silver Beach Association for the installation of a dock at the end of the Thelma Drive right-of-way at Crystal Lake for a one-year period. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the following township contracts, which were received after the deadline due to a misplaced contract on our part and a township's decision to change its request for contracts. Motion carried.

Pierson Township

- Gravel resurface Hillis Road east of West County Line Road – \$6,635.

Sidney Township

- Machine wedge and seal Colby Road from Hillman Road to Grow Road - \$22,951.
- Machine wedge and seal Grow Road from Colby Road to Thompson Road - \$13,164.

Manager's Report

- Received a letter from the Union; they would like to schedule a time, at the Board's convenience, to meet and discuss opening negotiations. The current labor agreement expires on December 31st.
- Representatives from Burnham & Flower will be here next week to discuss health insurance options.
- The Fleet Superintendent and I met with Dan Bauwman at Truck & Trailer earlier today to look over the truck that is being built on the chassis that we purchased earlier this fiscal year. The truck will not be completed until later this year.

Superintendent's Report

- Of the 39,000 yards of gravel scheduled to be spread, so far 27,000 yards have been completed. After tomorrow only Bushnell Township and Bloomer Township gravel projects are left to be done.
- Local road paving projects are about 60 percent completed.
- Mowing – In the Stanton area there are about 3-1/2 to 4 townships that are not done. In the Howard City area about half of the local roads are done. We are about two to three weeks ahead of where we were the past few years at this time.
- Seal-coating is scheduled to start August 3rd. We will be crack-sealing next week.
- MDOT is providing \$5,000 to upgrade traffic cones and signs.
- In a recent letter in the Daily News, a person from Winfield Township complained about the Road Commission spending money on "private" roads in Indian Lakes. I was unable to contact her by phone, so I stopped to see her and explained that the roads in Indian Lakes are public. I also explained our funding and that the Road Commission is not paying for any of the improvements to the roads in question—these are local roads and the township is paying for the improvements.

Clerk's Report

- Earlier today I finally received the supplemental valuation from Gabriel, Roeder and Smith for the early retirement window. I did not have time to review it before this meeting, but will have it ready for the next board meeting.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to appoint the Chairman as the voting delegate at the annual business meeting of the County Road Association Self-Insurance Fund and to appoint the Managing Director as the alternate delegate. Motion carried.

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Commissioners' Comments

- Dale Linton – At yesterday's quarterly council meeting we were informed by Ed Noyola of the County Road Association that the State's projected decrease of five percent for 2010 MTF revenues will more likely be a seven or eight percent decrease. A representative from MDOT was at the meeting; and he stated that if nothing happens to increase funding, MDOT would have to cut 70 percent of its road projects next year.
- Dale Linton and Bob Brundage – We have seen several Road Commission vehicles that are missing decals and numbers identifying them as Road Commission-owned vehicles. This needs to be addressed immediately.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, that effective immediately, every Road Commission vehicle and piece of equipment must have Road Commission decals and vehicle numbers permanently adhered on both sides of the vehicle and the decals and numbers must be clearly visible to the public at all times. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the 7/22/09 bills totaling \$391,974.07 and Payroll #14 totaling \$74,096.98. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk