

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
MONROE, MICHIGAN
May 23, 2016**

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, May 23, 2016 the meeting was called to order by Chairman Iacoangeli at 5:32 p.m.

2. Roll Call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

PRESENT	EXCUSED
Stephen J. Pace	
Charles A. Londo	
Bruce R. Stammer, Jr.	
Dan Minton	
Paul Iacoangeli	

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 Stammer to approve the May 23, 2016 regular meeting agenda as presented. Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARING - Site Plan Guidelines

Commissioner Iacoangeli opened the Public Hearing at 5:32 p.m.

There were no comments from the public.

Hearing closed at 5:33 p.m.

7. Public Comment -

Commissioner Iacoangeli opened by explaining Public Comment Time was for comments, not questions. Citizens are welcome to stay after the meeting and ask the staff questions. If people were here to discuss North County Line Road, Dundee Township has asked that the road not be turned to gravel at this time. There are no funds currently allocated for 2016 or 2017 to do any improvement work on this road by the MCRC or Dundee Township. Funds could possibly come in by 2018.

Chris Porkowski, 8603 Crabb Road, indicated he is on the corner of Substation and Crabb and has concerns about drainage running West to East, specifically the drive tile at 45 Substation is damaged and hasn't been repaired which is causing flooding to his property. He talked with Senator Zorn's office who indicated PA 222 holds the Road Commission responsible for damages to his property.

Leslie Downing, 6666 N. County Line Road, indicated the people here tonight aren't here to ask for a new road, they would just like the proper maintenance done on this road. The residents would just like the Road Commission workers do their job.

Les Downing stated N. County Line Road has been forgotten. The last time any type of chip seal was done in the 1960's. They are only asking for their fair share of maintenance. He added the only reason the road has deteriorated to the point of turning it back to gravel was the Road Commission didn't do any maintenance on it. He would like to see some gravel on the edges of the road.

Penny Whitt, 5472 Gorman, Palmyra indicated she is the mail carrier from Britton and she drives N. County Line Road every day. She broke the shock on her Dakota pickup delivering mail. She can't get to the mailboxes and her concern is for her customers who shouldn't have to come to the post office to get their mail. She has been delivering mail for 11 years and has never seen anything significant done to this road.

Betty Stimek, indicated the bridge in front of her house is falling apart and crumbling. There is no cement holding up anything. She has seen road workers do nothing except set under a tree.

Ora Townsend, 9566 N. County Line Road, stated he sees the workers patching in the rain and the material doesn't stick. He has lived on this road over 40 years and feels it is time they get their road fixed. He doesn't want a gravel road. He built his home on a blacktop road and wants to keep it that way. He questioned why Dennison gets improved and N. County Line doesn't get anything. He stated the roads in Britton are much better than the ones in Monroe County.

Dawn Reau, 4633 N. County Line Hwy, Britton indicated she has lived there for over 40 years and raised four children there. Her daughter and son-in-law built a house down the road. She stated she has seen cars that drives fast on this road ends up in the ditch. Her grandchildren ride their bikes to her house and something needs to be done before someone gets killed. Nothing has been done to this road for many years.

Brad Webster, 5455 N. County Line Hwy., indicated that he has only lived on this road a short period of time but he pays taxes and deserves a regularly repaired road. He has safety concerns because two cars can't drive down the road and the residents don't deserve to be neglected.

Chris Porkowski indicated that Substation Road (west of Crabb) was ground to stone and he has so much dust that his house is covered and it has killed his trees. He stated the Road Commission doesn't maintain gravel roads.

Allan Reau, 4633 N. County Line Road indicated Lenawee County does a far superior job of taking care of their roads. He said the difference is like living in two different countries.

Pam Sorenson, 9500 N. County Line Road, was excited when she first heard about the meeting to discuss this road, but when she read the minutes from the last meeting they would be addressing the section south of M-50. She lives on the north section near Cone Road which is gravel. When she moved out there the road was paved and now it is gravel and they have dust.

Peggy Taylor-Albaugh, 5444 N. County Line Hwy, stated she is the Clerk for Ridgeway Township. She provided a copy of the agreement with Lenawee County, which maintains their roads with no problem. In Ridgeway Township they are spending money to finish Palmer Hwy, one mile at a time. This is a county road and residents expect the road to be fixed. After 52 years of nothing being done, and the road needs to be fixed.

Leslie Downing again stressed the safety factor for N. County Line Road. In May 2009, she was in an accident where she hit a large pothole, her steering suspension broke and it slammed her into a tree. She wasn't issued a ticket due to the road condition. She doesn't want that to happen to other residents.

