

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
MONROE, MICHIGAN
June 11, 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, June 11, 2018 the meeting was called to order by Chairman Iacoangeli at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

PRESENT

Greg W. Stewart
Charles A. Londo
Stephen J. Pace
Dan Minton
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 June 11, 2018 regular meeting agenda as amended. Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

6. Public Comment -

David Hoffman, County Commissioner, indicated he has been working on flooding/water concerns voiced by a homeowner at 19300 Toten Road for the last 3-4 years. He has talked with the township and he believes they are willing to dedicate some of the gradall time to this problem. He has been watching how the water flows, and he believes he has an idea on how to reverse the water flow to take it to a county drain to help alleviate the owner's flooding on his property. He would like Chris Stanley to look at his idea and possibly develop a program to get this done so he can report back to the homeowner.

Greg Skiver, Temperance resident, indicated the chip seal has been done on their road since the last time he attended the road meeting. He indicated it has sealed all the cracks in the road. The first few days there was dust, but the stone seems to be adhering to the road and getting packed down which will help in the future. However, the residents are now complaining that their children cannot roller blade and ride their bikes in the road. He obtained an estimate of about \$7,500 to have the road fog sealed which would make the road look much nicer. The residents are asking the Road Commission to pay for a fog seal on the road to correct any problems. A fog seal would also help the road look like Jackman Road. Mr. Skiver stated they have a nice community and younger families are starting to move in and this area is growing. To apply a fog seal it would add to their community. There are about 90 homes and it would make people happy. It would be impressive to the residents.

Mr. Skiver explained that future maintenance was not discussed during the SAD meetings otherwise the residents may have added that money to the project but since it wasn't and the road is in need of a treatment he was asking the Road Commission to do the road and just be done with it. The Road Commission is doing a lot of good on many roads and this road should be no exception. Residents would have less negative comments if the Road Commission would pay to apply a fog seal to Meadowbrook Way.

Mr. Skiver again asked the Board to consider paying for a fog seal on Meadowbrook Way, and thanked the Board for letting him talk. He also asked if someone could let Mr. Pirrone or himself know the decision then he would notify the neighbors.

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

Commissioner Minton asked to have item #7(6) pulled for further discussion.

- 1) Approval of Minutes- May 14, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes
- 2) Approval of Journal Entry

No. 317 Payroll Checks #63911-63928 & Advice #23680-23772	\$ 267,146.65
No. 318 Vendor Checks #72205-72257	\$ 479,412.49
No. 329 Vendor Checks #72258-72318	\$ 446,486.89
No. 342 Payroll checks #63929-63944 & Advice #23773-23872	\$ 282,346.45
Sick/Vacation Payout – P. Brown Check #63945	\$ 1,420.78
No. 343 Vendor Checks #72319-72335	\$ 306,996.56
Void Check #71830	\$ 260.00
No. 365 Vendor Checks #72336-72384	\$ 663,616.06
Bank Fees – May 2018	\$ 3.00

3) Township Contracts

Berlin Charter Township

2018 Local Roads – Mineral Well Brine

Dundee Township

2018 Local Roads – Mineral Well Brine

Erie Township

Streeter	Off Erie	Grade/Mineral Well Brine
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Frenchtown Charter Township

Vivian Road	500’S of Hurd/100’N of Hurd	Drainage improvement
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2018 Local Roads – Mowing

2018 Local Roads – Mineral Well Brine

London Township

2018 Local Roads – Mowing

2018 Local Roads – Mineral Well Brine

Monroe Charter Township

2018 Local Roads – Mineral Well Brine

- 4) Approve the Resolution with MDOT for Oakville Waltz Road (Sumpter Road easterly to Exeter Road), Exeter Township, Monroe County, Michigan; and Luna Pier Road (M-125 easterly to I-75), Erie Township, Monroe County, Michigan; and authorize the Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign contract on behalf of the Board.
- 5) Approve the agreement with Mannik & Smith Group, Inc. in the amount of \$40,000.00 for construction engineering and inspection services on the Crabb Road project, Bedford Township, Monroe County, Michigan; and authorize the Managing Director to sign on behalf of the Board.
- 6) Pulled for further discussion.
- 7) Award the construction engineering services contract for the Vivian Road Bridge at Sandy Creek project to Spicer Group, Inc. in the amount of \$42,252; and authorize the Managing Director to sign all documents on behalf of the Board.

