

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
MONROE, MICHIGAN
August 10, 2015**

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, August 10, 2015 the meeting was called to order by Chairman Iacoangeli at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

PRESENT	EXCUSED
Bruce R. Stammer, Jr.	Dan Minton
Stephen J. Pace	
Charles Londo	
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 Silent Prayer.

5. Commissioner Stammer moved, seconded by Commissioner Pace to approve the August 10, 2015 regular meeting agenda as presented. Vote: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Excused: 1
Motion carried.

6. Public Comment -

LeRoy Zieske, London Township Trustee, shared some of the history of Plank Road and the reason why it is important to fix this road. He outlined several ways to get out of Monroe to US-23 in case of an emergency. Plank Road has often been considered a road to assist in the smooth flow of traffic in case of evacuation for any type of Fermi incident.

Mr. Zieske also voiced a concern about re-routing sand pit trucks off Plank Road to keep it in good condition after it is paved.

Kathleen Rowe, London Township, stated she lives on Surfwood in the subdivision behind Banas. She indicated she has been to the Road Commission several times with pictures to show the flooding and that the ditches are full during the spring rain floods. She stated the Road Commission comes out in August to look at the ditches and of course there is no water. She would like to have her ditches cleaned out.

Commissioner Iacoangeli asked her to stay after the meeting to further discuss her concerns with the staff.

Ms. Rowe asked if Plank Road was a Class B road. She stated there are better dirt roads and that Plank Road is a nightmare. Mr. Assenmacher indicated it was a normal loading road.

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

1) Approval of Minutes- July 27, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

2) Approval of Journal Entry

No. 474 Payroll Checks #62757-62766 & Advice #17081-18175 \$ 229,129.60

No. 500 Vendor Checks #66765-66829 \$ 680,570.36

3) Township Contracts

Bedford Township

Smith Road	Whiteford Center to Pelton	Base stabilize/HMA
Dean Road	RR Tracks to Crabb	Change Order-drainage added
Monroe Road	Secor to Summerfield	Change Order-drainage added

Berlin Township

2015 Excess Gradall

- 4) Approve and sign the Resolution and contract with MDOT for the paving work along Nadeau Road (from M-125 easterly to Vivian Road) including installation of overhead flasher, traffic signal and related work, Frenchtown Charter Township, Monroe County, Michigan; and authorize the Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign all documents on behalf of the Board.

Commissioner Pace moved, seconded by Commissioner Stammer to approve the August 10, 2015 Consent Agenda as presented. Vote: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Excused: 1 Motion carried.

8. Unfinished Business -

1) Plank Road Discussion.

Mr. Pierce informed the Board that London Township has agreed to participate on the Plank Road improvements as outlined in the draft contract and agreement provided to the Board. It would be his recommendation to approve these documents in order to move forward on the project.

Commissioner Londo stated when he came on the Board in January, Plank Road was one of the major roads that needed to be addressed. It is also a high priority for the legislators in Lansing. Trying to secure financing for improvements to the road proved to be challenging. He commended the staff for working together with London Township to come up with a plan and the financing to complete this project in 2015. He was in agreement with the proposed contract and agreement with London Township.

Commissioner Pace inquired about the total cost of the project. Mr. Pierce and Commissioner Iacoangeli indicated \$872,438 for the 4.5 miles of Plank Road.

Commissioner Pace thanked Raisinville, Dundee and London Township for pitching in to make this project happen. He added that the current and future project scope is to put down 2" of asphalt in 2015, but then apply for federal aid to be able to put down additional asphalt on top for a longer lasting road. It may take 3-4 years for the additional asphalt, but the project will definitely benefit the motoring public.

Mr. Assenmacher added that would be the goal to secure federal aid funds for an additional lift of asphalt. He also stated the additional asphalt might happen in sections, not all at one time, much like Lewis Avenue.

Commissioner Stammer stated that everyone realized the importance of improving this road and that no help was coming from the State. The Road Commission and Townships put their heads together and worked to find a solution. Another really bad road is being fixed in Monroe County. He added that it was just as important to make sure we continue to preserve the road in the future regardless if federal aid becomes available.

Mr. Pierce explained that the Road Commission partnered with three townships on this project. The agreement to advance the money to London Township is a one-time opportunity due to the importance of Plank Road to the county. To extend this type of funding to other townships would be a huge detriment to the Road Commission budget.

Commissioner Londo moved, seconded by Commissioner Stammer to approve the contract and agreement with London Township for the Plank Road project.

Roll Call Vote:

AYES:	NAYS:	EXCUSED:
Stephen J. Pace	N/A	Dan Minton
Bruce R. Stammer, Jr.		
Charles Londo		
Paul Iacoangeli		

Vote: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Excused: 1 Motion carried. .

Commissioner Pace mentioned the Road Commission has no staff position to watch for overweight vehicles, and all overweight fines went to the library system therefore the position was unable to be funded. An option for enforcement would be for the townships to pass reasonable weight limit ordinances which would allow the MSP and MCSD to issue tickets.

Mr. Assenmacher explained that the Road Commission is working with all the townships to implement these types of ordinances. These ordinances would eliminate road postings and develop a through truck route. Currently there is a sand pit producer using Oelke and Plank and there is a current agreement for them to use that road. It will be a challenge on where these trucks can go because there is not a good route for them to take. The Road Commission will talk with London Township on possible options and discuss an appropriate route for these trucks to take if they are allowed to continue mining.

