

MARCH 25, 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 March 25, 2009.

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

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the minutes of March 10, 2009 as presented. Motion carried.

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

Charlie Braman, Crystal Township Supervisor, and Pat McShosh, both residents at Crystal Lake, came before the Board to discuss Judge Kreeger's answer to the Road Commission's request for summary disposition regarding the road end on Owosso Street (unimproved right-of-way) at Crystal Lake. Mrs. McShosh explained how the 21 back-lot owners in her area have used Thelma Street, another unimproved right-of-way on the west end of Crystal Lake, to access the lake and how the neighbors all work together to take care of the area. Mr. Braman stated that he was not surprised by the Judge's ruling and wanted to know if the Board had made any decision about Owosso Street and roads ending at water. The Board stated that this is the first board meeting since the Judge's finding. Discussed possibility of requiring permits and liability insurance, putting townships in charge of the road ends as some townships already operate parks and they have the power to adopt ordinances to regulate public conduct and the Road Commission does not—besides the fact that the Road Commission's primary function is to provide a transportation system not areas for people to access the water to swim and boat.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to have management draw up a policy regarding road rights-of-way ending at bodies of water, based on Attorney Michael Cavanaugh's suggestions, for presentation to the Board at its next meeting on April 1st. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

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

Pine Township

- Salt stabilize Cannonsville Road from M91 west to the end - \$2,020.
- Gravel resurface Cannonsville Road from Johnson Road east 0.5 mile - \$6,609.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve contract with Andrews Material Testing Services for the 2009 construction season. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Manager's Report

- When does the Board want to start the 10-hour/4-day schedule? April 13th.
- Weight restrictions are still on—probably will be on through next week.
- Spoke with Carol Smith today; the stimulus projects are moving along well.
- The transmission in truck #45 is being changed from the AutoShift10 to a manual 10-speed.

Superintendent's Report

- Working on township contracts and meeting with township officials.
- Bids for paving, skip paving, emulsion and culverts will be opened April 1st; remaining township contracts will be completed shortly thereafter.
- Spoke with Representative Huckleberry last week about the stimulus funds. He is working on trying to get additional funds for roads in this area, because there are some road commissions who do not have projects ready and their funds will be going back in the pot for use by other road commissions that are ready.
- Spent today at a very informative truck presentation in Grand Rapids today. There are some new, interesting things coming down the road.

Clerk's Report

- Discussed possibility of changing the way employees' DOT physicals are done. The Board asked for further information for the next board meeting.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the 3/25/09 bills totaling \$148,596.45; Payroll #5 totaling \$74,485.63; and Payroll #6 totaling \$73,161.80. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

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

Chairman

Clerk