- 8) Approve and sign the Resolution with MDOT for the Roadway Safety Upgrade Work at eight (8) locations along federal-aid routes county-wide (Including permanent signing and overhead flashing beacon installation at four locations) as follows: Rauch Road @ Lewis Avenue (Ida and Bedford Townships); Strasburg and Yargerville Roads (LaSalle Township); Oakville Waltz Road @ Tuttle Hill Road (London Township); Grafton Road @ Labo Road (Flashing beacon installation) (Ash Township); Newburg Road @ Exeter Road (Exeter and Ash Townships); Bragg Road @ McCarty Road (Summerfield Township); Baldwin Road @ Stewart Road (Raisinville Township); Clark Road @ Sterns Road (Whiteford Township), Monroe County, Michigan; and authorize the Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign contract on behalf of the Board.
- 9) Approve the amended 2018 Municipal Resolution.
- 10) Award bid for Planer and Wing Plow Blade to all responding vendors.

Commissioner Minton moved, seconded by Commissioner Pace to approve the June 11, 2018 Consent Agenda as presented, except for item #7(6) that was pulled for further discussion. Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

#7(6) Award the contract for the Northeast District Salt Facility to the low bidder Anderzack-Pitzen Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$531,000.00 and authorize the Managing Director to sign all documents on behalf of the Board.

Commissioner Minton inquired about the start date for this project. Mr. Pierce explained the project would probably start about 2-3 weeks after the pre-construction meeting.

Commissioner Minton asked about the project completion date. Mr. Pierce indicated it would be finished sometime around November 1st.

Commissioner Minton moved, seconded by Commissioner Stewart to award the contract for the Northeast District Salt Facility to the low bidder, Anderzack-Pitzen Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$531,000 and authorize the Managing Director to sign all documents on behalf of the Board. Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

8. Unfinished Business -

- 1) Continued discussion on MSP Motor Carrier contracted services agreement.

Mr. Pierce explained that after talking with the MSP Motor Carrier division again, the costs have not changed so he would recommend to not move forward with this agreement and possibly revisit it in the future.

Commissioner Londo asked for the reasoning for Mr. Pierce's recommendation not to proceed. Mr. Pierce explained the cost factor involved plus the fact that the Road Commission would not be recouping any monies from this venture. The MSP can ticket or pull over a vehicle for safety inspections, but the Road Commission would not see any additional funds for the money being invested.

Commissioner Pace stated the townships needed to be involved with monitoring these roads since they contribute township funds in improving these roads. Townships need to be educated on how to pass ordinances that will help the townships recoup money to invest in their roads. He suggested holding a seminar to teach townships how to move forward.

Commissioner Stewart agreed that the townships need to be more involved. He talked with the Ordinance Office at Bedford Township and they did extensive research on this issue. Bedford Township chose to walk away because of a variety of issues, including training personnel.

Mr. Pierce cited a situation that took place Friday on a local Bedford Township road where a farmer pulling a tractor dropped and dragged a large disc on the road and damaged it. Because no one actually witnessed who caused the damage, the township will now be responsible for paying to fix the damages done to this road.

Commissioner Minton agreed it is tough to accuse with no proof. He would hope the farmer who damaged the road would do the right thing and come forward.

Mr. Pierce stated the tractor was parked near the field over the weekend, but when he knocked at the door of the home no one answered. He again recommended not to move forward with this venture at this time.

9. New Business -

1) Approve the additional Temperance Road (Crabb to Lewis) project in the amount of \$147,813 for the 2018 construction season.

Mr. Pierce explained that cars are parking along the side of this road for businesses which is breaking the edges, so he is recommending trenching, widening and then apply an overlay.

Commissioner Minton indicated his concern on how roads are being selected and he wants to make sure all the township roads are being considered equally. Mr. Pierce stated this road is a primary road located in Bedford Township, but the Road Commission is looking at a variety of roads for improvements throughout the county. He added that Bedford Township has a good number of primary roads. Rumors are that paving may jump \$10/ton so this would be the year to accomplish as much as possible before the rates go up.

