

- 4) Award design bid to low bidder, Brechting Bridge & Engineering for the design work related to the replacement of the Dennison Road bridge (over Middle Branch of the Macon Drain), Dundee Township, Monroe County, Michigan and authorize Managing Director to sign on behalf of the Board.
- 5) Approve the Resolution to lift the reduce weight limits on Labo Road (between Brandon Road and US Turnpike) and Sigler Road (between I-75 and US Turnpike) and remove the signs causing the roads to be Normal Local (Class B) in accordance with Section 257.722 of the Michigan Vehicle Code.

Commissioner Minton moved, seconded by Commissioner Stammer to approve the June 22, 2015 Consent Agenda items #1-5. Vote - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

- 6) Approve the Resolution and 2015 Budget Amendment.

Commissioner Londo asked which summary page was the correct one. Commissioner Iacoangeli indicated the one marked “corrected” was provide after the board packet was originally prepared.

Commissioner Pace asked if the fund balance amount could be separated to reflect the difference between the available cash and the assets. The amount is deceiving because the Road Commission doesn't have \$6.4 million in cash to spend on roads. He asked how much cash was actually available.

Mr. Masserant indicated he didn't have the exact number with him and he would have to get back with the Board. The other Road Commissions, budgets hit highs and lows depending on the time of year. He explained the Road Commission would be spending \$1million to purchase salt, which is an inventory item and it doesn't hit the budget until it is put on the road.

Commissioner Stammer indicated that has been asked before to have the fund balance separated.

Commissioner Londo asked what was included in the fund balance other than cash. Mr. Masserant explained it includes the net of assets and liabilities on the books, excluding equipment and long term debt which is accounted for in separate funds. This is basically the county road fund.

Commissioner Londo asked if a balance sheet should be included. Mr. Masserant stated there is no provision that requires a balance sheet as part of the budget in the State Accounting Manual. Commissioner Londo asked if he could prepare one in his monthly report to the board. Mr. Masserant indicated he would prepare one for the next monthly report.

Commissioner Pace saw where Ohio went after the salt mines for gouging, and questioned whether the State of Michigan was doing the same. Ohio got money back. He suggested contacting our State Representatives to see if anything is being done.

Commissioner Londo moved, seconded by Commissioner Stammer to approve the Resolution and 2015 Budget Amendment as presented.

Roll Call:

AYES

NAYS

Dan Minton

Charles Londo

Bruce R. Stammer, Jr.

Stephen J. Pace

Paul Iacoangeli

Vote - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

8. Unfinished Business – None.

9. New Business -

1) Authorize the Managing Director to participate in the online auction up to \$300,000 for tandem axle trucks and one grader (Genesee County Road Commission vehicles).

Commissioner Londo felt it was a good idea.

Commissioner Pace stated he had no problem with purchasing a used grader, but he had a big problem buying used trucks. He felt the Road Commission is buying troubles when purchasing vehicles that are 8-10 years old.

Matt Purcell, MCRC Supervisor, indicated the trucks are 8-10 years old. Commissioner Pace felt that Road Commissions have experienced problems for years by piece-together roads and equipment for the last 30 years. He stated we have poor roads and poor equipment. He asked if the MCRC wanted to spend a lot of money on vehicles or spend the money on fixing roads. He acknowledged if we have another bad winter the Road Commission may be screwed, but he urged the members to think long and hard before investing in used equipment. That money could be used to fix a section of primary road that is in bad shape. This is a tough decision, no doubt about it. He stated he realized the Road Commission needs both (fix roads and buy equipment) but there isn't any money.

Matt Purcell stated he understood Commissioner Pace's feelings and explained his thought process in recommending the purchase of these used trucks. The Road Commission has an opportunity to buy 5 good vehicles for the price of one (1) new truck. These vehicles would be a benefit to the Road Commission this winter as the fleet has several trucks that may not make it through another winter season. The fleet has vehicles that are between 15 - 20 years in age and it has become difficult to maintain them and it is also frustrating to keep them running. Some of the Road Commission trucks have over 300K miles on them and they are simply worn out. He estimated at least eight (8) trucks that won't make it because there is no life left in them. The money allocated would be used to purchase a used grader and as many trucks as possible. Again he felt this was a good opportunity to purchase used, good looking trucks that would last another 3-5 years and allow the Road Commission to get back on track with updating the fleet.

Commissioner Londo asked Mr. Purcell what he thought the five (5) tandem trucks could be picked up for. Mr. Purcell said it would be tough to guess, but maybe around \$40-45K per truck. That is all dependent upon the auction.

Commissioner Londo inquired about the price of a new truck and how long it would last. Mr. Purcell stated close to \$200K outfitted and they could reasonably last approximately 13 years.

Commissioner Londo stated a new truck at \$200,000 for 13 years amortizes to about \$16,000 per year. These used vehicles are ½ the cost and we are getting five (5) trucks instead of one. He felt the purchase made sense. Mr. Purcell agreed.

Commissioner Pace asked if these trucks had over 200,000 miles on them. Mr. Purcell indicated he didn't have all the spec sheets with him but the trucks didn't have that many miles.

Commissioner Pace wondered how we can tell people on Plank Road that we aren't fixing their road because we are buying equipment. He felt if we were purchasing these vehicles the board needed to know how many miles, if they have been accidents – that type of information. Mr. Purcell indicated GCRC gave him all that information on each truck and it is in his office. The biggest concern at the moment is the current fleet isn't going to make it.

