

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS  
MONROE, MICHIGAN  
April 23, 2018**

1. At a Regular Meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners at their offices located at 840 S. Telegraph Road, Monroe, Michigan on Monday, April 23, 2018 the meeting was called to order by Chairman Iacoangeli at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

**PRESENT**

Stephen J. Pace  
Greg W. Stewart  
Dan Minton  
Charles A. Londo  
Paul Iacoangeli

**EXCUSED**

A quorum being present, the Board proceeded to transact business.

3. Commissioner Iacoangeli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Commissioner Iacoangeli led the Opening Prayer.

5. Commissioner Minton moved, seconded by Commissioner Stewart to approve the April 23, 2017 regular meeting agenda as presented. Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

6. Audit Presentation –

Scot Hoskins from Stewart, Beauvais and Whipple presented an overview of the audit completed for the year ending September 30, 2017. He indicated the audit went well, and once again appreciated the cooperation from the staff.

The audit resulted in a clean unmodified opinion on the financial statements. He explained GASB 74 added an additional disclosure on OPEB. Next year, the GASB 75 will be an added liability to the statement. For reporting purposes, the MCRC would need to be 20% funded and the current balance falls a little short of that requirement. This may result in a deficit reduction plan for this obligation.

The audit showed a healthy fund balance. The Road Commission has made significant contributions to the OPEB Benefit Trust. The road notes are reflected in the audit this year, which is offset by the construction project expenditures. The pension liability stayed relatively stable and is currently about 67% funded. The MCRC is in the same position as many other governmental agencies. Mr. Hoskins stated some additional disclosures were added in the audit as of the fiscal year end.

Phillip Masserant added that the actuarial amortizes the unfunded amount out over 26 years as it has been closed and not open ended for the OPEB.

Mr. Hoskins reviewed the letter of compliance with the Board, and again indicated the MCRC does not have a person on staff to prepare this financial statement. He also reviewed the Audit Communication letter that summarizes the audit and identifies any concerns. He offered to answer any questions.

With no further questions, the audit presentation was concluded at 5:47 p.m.

7. Public Comment –

Gary Busenbark, 3799 Gruber Road, Monroe, explained that he has been talking with Mr. Pierce and other members of the Road Commission staff about his neighbor pushing his snow across the street into his ditch which gets filled up with stone. He talked with Raisinville Township Supervisor, Gerry Blanchette, who directed him to talk with Mr. Pierce.

The MCRC sent a letter to the neighbor telling them to clean up the stone, and the neighbor claims they paid to have it cleaned up. However, the neighbors cleaned up the larger stones, but raked the remainder into the ditch. It isn't cleaned up to Mr. Busenbark's satisfaction as he keeps the ditch mowed and the stone will tear up his equipment. He stated he is too old to get out there and rake the stone out of the ditch. It has been happening for 5-6 years now and he thought the MCRC would have jurisdiction to make his neighbor clean the ditch better. He is on a fixed pension and can't afford to take legal action to have this cleaned up correctly. If he can't get help from the Road Commission, he may take his concerns to the County Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Iacoangeli indicated Mr. Busenbark was welcome to talk with the staff after the meeting.

Bob Queen, Exeter Township Supervisor, complimented the Road Commission on the good job done on Newburg Road. He stated that knocking down the berms last year has been a plus in keeping the roads in better shape this year. He has also talked with Mr. Pierce about contracting to have the back ditch banks mowed this year as the ditches are becoming a mess. He told the Board he continues to get good feedback from township residents about the good work being done by the Road Commission. Thank you.

Charlene Dickerson, 20717 Milwaukee, Milan Township, stated the road crews came out but didn't fill all the potholes and she wondered when they would be back to finish the job. She asked about the difference between a county road and a primary road, and whose responsibility is it when work needs to be done. She stated the intersection at Milwaukee and County Line is a total mess. She explained that a truck came through and graded the area but it didn't fill any of the potholes. She added that it is amazing that Milwaukee Road seems to get missed, and they feel like the ugly step child in the county. Day Road and Cone Road gets done but Milwaukee continuously gets missed.

8. The following items were listed on the Consent Agenda: *(with immediate effect)*

1) Approval of Minutes- April 9, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

2) Approval of Journal Entry

No. 220 Vendor Checks #72016-72076	\$ 492,257.85
No. 227 Payroll Checks #63873-63891 & Advice #23504-23589	\$ 259,917.37
Kidd Sick/Vacation payout at retirement #63892	\$ 4,154.35
No. 228 Vendor Checks #72077-72102	\$ 560,081.06

3) Township Contracts

Erie Township

Edgewater Drive                      Stateline to Ottawa Shores                      HMA Leveling/Surface

4) Approve the extension of the contract with Bartolo Surveying for the 2018 Miscellaneous County Roadway and Bridge Projects, and authorize the Managing Director to sign on behalf of the Board.

