

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS - MONROE, MICHIGAN

May 8, 2023

1 At a Regular Meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners at their offices located at the Monroe County Road Commission (MCRC) 840 S. Telegraph Road, Monroe, Michigan, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Stewart at 2:00pm

2 ROLL CALL by the Deputy Clerk as follows:

| | |
|--------------|---------|
| Jack Thayer | Present |
| William Kipf | Present |
| James Jacobs | Present |
| Danny Minton | Present |
| Greg Stewart | Present |

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

3 The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was lead by Chairman Stewart.

4 AN OPENING MOMENT OF SILENCE OR PRAYER was lead by Chairman Stewart.

5 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Moved by Commissioner: Minton Supported by Commissioner: Thayer
to approve agenda as presented.

Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays 0 Excused: 0 Motion Carried

6 PUBLIC COMMENT (For items on this agenda)

Al VanWashenova - Frenchtown Township

Mr. VanWashenova reported concrete issues with culverts. Many culverts are crumbling and/or deteriorating when they are only ten (10) years old. Mr. VanWashenova asked if we are completing any testing on the quality of concrete and/or if we could check into these issues. Commissioner Stewart stated this will be brought up with our engineer for further input.

7 CONSENT AGENDA (with immediate effect)

7.1 Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting - April 24, 2023

7.2 Journal Entries

| Entry No. | Date | Description | Transfer Amount |
|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 270 | 4/20/2023 | Vendor Checks 80489 - 80539 | \$ 313,965.70 |
| 288 | 4/26/2023 | Payroll Checks 66690 - 66707 | \$ 315,794.13 |
| | | Advices 35286 - 35372 | |
| | | D. Leach Bonus Check 66708 | |
| 289 | 4/26/2023 | Vendor Checks 80540 - 80579 | \$ 498,248.19 |

7.3 Township Contracts

| Township | Project # | Road | Location | Work Type |
|-----------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Bedford | 494.002.239156 | Whitman Drive SAD | Lewis to Dead End | HMA Resurface |
| Milan | 504.011.232203 | Dennison | Cone | Signage |
| Whiteford | 504.015.231514 | Samaria | Summerfield to Bedford Township Line | Single Chip Seal |

7.4 Approve the Resolution for the permanent closure of structure number 7368 carrying Day Road over Saline River as part of the MDOT bridge bundling program.

- 7.5 Approve the purchase of 2023 Precast Concrete Box Culvert Materials from the low bidder Northern Concrete Pipe, Inc. in the amount of \$309,673.72 and authorize the Managing Director to sign all documents on behalf of the Board.
- 7.6 Approve the agreement with CT Consultants, Inc. in the amount of \$16,130.00 for geotechnical investigation at various locations and authorize the Managing Director to sign all documents on behalf of the Board.
- 7.7 Approve the updated contract amount of \$105,331.00 with Spicer Group, LLC for full construction services on Newburg Road at CN Railroad and authorize the Managing Director to sign all documents on behalf of the Board.
- 7.8 Award a one (1) year bid for Fuel to low bidder RKA Petroleum with daily pricing based on the contract daily rack average and the option for two (2) - one (1) year renewals.

Moved by Commissioner: Minton Supported by Commissioner: Thayer
to approve consent agenda 7.1 through 7.8 as presented.

Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays 0 Excused: 0 Motion Carried

- 8 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None**
- 9 **NEW BUSINESS - None**
- 10 **REPORT OF OFFICERS**

David Leach (Interim Managing Director/Superintendent of Maintenance) -

Mr. Leach reported that today's Board meeting marked the exact 110 year anniversary of the first Board meeting of the County Board of Road Commissioners. In celebration, several archives were pulled out for display. The 110 year anniversary banner will be our Monroe County Fair booth banner and it will remain hanging on display in the Board room. Mr. Leach reported a follow up meeting was held this morning regarding the LaPlaisance road corridor inquiry which held the request of widening the road to include paved shoulders for a bike lane during our project in 2024. Mr. Bushman of Mannik & Smith made the suggestion to move the bike lane to the outside of the lane of travel as a separate path. Mr. Leach reported it was a very good meeting. Commissioner Stewart asked Mr. Leach for comment regarding the quality of concrete reported by Mr. VanWashenova. Mr. Leach reported he would follow up on the concern.

Jim Morgan (Assistant Superintendent of Maintenance) -

Mr. Morgan reported gravel road scraping began today in Bedford Township in preparation for chloride treatment. Scraping will move to Ida Township next. Additionally spray patching began in Newport. The weather was not cooperative for spray patching completion before chip sealing projects began. As a result it was decided to move the chip seal projects back. Primary road mowing is also scheduled to begin soon in Exeter Township. Mr. Morgan reported our recent new hires have been paired with current employees for training purposes.