Commissioner Iacoangeli indicated the fleet inventory list provided to the Board shows that 21 of the 37 trucks are rated as bad or poor. Mr. Purcell is providing his professional opinion regarding the condition and need to obtain better equipment. He stated putting \$300,000 into one road isn't going that far but purchasing five (5) trucks would better service the entire county.

Commissioner Pace felt the Road Commission would be buying used vehicles from another Road Commission that has been run a lot. He added you don't see the Sheriff Department buying used cars for their officers.

Commissioner Minton stated Commissioner Pace brings up many good points and he agreed that it is hard to spend money on used equipment with so many roads that need repair. However, with the current condition on the trucks he felt putting drivers in these poor rated trucks becomes a safety issue. He felt it was important to make sure the employees have equipment to do their jobs safely. He asked the average miles per year that the Road Commission puts on our trucks. Mr. Purcell estimated between 15-20K miles per year.

Commissioner Pace stated there is a point where maintenance costs start to become an issue and asked Mr. Purcell when that point was. Mr. Purcell estimated approximately 5-6 years. Commissioner Pace again stated this is a tough decision. This same decision has plagued Road Commissions for years – do you buy trucks to go out and do snow removal or put the money into fixing roads. He doesn't want the guys driving anything unsafe either.

Mr. Purcell added that the advantage is these trucks are tandems which would allow more plow time as they can stay out longer on a route. The Road Commission's minimum target is to maintain 34 snow trucks for reasonable service to the public. We are below that now. He felt two more trucks would go down before the winter because they are in such poor condition. He understood all the concerns and issues voiced about purchasing used equipment but it would be better than what we currently have and would get us through the next few years in order to start a normal rotation program.

Commissioner Minton asked if these tandems would replace the single axles and how this would affect the union contract and bid trucks. Mr. Purcell indicated the singles are in bad shape and would probably be replaced. He added that Mr. Pierce has talked with the union and it would need to be worked out. Mr. Purcell added that when a single truck goes out of service, the driver has to be put in something. The new singles won't be here until January or February. He explained that in the past drivers liked the singles because of the convenience of being lower, but now all the trucks are the same size.

Commissioner Pace wanted to make sure the funds were capped at \$300,000 and nothing more. Commissioner Iacoangeli indicated it depends on the auction and the Managing Director can use his discretion but the limit is \$300,000 and no more.

Commissioner Londo moved, supported by Commissioner Stammer to authorize the Managing Director to participate in the online auction up to \$300,000 for the purchase on tandem axle trucks and one grader.

Roll Call:

AYES

Bruce R. Stammer, Jr.

Charles Londo

Dan Minton

Paul Iacoangeli

NAYS

Stephen J. Pace

Vote - Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

10. Report of Officers -

Randy Pierce (Managing Director/Superintendent of Maintenance)-Excused.

Phillip C. Masserant (Director of Finance) - Mr. Masserant had nothing additional to report.

Michael L. Smith (Director of Operations) - Mr. Smith indicated we have had been quite the unusual wet weather. The overband crack fill and other contracted work is starting and crews are working on graveling roads. Chip seal work is tentatively scheduled to begin the week of 7/13. Plank Road is moving forward and contracts were mailed to Raisinville and Dundee Townships. London Township received their estimates and will be discussing them at their 7/13 regular meeting. If London isn't able to contribute, the Road Commission will use the monies allocated for work in London Township to go as far as possible, possibly up to Oelke Road.

Scott Assenmacher (County Highway Engineer) - Mr. Assenmacher updated the Board that the Quatro development was moving forward. Mr. Quatro submitted his letter to rescind his appeal request and that was provided to the Board.

Mr. Assenmacher informed the Board that Bridge Engineer, Steven Bouws, submitted his resignation. Mr. Assenmacher will continue to work with Mr. Pierce and Mr. Masserant on ways to reallocate the work with either consultants or possibly a new hire.

Mr. Assenmacher also indicated there have been good discussions with Bedford, Frenchtown and Exeter Townships on the truck ordinances.

Philip Costello (General Counsel) - Mr. Costello indicated a draft copy of the Professional Services SOP was provided to the Board for their review. This document was a collaborative effort. If the Board has any suggestions or input, they can notify Mr. Pierce next week.

11. Public Comment - None.

12. Commissioners' Comments -

Commissioner Minton asked how many are in Engineering considering the resignation. Mr. Assenmacher stated it leaves 6 people in the department.

Commissioner Londo had nothing additional to report.

Commissioner Stammer asked about the grass cutting. Mr. Smith indicated the wet weather created a setback. KBK has started mowing in Milan working across the top of the county. The July 15th target date to complete the mowing has not changed. He added the grass is not obstructing vision and doesn't create any hazards.

Commissioner Stammer indicated Ohio just did their first cutting also, and the state just did the roundabouts due to the tall growth at exit 5.

Commissioner Pace had nothing additional to report.

Commissioner Iacoangeli commented on the Toledo Blade series on the road conditions for the City of Toledo. He was shocked to see how many problems they have.

13. Adjournment -

Chairman Iacoangeli stated if there are no objections, the meeting is adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Cheryl A. U'Ran

Cheryl A. U'Ran, Deputy Clerk