

MINUTES  
EMMET COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION  
HARBOR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN

The Emmet County Board of Road Commissioners met in regular session at their offices in Harbor Springs on May 29, 2009. The Chairman, Frank Zulski, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Commissioners Present: Frank Zulski, Leroy Sumner, and Larry Williams

Staff Present: Brian Gutowski – Engineer-Manager, Brent Shank – Operations Engineer, Judy Fouch – Clerk

Guests: Bob Sandford – West Traverse Township; Bill Dohm – Little Traverse Township; Alyce Conrad, Tom Bernard – Springvale Township; Bill Wiechmann – Pleasantview Township; Dennis Keiser Bear Creek Township; Gordon Kruskie – Readmond Township; Edith Kruskie – Island View Road

MINUTES: It was moved by Zulski, seconded by Williams to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 15, 2009.

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: The List of Accounts Payable for May 29, 2009, Voucher No. 0921, checks numbering from No. 30185 to No. 30220, in the amount of \$102,721.85 was presented for approval. It was moved by Sumner, seconded by Williams to approve accounts payable for payment of the same.

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

PAYROLL: Voucher No. 0922 for Payroll No. 11 for May 29, 2009, checks numbering from No. 39725 to No. 39780, in the amount of \$68,468.16 was presented for approval. It was moved by Sumner, seconded by Williams to approve payroll for payment of the same.

Ayes: Williams, Sumner, Zulski

Nays: None

Motion carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Inclinator readings on Lower Shore Drive were received from Northwest Design Group, where the three main borings were read. There is steady movement in the slope, which has declined over the last five years. The worst boring reflects that it is moving both vertically and horizontally.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Changes to the MCRCSIP Policy Manual #XXII, Drug & Alcohol Policy, was reviewed. A lot has changed and there are minor changes in driver disqualification with upgraded laws, particularly due to the new use of medical marijuana. An observer has the right to witness the urine collection if there is suspicion that an employee is bringing in a clean bag of urine or has a prosthetic limb.

NEW BUSINESS, Continued:

- b. A 2008 Federal-aid PASER rating comparison was reviewed. There has been a steady decline in road ratings on the federal-aid system since 2004. Emmet County is the only county in Northern Michigan with 100% paved federal-aid roads. However, due to the steady decline of MTF revenues, reductions in preventative maintenance have been made on primary roads in order to stay within the budget. According to the ratings, there are 20.39 miles of primary roads that should be crack sealed at a cost of \$22,429, 41.36 miles of sealcoat at \$827,200, 38.29 miles of asphalt wedge and sealcoat at \$1,723,050, and 75.67 miles of asphalt cap at \$7,188,650, based on current bids.

The Michigan legislature is considering a funding increase for road repair, and information was received from MDOT on the amount of funding that would be received if an increase was successful. The bills, as introduced, would generate an additional \$881,345 in 2010, \$570,605 in 2011, \$571,665 in 2012, \$572,780 in 2013, and \$301,119 in 2014. Mr. Gutowski felt that it was likely that some type of funding increase would be implemented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Bob Sandford asked if routine drug testing was performed, and it was affirmed that it was done by a third party.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- a. Notice of a public hearing on ORV's at the Cross Village Township Hall on June 30, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

**ENGINEER-MANAGER'S REPORT:** A meeting was held with Bear Creek Township, Resort Township, the City of Petoskey, and the Odawa Indian Tribe regarding the fact that the BIA cut the funding for Cemetery Road from \$800,000 to \$330,000. The conclusion of the meeting was to improve as much of the road as possible and not construct the bike path. Several options were discussed, and it is possible that curbing will have to be eliminated. Money was received from the Local Revenue Sharing Board for improvements to the south side of the road. The Lears Road Project will cost \$970,000, so it was felt that the cost savings could be put into Cemetery Road. The design for Cemetery Road and Lears Road will likely be done by Northwest Design Group within the next week, and a public hearing can be held. Dennis Keiser was concerned about whether the project would be done right if only half of the work was done, and felt that it would be better to wait for all the funding needed. Mr. Gutowski felt that options could be determined once the bids are known, and that a grant could be pursued in the future for the bike path. Cold patch was made with the use of stone at the Bay Shore Pit and material supplied by Asphalt Materials for less than the bid price of purchasing cold patch. A draft copy of the MDOT contract was received from CRAM. A three year contract is recommended, and winter maintenance will be a top priority with no guaranteed summer work. More information will be forthcoming. Mr. Gutowski will be gone during the week of July 6<sup>th</sup>, and suggested that the Board meeting scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup> be rescheduled to July 13<sup>th</sup>, and the Board agreed.

**OPERATIONS ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Commercial driveway improvements on Powers Road were not completed by June 1<sup>st</sup> as required. An estimate for the work will be obtained and presented to the Board at the next meeting, and the cost will be taken out of the surety. The logger on Melody Lane who had four illegal accesses will be notified that they will be shut down until the work is done.

Bill Wiechmann commented about the condition of the shoulders on roads like Pleasantview Road, Brutus Road, and Welsheimer Road, where the blacktop is broken up and is moving from the shoulder into the road. Mr. Shank explained that there was not enough gravel placed on the shoulders in the past. He added that more gravel is used on the shoulders now, but that heavy vehicles break up the surface when they ride on the edge. Discussion followed. Mr. Williams felt that the shoulders should be built to last longer, and suggested that an experiment be conducted prior to the wedging season to see if it can be improved.

CLERK'S REPORT: None

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Chairman Zulski adjourned the meeting at 8:37 a.m.

Clerk of the Board – Judy Fouch

Date