Commissioner Pace agreed that he didn't want to favor one townships over another or overspend and jeopardize our budget. He wanted to make sure we had money for other options, such as Mr. Skiver who was asking the Board to spend \$7,000 on a fog seal, which in his personal opinion is a waste of money. He just didn't want to spend all the money available and not leave anything for other types of last minute projects.

Commissioner Iacoangeli felt the staff does a good job of reviewing the needs of all the roads when bringing their recommendations to the Board for approval.

Commissioner Stewart agreed that the Board didn't need to worry about over spending as the staff does a good job in evaluating and recommending work for roads. He added Bedford Township regularly contributes to road improvements and Temperance Road is a primary road with a good amount of traffic, as well as being an east-west corridor.

Commissioner Minton clarified that he just wants to make sure each township is getting a fair shake at the money available. Mr. Pierce indicated the staff is trying to keep it fair as possible across the 15 townships.

Commissioner Stewart moved, seconded by Commissioner Minton to approve the addition of the Temperance Road project (Crabb to Lewis) in the amount of \$147,813 for the 2018 construction season. Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

2) Discussion on Policy #2012-17 Anti-Nepotism Policy.

Mr. Pierce explained this is a Board policy that may need some revision to allow for some versatility in our hiring qualified people within our procedure.

Commissioner Londo asked what Mr. Pierce would like to change. Mr. Pierce stated he would like to modify the definition of immediate family.

Commissioner Iacoangeli stated he would like to see the fourth line in the first paragraph under Purpose stricken. Then under Procedures and General Guidelines, he would like to have the first sentence removed, then he felt it would be a good workable policy that sets the proper guidelines.

Commissioner Londo felt Commissioner Iacoangeli's comments were good ones, as those statements were contradictory. He would recommend legal counsel review the policy for other conflicts and to clean up the statements.

Mr. Pierce indicated since this is a Board policy it is up to the Board to leave it alone, review and revise, or totally do away with policy.

Commissioner Stewart was not in favor of doing away with this policy. He agreed that the Managing Director and Board should not be able to exert any undue pressure to hire a family member. He also felt there should be no direct family supervision allowed whenever possible.

Commissioner Pace clarified that this policy would be applied to full-time employees, not summer or part-time employees. Mr. Pierce stated that was correct.

Mr. Pierce explained that the Road Commission is having a hard time finding CDL drivers and equipment operators because they can make more money in the private sector. If the policy is reviewed and some of the language re-worked we might be able to hire some qualified individuals.

Commissioner Iacoangeli stated he had family members working together and there were never any issues. He added that sometimes we create more problems than are really there. He would like to see a few safeguards placed in the policy to avoid potential issues.

Mr. Pierce and Mr. Costello will review the policy and bring a revised version back to the Board for their review.

3) Discussion on Scofield-Carleton Road estimate.

Mr. Pierce explained that due to the numerous complaints about this road, core samples were taken and there is about 1 ½" of asphalt over the macadam so the road cannot be milled. There are deep ditches along this section of road. Since there doesn't appear to be many options available for this road, he asked the Board to consider an experiment of breaking the screed which would reduce the grade by applying an inch in the middle and two inches on the sides. He talked with Mike Smith and Dave Leach who believe it is a good idea even though this road is severely crowned. He wanted the Board to realize this is an experiment but there are limited options for this road.

Commissioner Londo asked if this application had been tried on any other roads. Mr. Pierce said once they broke the screed on a road in Summerfield Township, and it worked well.

Commissioner Minton asked if the macadam could be pulled out. Mr. Pierce explained there is about a mile of road that would need to be rebuilt as well as pushing the ditches back. This would be an extremely expensive venture, one he would not recommend. Frank Westenkirchner guesstimated probably the half million dollar range.

Commissioner Pace explained that cold mix was used on Palmer Road and it has held up well since 1995. He would recommend looking into the cost of cold mix on Scofield-Carleton Road, since a mill and fill is not an option. Mr. Pierce indicated that could add another \$150,000 to the estimate and they would need a site to make the cold mix. He was not opposed to looking into the cold mix option, but was concerned about the increased cost factor involved. He was looking at an inexpensive fix then apply a chip seal in the future.