5) Approve the Resolutions to support the following Local Bridge Program applications:

- Finzel Road crossing Stony Creek – Rehabilitation
- Sweitzer Road crossing Swan Creek – Rehabilitation
- Deerfield Road crossing River Raisin – Rehabilitation
- Mentel Road crossing Stony Creek – Rehabilitation
- Knab road crossing Otter Creek – Rehabilitation

- 6) Award 2018 Pavement Marking Program contract to M & M Pavement Markings LLC in the amount of \$132,495.00 and authorize the Managing Director to sign all documents on behalf of the Board.
- 7) Approve the Resolution with MDOT for the rehabilitation work for the structure which carries Vivian Road over Sandy Creek, Frenchtown Charter Township, Monroe County, Michigan; and authorize the Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign contract on behalf of the Board.
- 8) Approve the Resolution with MDOT for the micro surfacing work along LaPlaisance Road (from I-75 N to ~480 ft north of Jones Ave), Monroe Charter Township; along Mall Road (from US24 E to M125), Frenchtown Charter Township; and along North Custer Road (from Pinnacle Blvd E to east city limits), Frenchtown Charter Township; all in Monroe County, Michigan; and authorize the Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign contract on behalf of the Board.
- 9) Approve and sign the License Agreement with Donald and Colette Korican for the property bordering the west side of Petersburg Road between Collins and Day Roads, (Property ID# 04-044-001-30) for the extension of private drainage tile under Petersburg Road, Dundee Township, Monroe County, Michigan.

Commissioner Minton moved, seconded by Commissioner Stewart to approve the April 23, 2018 Consent Agenda as presented. Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

9. Unfinished Business – None.

10. New Business – None.

11. Report of Officers –

*Randy Pierce* (Managing Director/Superintendent of Maintenance) – Mr. Pierce reviewed information provided in the Managing Director communication. He has been in contact with the Michigan State Police Motor Carrier Division to partner to patrol roads. This will be added to the 5/14 agenda for discussion.

Mr. Pierce also indicated information was provided about four (4) additional maintenance projects for the 2018 construction season.

A County Highway Engineer has been hired and we are looking at the end of May for a start date.

Commissioner Pace asked if the laws changed about the library received the money for overweight truck fines. Mr. Pierce indicated no, but monitoring the roads would help to keep trucks from running on these newly improved roads and causing premature deterioration. If trucks are pulled over they could be inspected which would take a great deal of time and inconvenience the driver.

Commissioner Pace indicated it is easier for the Townships to develop ordinances that are enforceable, but they need to be consistent. Mr. Costello explained that the Michigan State Police wants uniformity with the ordinances to know why type of ticket to issue. The disadvantage is the Motor Carrier needs to be out on the roads to see the trucks traveling on NO THROUGH roads. It is too difficult to try to enforce a variety of ordinances especially since each township has a different opinion and perspective on through trucks.

Mr. Pierce explained that he hoped the word would spread that the MSP Motor Carrier was patrolling for the Road Commission and trucks are being stopped and inspected so they won't want to take the back roads and get stopped.

Commissioner Stewart asked how many townships have passed ordinances. Mr. Pierce stated 9 of the 15 townships, but it is hard to police the trucks and enforce the ordinances without the manpower. Contracting with the MSP would help with the enforcement.

Commissioner Iacoangeli added that each township has their own ordinance which may make it more difficult to enforce. The idea of the weighmaster could be a future discussion, but all overweight fines still go to the townships. He stated it wasn't about collecting money, but more about keeping the roads in good shape after investing a large amount of money to improve the road asset.

Commissioner Minton agreed and indicated several residents have attended previous meetings to complain about the truck traffic on the back roads. We need to give a reasonable look at protecting our assets, even though there is no monetary value.

Commissioner Stewart asked about the MCRCSIP training and the benefit to the Road Commission. Mr. Pierce explained that MCRCSIP is offering a \$500 credit against the annual fee if two (2) people attend. He also added that by the time you pay for overnight hotel, gas, food you have spent more than the \$500. MCRCSIP will provide the information to all Road Commissions that do not attend.

*Frank Westenkirchner* (Assistant County Highway Engineer) – Mr. Westenkirchner informed the Board of the next Monroe County Federal Aid is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, May 23, 2018 to discuss the 2021 projects, and the overall 20-year long range plan. Meeting notices will be sent out for this meeting.

*Philip Costello* (General Counsel) – Mr. Costello indicated he continues to work on the Local Preference Policy and should have a rough draft for the Board's review soon. He has also been reviewing information regarding trees in the road right-of-way, and issues regarding the communication service provider/cell towers in the road right-of-way.

12. Public Comment – None.

13. Commissioners' Comments -

*Commissioner Pace* had nothing additional to report.

*Commissioner Stewart* had nothing additional to report.

*Commissioner Londo* had nothing additional to report.

*Commissioner Minton* had nothing additional to report.

*Commissioner Iacoangeli* had nothing additional to report.

14. Adjournment -

Chairman Iacoangeli stated if there are no objections, the meeting is adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

*Cheryl A. U'Ran*

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Cheryl A. U'Ran, Deputy Clerk