

October 22, 2024

The Board of County Road Commissioners of Montcalm County held their regular meeting at its office located in Stanton, Michigan at 8:30 a.m. on October 22, 2024.

Present: Commissioners Dale Linton, Robert Brundage and Michael Scott; also present: Mark Christensen, Manager, Rob Putnam, Assistant Manager, Pat Denton, Engineering and Kim Alexander, Finance Director/Clerk.

The Pledge of Allegiance and prayer were given.

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

Moved by Scott, seconded by Brundage to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2024, meeting as presented. Motion carried.

The annual township meetings were set for December 17th and 18th.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Scott to accept the renewal of the bid for seasonal brush spraying by The Dalton's for the 2025 season at the same rate as 2024. Roll call: Yes – Brundage, Scott and Linton. Motion carried.

Moved by Scott, seconded by Brundage to accept the renewal of the bid for maintenance at the US 131 Morley Rest Area by North Michigan Commercial Cleaning at the same rate as 2024. Roll call: Yes – Brundage, Scott and Linton. Motion carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Scott to accept the renewal of the bid for maintenance at MDOT Roadside Parks by North Michigan Commercial Cleaning at the same rate as 2024. Roll call: Yes – Brundage, Scott and Linton. Motion carried.

Moved by Scott, seconded by Brundage to accept and file the bid for Winter Chloride. Roll call: Yes – Brundage, Scott and Linton. Motion carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by Scott to accept, and filed the bid for Alternative De-Icing Liquid. Roll call: Yes – Brundage, Scott and Linton. Motion carried.

Moved by Scott, seconded by Brundage to approve the purchase of gift cards for the employees as outlined in the Employee Policy Manual. Motion carried.

Manager's Report

- Gravel roads are in decent shape after blading last week.
- The shop is working on V boxes for winter maintenance.
- The meeting with the County Commissioner's is next Monday at 4:00, Rob and I are attending. You are also welcome to attend.
- Rob and I plan to meet with Carol regarding the axle ratings on bridges.
- The new freeway truck is being picked up today at Truck & Trailer. We will be dropping off the other new chassis and they will start on that with hopefully a December delivery date.
- Working with Joe on future truck purchases.
- Talked to Bill Henn and other road commissions regarding the potential new road maintenance agreements that Pierson Township inquired about. Henn suggested that these agreements need to be done at the township level.
- The cell tower lease for the Howard City Garage property has been reviewed by Henn Lesperance and sent back to the tower company.
- We will have the five-year road project plan resolution for the Rural Task Force ready for the next meeting.
- We looked at a gravel pit that we could potentially lease. More information to follow.
- MDOT contract negotiations started last week.

Assistant Manager Report

- Signs have been picked up from the M-57 project so we can finish mowing.
- We will be done with limestone projects today.
- All shouldering on new pavement should be done today.
- Dukes are driving posts for the new guardrail on Kendaville We will do the finish work.

- We re-shouldered Stanton Road from Vickeryville Road to East County Line Road due to a few drop-offs. It looks nice.
- Blading went well last week with the moisture from last week. Gravels are in good condition.
- The culvert crew has been starting work on 2025 projects.
- The crew and administration worked well together, and we got all projects on the schedule done before the weather turns.
- The sign crew is in Cadillac this week for training. They will both have IMSA certification once they take the exam.
- Ryan's Equipment was here last week and trained four truck drivers on the wheeled excavator and saw attachment. The excavator will make cutting dead trees much safer for our crew.
- We are going to apply for the MIOSHA Mi Wish Grant for radio communications for tree and brush cutting. They will cover 50% of the cost of a safety improvement up to \$5,000.

Engineering Report

- Paving projects will be completed tomorrow.
- We are working on primary road estimates for 2025.
- We are working on township road ratings and possible 2025 projects.

Clerk's Report

- Working on 2021 trunkline audit, 2022 trunkline audit, and 2024 year-end.

Moved by Scott, seconded by Brundage to approve October 3, 2024, bills totaling \$916,128.36, October 17, 2024, bills totaling \$216,033.82, Payroll #20 totaling \$171,757.37 and Payroll #21 totaling \$167,876.69. Roll call: Yes – Brundage, Scott and Linton. Motion carried.

With no further business coming before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Chairperson

Clerk