Mary Harabedian, 5419 N. County Line Road, indicated she calls on a regular basis to get the road fixed. In March of this year, she was also in an accident where she hit a pothole and it threw her into the ditch and her car was totaled. She asked what it was going to take to get something done. She indicated the Board appears to be listening and she wasn't hearing from them about what was going to be done. How can Brewer Road be fixed and the Road Commission ignore N. County Line Road. She indicated the residents want an answer.

Trisha Armstrong lives on Kimpton Road and stated the traffic moved to her road because N. County Line is so bad. She also mentioned the stop sign is gone from the corner of Rankin and Kimpton.

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

1) Approval of Minutes- May 9, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

2) Approval of Journal Entry

No. 279 Vendor Checks #68245-68318	\$166,592.04
No. 307 Payroll Checks #63067-63080 & Advice #18938-19036	\$ 241,854.87
IEA Signing Check #63081-63082	\$ 500.00
No. 308 Vendor Checks #68319-68350	\$173,444.27

3) Township Contracts

Bedford Township

Clover Lane	Ohio State Line to Whiteford Center	Base Stabilize/HMA
Edgewood	Off Whiteford Center	Scrape/Stone-private road
Ivor Lindsay	Lewis to end of Certification	Cold Milling/HMA
2016 Local Roads – Mineral Well Brine		

Erie Township

Streeter	Off Erie	Grade/Mineral Well Brine
2016 Local Roads – Mineral Well Brine		

Frenchtown Charter Township

Buhl	US 24 to War	Scrub Seal
Cole	Vivian to Spaulding	HMA Ultra Thin Overlay
Dewey	End of Cer to Pte Aux Peaux	Spray Patch/Single Seal w/fog
seal		
Dixie Hwy N	500' S of Grand Blvd to Monrona	Microsurface
Heiss	Reinhardt to US 24	OBC
Heiss	W Twp Line to Reinhardt	Zone Patch/Single seal
Holiday	Dead end to US 24	OBC
Leroux	@N Dixie Hwy intersection	Pave Intersection
Macomb	Monroe city limits to Cole	HMA Ultra Thin Overlay/Mill & Fill
Mentel	Hurd to Nadeau	Scrub Seal
Newport South	Post to Berlin Twp line	Scrub Seal
Post	I 75 to Newport South	Single Seal
Post	N Dixie Why to W Twp Line	Single Seal
Post	Newport South to Berlin Twp line	OBC
Santure	M125 to dead end	OBC/Mill&Fill on 465'
Spaulding	Cole to I 75	HMA Ultra Thin Overlay
Steiner	RR tracks to Reinhardt	Single Seal
Stewart	Bates Lane to Bluebush	Scrub Seal
Stony Creek N	N. Dixie Hwy to Mentel	HMA Overlay
Stony Creek N	440' W of War to War	HMA Mill&Fill
War	Nadeau to N. Stony Creek	OBC

Frenchtown Township (continued)

War	N Stony Creek to Post	Mill&Fill
War	Post to Newport	Scrub Seal
2016 Local Roads- Mineral Well Brine		

Ida Township

2016 Local Roads - Mineral Well Brine

London Township

2016 Local Roads – Mineral Well Brine

Monroe Charter Township

Aimy & Kay Dr	Off M-125	Single Seal w/Fog Seal
Albain	Goutz to .44 mile West	HMA lifts/Shoulders/Pvmt Mrkg
Avalon Beach	Off LaPlaisance Road	HMA Overlay
Bolles Harbor	Off LaPlaisance Road	HMA Overlay
Dallas & Dayton	Off Dunbar	OBC
Dunbar Estates	Off Dunbar	HMA Overlay
Dunbar	LaPlaisance to M-125	Microsurface
Jay Dr.	Off Hull	Single seal w/Fog Seal
LaPlaisance	Lighthouse to Mortar Creek	Spray Patch/Single seal/Fog seal
M-50 Intersections	Various@ M-50	Mill&Fill/HMA
Monroe Terraces	Off Keegan	OBC
South Monroe Townsite	Off Dunbar & M-125	HMA Overlay
Southpointe Square	Off Dunbar & US24 Phase1	Cold Milling/Base Stabilize/HMA
Southpointe Square	Off US24 & Dunbar Phase 2	HMA Overlay
Southpointe-Phases 3/4	Off US24 & Dunbar	OBC
2016 Local Roads Mowing		
2016 Local Roads Mineral Well Brine		