Kim LaRocca (Director of Finance) -

Ms. LaRocca reported she is geared up and has many questions prepared for the County Road Association Human Resources and Finance seminar this week. Nothing further to report.

Matthew Snell (Director of Engineering/County Highway Engineer) -

Mr. Snell reported the Road Commission was recently contacted by MDOT for an upcoming signal modernization project which is located on several sections of the US-24 corridor. At the location of 7th Street and Telegraph, a two foot temporary grading easement was requested from the Road Commission. The request was reviewed and the engineering department saw no issues at this point. The easement will be presented for the Board's consideration at an upcoming meeting. Commissioner Stewart asked Mr. Snell for any comments related to the concrete concerns of Mr. VanWashenova. Mr. Snell reported Mr. VanWashenova is correct in that there are some concrete structures in which we are seeing premature deterioration and should be lasting longer than they are. As far as the culverts presented on the agenda, we will have inspectors on site when they are being installed to ensure they meet specifications. Under each Federal Aid project, we are required to have an inspector on site during fabrication. Since this is a locally Let project, it is at our discretion but is something we will consider. Commissioner Thayer stated it seemed the concrete was crumbling versus long term deterioration. Mr. VanWashenova confirmed and stated the quality of the concrete is lacking and the thought is there has to be a way to hold the manufacturer accountable with the amount of money being spent. Commissioner Thayer asked if having a inspector present during the casting is something we normally do. Mr. Snell stated we are required to for any Federally funded projects however we have not had many situations in which we purchase materials on our own. It is unknown if the Drain Commission has inspectors on site during their fabrication process. Mr. Snell stated given the situation it is definitely something we will look into. Mr. VanWashenova stated we must keep on the manufacturers because we are not getting what we are paying for.

Camden Regis (Director of Human Resources) -

Ms. Regis reported all staffing needs have been met at this time. We will be looking for a few more people in light of recent notices received and are now working on seasonal employees. With school schedules, many seasonal employees will not be starting until the end of the month or the beginning of June. Ms. Regis reported we are still looking for a staff engineer and have received a few phone calls from interested candidates. Ms. Regis reported looking forward to attending the County Road Association conference this week as there are some good topics on the agenda. Commissioner Stewart stated he read that the pandemic is over officially and asked if there would be any changes in operations. Ms. Regis reported there would not be, we are in a good place. One item discussed was the use of time off in the event an employee is sick. It was determined that in light of many other viruses circulating, we would continue to allow employees to utilize any time off they have available if they are sick. Ms. Regis reported we do not want employees coming to work sick.

Philip Costello (Legal Counsel) -

Nothing to report.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT -

Al VanWashenova - Frenchtown Township

Mr. VanWashenova gave his thanks to the Road Commission. When he calls, he gets calls back, have people going out and looking at issues when needed. Mr. Snell was welcomed back. Mr. VanWashenova reported he had a resident call on ditch cleaning which fixed a problem, a thank you email was received this weekend from the resident. Mr. VanWashenova stated you all are entitled to thank you messages as well because we are working together.

12 COMMISSIONERS COMMENT

Commissioner Jacobs (Member) -

Commissioner Jacobs reported attending the Southeast Council meeting last week. Many good things were heard and there will be some asks coming our way for support on opportunity for growth in our area. Commissioner Jacobs reported it was good to see and hear the discussion at the State level with many different funding concerns/questions. It was also good to see some of the action going on between EAGLE, MDOT, and local road commissions. Commissioner Jacobs stated it is a good council to be a part of and he appreciated the invitation to attend.

Commissioner Kipf (Member) -

Nothing to report.

Commissioner Thayer (Member) -

Nothing to report.

Commissioner Minton (Vice Chairman) -

Nothing to report.

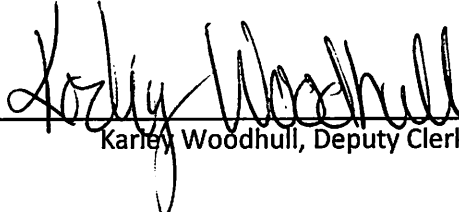
Commissioner Stewart (Chairman) -

Nothing to report.

13 ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Stewart adjourned the meeting with no further objection.

Adjournment at: 2:14pm



Karley Woodhull, Deputy Clerk

Monday May 22, 2023

Date