10. Report of Officers –

Randy Pierce (Managing Director/Superintendent of Maintenance) – Mr. Pierce applauded the crews for completing about 37 miles of chip seal to date. The weather has not cooperated but the roads that have been completed look good. The chip seal roads are being swept, some places twice like in subdivisions.

Mr. Pierce advised the Board he has received several complaints about I-75 and entrance and exit ramps. The state highways are deteriorating and we cannot keep up which is why he would like to give notice to the State about opting out of the state trunkline contract.

Mr. Pierce also explained that the staff has tried to work with the resident on S. Stony Creek with regards to the removal of designated trees. Engineering has done a good job in trying to accommodate all the requests but he feels the trees should be removed so the project can get underway without further delay. Mr. Westenkirchner will have more information under his comments.

Mr. Pierce advised the Board the staff will be meeting with Bedford Township on June 21st about the Smith/Jackman Road roundabout. This is a \$597,000 CMAQ grant. There is no match, but Bedford Township has indicated they do not have the money for any cost overruns, or land acquisition or engineering services. He asked the Board if they are willing to put up any monies for this Federal Aid project.

Mr. Pierce also informed the Board that a \$600,000 CMAQ grant was received for Frenchtown Charter Township for 6 foot paved shoulders and drainage relocation along N. Dixie Highway. This grant also requires a 20 percent match and should Frenchtown not have the funds, he would recommend the MCRC pay the match and Frenchtown Township would be responsible for paying the engineering costs.

Commissioner Pace asked why spend money on a roundabout since people complain about the ones on US23. Mr. Westenkirchner explained Bedford Township put the roundabout idea on their Facebook page as an option to eliminate the traffic and light problems at this intersection. The township had their engineer draw up plans and the Road Commission submitted the CMAQ application, and it was accepted. This roundabout would reduce the air pollution created from the delay and congestion during peak hours at this jagged intersection.

Commissioner Minton stated roundabouts have proven to be safer.

Commissioner Stewart wasn't a fan of the roundabout either, but agreed this intersection is a poor design and there is a lot of back up and this might resolve those issues.

Commissioner Iacoangeli asked why the Road Commission was still spending time working with the residents on saving two trees when everyone, including the County Commissioner for that district and Township Supervisor was in full support to have those trees removed. He stated enough is enough.

Commissioner Londo stated he drove by the trees in question and felt they looked pretty sick and in bad shape.

Mr. Pierce took responsibility for having the staff take an extra look and exhaust every option. With the support of the Board, County Commissioner and Township Supervisor the decision has been made to cut the trees previously identified in order to widen this road for the improvements.

Frank Westenkirchner (Assistant County Highway Engineer) – Mr. Westenkirchner informed the Board he attended a public meeting regarding the rebuild on I-75 from the state line to Erie Road starting in 2019. They will close one lane and shift traffic in one direction in 2019, then do the same in 2020 with the other direction. They will also be rebuilding the Erie Road bridge over I75 as well.

Mr. Westenkirchner also indicated the Road Commission does not have a tree removal policy, and the internal SOP is not clear. His goal is to work with Mr. Pierce to create a policy to deal with these types of concerns in a uniform manner. There are all types of guidelines for trees and they are all fairly vague on how they are applied.

Philip Costello (General Counsel) – Mr. Costello had nothing additional to report.

11. Public Comment -

Greg Skiver asked why Commissioner Pace wasn't in favor of a fog seal so he could explain to the residents. Commissioner Iacoangeli indicated Mr. Skiver could talk to Mr. Pace after meeting.

David Hoffman, County Commissioner, stated in his opinion roundabouts do work.

12. Commissioners' Comments -

Commissioner Pace had nothing additional to report.

Commissioner Stewart indicated he talked with Mr. Pierce about the possibility of using millings in the county parks, but there is a concern about logistics.

Commissioner Londo had nothing additional to report.

Commissioner Minton had nothing additional to report.

Commissioner Iacoangeli had nothing additional to report.

13. Adjournment -

Chairman Iacoangeli stated if there are no objections, the meeting is adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Cheryl A. U'Ran

Cheryl A. U'Ran, Deputy Clerk