Raisinville Township

Frary Lane	Off Strasburg	Grade/stone/mineral well brine
2016 Local Roads – Mineral Well Brine		

Summerfield Township

2016 Local Roads – Calcium Chloride

- 4) Mowing Contractor
 Precision Irrigation & Lawn Care, Inc. Monroe Charter Township
- 5) Approve the Resolution and MDOT Contract for the South Stony Creek Road Improvements (Steffas Road to Exeter Road), Exeter Township, Monroe County, Michigan; and authorize the Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.
- 6) Approve the Resolution to request reimbursement of \$10,000 from the Michigan Department of Transportation for the sum paid for a Licensed Professional Engineer employed by the Monroe County Road Commission.
- 7) Award the 2016 Monroe Charter Township HMA paving program to low bidder, Cadillac Asphalt, LLC in the amount of \$1,082,665.75 and authorize the Managing Director to sign all documents on behalf of the Board.

Commissioner Minton moved, seconded by Commissioner Stammer to approve the May 23, 2016 Consent Agenda as presented/amended. Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

8. Unfinished Business – None.

9. New Business -

1) Site Plan Guidelines.

Commissioner Pace moved, seconded by Commissioner Minton to approve the Site Plan Guidelines as presented. Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

10. Report of Officers –

Randy Pierce (Managing Director/Superintendent of Maintenance) – Mr. Pierce has nothing additional to report.

Commissioner Londo asked if Mr. Pierce had additional contact with Dundee Township on N. County Line Road.

Mr. Pierce believed Dundee Township would hold their budget meeting on Tuesday but they had already planned how to spend their millage monies for 2016-2017. They indicated if the road millage renewed in 2017, they would continue to work with the Road Commission on options for this road. They have asked that the Road Commission not turn this road back to gravel at this time. They have asked for maintenance to fill the potholes. Dundee Township has been diligently working to improve their N/S and E/W corridor roads. Mr. Pierce indicated he has been driving out there regularly to check the road and monitor the maintenance being done. He sympathizes with the residents and understands their concerns. He is willing to work with Dundee Township officials and honor their request, but his recommendation would be to turn the road to gravel for safety and maintenance reasons.

Commissioner Londo asked what options would be available with no committed resources available. Mr. Pierce indicated continued routine maintenance to keep the road together for the next 2 years or turn it to gravel. Dundee Township does not want to over commit at this time.

Commissioner Minton indicated the board has discussed a variety of options and it was mentioned that if the road was returned to gravel it could be prepared and ready for paving in the future should money become available. It certainly wasn't the intent to turn this road to gravel forever. No one wants to live on the dirt/gravel road, but after hearing about the accidents it might be safer to turn it to gravel.

Commissioner Pace indicated the board has talked about this before, and he voiced several concerns but there is no plan in place. If the road was going to be returned to gravel, he suggested it be widened to 20 feet and prepared to have a double seal put on it in the future to return it to a hardtop surface even if it meant we could only do a couple miles a year. He stated to those in the audience that they may not like the idea of making it gravel, but if a double seal would be applied it would make it a nice road. The increase funding anticipated from the State isn't expected until 2020.

The Road Commission has no ability to collect more funds for roads-that is all controlled by the State. Townships have the ability to seek road millages, and they control the money and work with the Road Commission on where work should be done. He also asked about the ADT on that road. Mr. Assenmacher indicated about 80 cars per day. In the 1980's the highest count was approximately 400, but the average traffic on the 7 ½ miles of N. County Line Road was about 150-200 per day.

Commissioner Pace stated the problem is there are a lot of roads that need attention and the MCRC works to partner with the townships to best use the dollars available. He indicated the best bet would be to turn it to gravel and then start to double seal it in the future. He stressed the importance of having a plan in place and being able to share it with the citizens.

Commissioner Londo stated it was obvious that the residents don't want the road turned to gravel. He asked who would be monitoring the maintenance to make sure the work gets done. Mr. Pierce indicated he and Mr. Richard would monitor the work along with the District Supervisor.

Commissioner Londo added that the best eyes and ears are the people who live and drive this road. He wanted to make sure that the workers are monitored so the residents can see that the job is getting done and we are addressing their concerns.

Phillip C. Masserant (Director of Finance) – Mr. Masserant informed the Board that the MCRC received notice that we would not be getting the CMAQ grant for the diesel retro fit trucks. Due to a lawsuit about the steel used coming from a foreign source, no waiver will be given based on the "BUY AMERICA" requirement. The MCRC budgeted for four (4) heavy duty trucks so they will need to review how many trucks can be purchased without the benefit of the grant and stay within our approved budget. The staff is looking to see if the money can be used for other purposes that qualify for the congestion mitigation requirements.