Mr. Zieske stated it is important to try the heavy trucks off Plank Road in order to keep the road from falling apart, at least for 2 years.

Mr. Assenmacher explained there isn't a weighmaster for the county. With the implementation of the township ordinances the MCSD can ticket overweight vehicles and 75-80% of those fees go back to the township.

2) (North) County Line Road Discussion.

Mr. Pierce explained that North County Line Road is one of many roads that need work. Due to the deterioration, the staff prepared an estimate of cost to turn that road back to gravel. The estimate was higher than originally anticipated. One option would be to bust it up and turn it back to gravel from the north end to M-50, or we could do one mile at a time and trench the road, add stone then double seal the road the next year. It would take about 4-5 years to complete the entire section of road. It would be his recommendation to turn one mile at a time due to budget constraints.

Commissioner Londo asked about the traffic volume on this road. Mr. Assenmacher guessed approximately 300-400 per day.

Mr. Pierce indicated the Road Commission has been working on Dennison Road, which is another north/south corridor that is being used.

Commissioner Pace asked how wide the road would be, and if the Road Commission would prepare the road for paving in the future. Mr. Pierce explained the road has about 6 feet of asphalt in the middle and the rest is dirt.

Mr. Assenmacher referred to the estimate and picture provided by Mike Smith. Mr. Smith has proposed a 24 foot grade width with room for shoulders. Mr. Assenmacher questioned the agreement with Lenawee County Road Commission. Mr. Pierce explained he met with legislators and LCRC and they are not interested in any type of assistance on North County Line Road.

Commissioner Pace asked that the staff contact Dundee Township to let them know in advance of the plan.

Commissioner Londo suggested the staff prepare a formal recommendation and financing plan for the next board meeting.

9. New Business – None.

10. Report of Officers –

Randy Pierce (Managing Director/Superintendent of Maintenance) – Mr. Pierce informed the Board that Deborah Turner will be retiring effective September 17, 2015 after 33 ½ years with the Road Commission. She has done a fine job and has a great deal of history that the Road Commission will be losing. We will fill that position and per the contract the posting has been given to AFSCME. Mrs. Turner has agreed to help with future training after she retires, if needed. The Road Commission will really miss her as she has been an integral part of the organization.

Mr. Pierce also explained that Michael L. Smith (formerly the Director of Operations) will be moving in the vacant Staff Engineer position effective August 17, 2015 and will be working under Scott F. Assenmacher. This will be a good move as Mr. Smith understands engineering operations and has been exposed to the maintenance side of the Road Commission and he has good ideas on the projects. Mr. Pierce stated he would be assuming the winter maintenance duties and will be covering the day-to-day operations, and will review the position in the spring.

Commissioner Pace asked if he could delegate some of those winter maintenance duties to the supervisors. Mr. Pierce said the maintenance supervisors know how to run the winter maintenance but he likes to drive the roads to see what is going on but he appreciated Commissioner Pace's concern.

Phillip C. Masserant (Director of Finance) – Excused

Michael L. Smith (Director of Operations) – Excused

Scott Assenmacher (County Highway Engineer) – Mr. Assenmacher stated Secor and Yargerville Roads received their top asphalt and they would be working on the shoulders and approaches to finish the project. They have received good comments on the work done.

Mr. Assenmacher mentioned receiving lots of good feedback and positive comments during his time at the fair last week. Most of the inquiries were regarding Plank Road, North County Line Road, Ida West Road which is scheduled for 2016 and the last 2 miles of Lewis Avenue which he hopes to be included in the October letting due to the obligational authority issues.

The Professional Services SOP is on the Road Commission website and there are four request for proposals for design services posted.

Philip Costello (General Counsel) – Mr. Costello stated he is working with the Road Commission staff and a resident and his attorney on a drainage complaint on Tabbert Road. Improvements have been made but we are still working on a long term solution.

11. Public Comment -

Steve Arquitt addressed the Board about a drainage concern on Samaria Road. He stated he has talked with Randy Pierce and Bruce Stammer but the issue is still outstanding. He has received several calls from the secretary relaying messages. He was told the tile needed to be replaced 2 years ago but nothing has been done. The crews cannot clean the tile and water is flooding his property. He has been pumping water all spring and he almost lost his leech field. He stated the farmer across the street is draining his 28 acre farm fields into the crock under Samaria Road, and the south side of the road tile is plugged. He would like something done.

Commissioner Iacoangeli asked if Mr. Arquitt could stay after the meeting to talk with the staff and board.

12. Commissioners' Comments -

Commissioner Pace had nothing additional to report.

Commissioner Stammer thanked everyone for their participation at the fair. He felt the agency was better received by the public and the number of complaints was down. He added that participation in the Bedford Trade Fair and the Monroe County Fair was a great public relations tool.

Commissioner Londo had nothing additional to report.

Commissioner Minton was excused.

Commissioner Iacoangeli echoed the comments about Plank Road and expressed his appreciation to Dundee, Raisinville and London Townships for their participation. He also thanked the staff and board members for working the booth at the fair.

13. Adjournment -

Chairman Iacoangeli stated if there are no objections, the meeting is adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Cheryl A. U'Ran

Cheryl A. U'Ran, Deputy Clerk