Keith Richard (Director of Operations) – Mr. Richard indicated there are a lot of challenges with not a lot of money to throw at it. The MCRC will continue to do the best we can with the resources we have available.

Mr. Richard explained using the Paser Rating System, N. County Line Road is rated a one (1) which means the road has a failed condition. Throwing cold patch isn't meant to be a permanent fix, but meant to be a bridge gap measure at best. It is painful for the Board and the crews knowing there is no additional funding or plan for a permanent fix for this road. He will be out there to monitor the crews and get some fresh cold patch on the road.

Mr. Richard also stated there are many concerns throughout the county. The State bases their funding on higher volume roads, not lower volume roads such as N. County Line Road. He appreciates the comments, understands the emotions and frustrations voiced by the residents. The MCRC takes all the comments seriously.

Scott Assenmacher (County Highway Engineer) – Mr. Assenmacher thanked the Board for approving the Site Plan Guidelines. The next document to be reviewed will be the Subdivision Guidelines. That will be more of a process.

Philip Costello (General Counsel) – Mr. Costello updated the Board on the property being purchased from Berlin Charter Township is still moving forward. DECO has agreed to release their interest and the paperwork is being prepared by the Berlin Township attorney.

11. Public Comment -

Mark Maschino, 6301 N. County Line Road, indicated he understood the costs associated with maintenance work but wondered why hot patch isn't being used instead of the cold patch. He thought the hot patch was cheaper and stronger.

Alan Reau asked what the residents can do because he didn't think the Road Commission was getting it done.

Betty Stimek asked what the Road Commission was going to do with the bridge that is falling down. She also asked if the MCRC could keep the semi-trucks off the road.

Leslie Downing asked if there was a policy or process for the workers when they are filling potholes. She also inquired about the Road Commission's next meeting.

The next MCRC Board is Monday, June 13, 2016.

12. Commissioners' Comments -

Commissioner Pace had nothing additional to report.

Commissioner Stammer reminded everyone that there are still a lot of roads in Monroe County in bad shape. Roads that are in good condition need to have preservation work done to keep them in good shape. We can't always pick the worst condition and ignore those roads in good condition. He stated the funding isn't keeping up with the demand and needs. A lot of people compare Michigan to Ohio, but it is well documented that Ohio spends more money on their roads and it all starts in Lansing.

Commissioner Stammer indicated that when Substation was turned to gravel there was a future plan to return it to a hard surface road, which is being done this year. He also indicated the MCRC will continue to look at solutions and options for N. County Line Road. He asked for the resident's patience and stated the Board is always interested in hearing their concerns.

Commissioner Londo encouraged residents to re-think turning their road to gravel until money becomes available to pave it again. He encouraged the staff to talk with Dundee Township officials to rethink their position.

Commissioner Minton urged the residents to contact their legislators. It was their plan to gradually phase in the funding to 2020. He also reminded the residents that it isn't fair to compare Monroe to Lenawee as Monroe has more assets and therefore the dollars are stretched thinner.

Commissioner Iacoangeli appreciated everyone who attended and all the comments made at the meeting. He stressed the importance that the Board does understand and even though they don't answer their questions they appreciate everyone sharing their thoughts.

Commissioner Iacoangeli appreciated all the citizens attending the meeting and expressing their thoughts. He explained that property taxes do not come directly to the Road Commission unless the township has a road millage, and then the township works with the Road Commission on what roads they choose to use the money on. He stated if the residents want to see something done in the short term rather than wait for the funding to become available, they could look into the SAD (special assessment district) process.

Commissioner Iacoangeli indicated he was a huge proponent of safety and he felt turning the road to gravel would be the safest at this point based on the comments from the citizens. He indicated Commissioner Pace was correct when he said the Board had no plan because they didn't want to make promises that can't be kept. Unless money is available, this Board won't make promises.

Things change and with the problems facing the Detroit Public Schools and the Flint Water who knows if any money will be available for roads. The residents need to decide if gravel would be better than what you have, with no promise of paving it in the near future. The Road Commission is willing to look at all the options but we have limited assets and resources and we partner with the township to leverage money to its best use.

13. Adjournment -

Chairman Iacoangeli stated if there are no objections, the meeting is adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Cheryl A. U'Ran

Cheryl A. U'Ran, Deputy Clerk