

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
DICKINSON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Dickinson County Road Commission was held on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Road Commission Office located at 1107 S. Milwaukee Ave, Iron Mountain, MI 49801.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carey and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT: Commissioner Brisson, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Carey, Commissioner Milbrath, and Commissioner Bilski

ABSENT: None

Also present were: Jim Harris, Superintendent of Operations; Sandra Lindholm, Director of Finance; Lance Malburg, Engineer; Julie LaCost, Attorney; Henry Wender, County Board Liaison; Ted Testolin, Waucedah Township; Todd Rowell, Superintendent of Roads; John McDonald, Shop Foreman; Quintin Olson, Dickinson County Road Commission; Denny Olson, Breitung Township; and Milton & Mary Lou Hudson.

CITIZEN'S TIME: None

APPROVE/AMEND AGENDA: Chairman Carey asked if anyone had any changes to the agenda. Being none, a motion was made by Commissioner Bilski and supported by Commissioner Milbrath to accept the agenda. All ayes and the motion carried.

APPROVED REPORTS: A motion was made by Commissioner Milbrath and supported by Commissioner Bilski to approve the Superintendent of Operations, Director of Finance, Engineer, Superintendent, and Construction Supervisor reports as presented. All ayes and the motion carried.

APPROVED MINUTES: A motion was made by Commissioner Bilski and supported by Commissioner Brisson to approve the minutes from the Regular Monthly Meeting on December 8, 2015 and Special Meeting on December 2, 2015. All ayes and the motion carried.

APPROVED PAYMENTS: A motion was made by Commissioner Milbrath and supported by Commissioner Bilski to approve payrolls in the amount of \$211,391.12. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Milbrath - aye, Commissioner Bilski - aye, Commissioner Johnson - aye, Commissioner Brisson - aye, and Chairman Carey - aye. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bilski and supported by Commissioner Milbrath to approve time checks in the amount of \$56,298.72. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Brisson - aye, Commissioner Milbrath - aye, Commissioner Bilski - aye, Commissioner Johnson - aye, and Chairman Carey - aye. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Milbrath and supported by Commissioner Brisson to approve material bills in the amount of \$117,051.72. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Johnson - aye, Commissioner Brisson - aye, Commissioner Milbrath - aye, Commissioner Bilski - aye, and Chairman Carey - aye. The motion carried.

The total amount approved was \$384,741.56.

ASPHALT RECYCLING & RECLAIMING ASSOCIATION AWARD: Chairman Carey noted again the award our Engineer received and wanted him to be recognized during a meeting. Everyone congratulated Engineer Malburg and it was also noted a representative would be coming here to present the award sometime this Spring.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED WITH EXISTING BOARD MEMBERS AND THE DICKINSON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION FOR 2016: Chairman Carey noted the businesses with Board member affiliation and wanted to acknowledge business which may be conducted between them and the Dickinson County Road Commission for 2016. He read off the following: Great American Disposal, J. Carey Logging, Bilski Enterprises, Danielsons Greenhouse, and Dale Johnson Farms.

CRAM BALLOT - VOTE TO AMEND CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS: Director of Finance Lindholm went over the requested amendments with the Board along with Attorney LaCost. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Brisson and supported by Commissioner Milbrath to vote yes on the first amendment allowing CRAM to set up a standing legal assistance committee who would decide on the aid which would be given to local agencies experiencing legal issues. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Milbrath - aye Commissioner Bilski - aye, Commissioner Johnson - aye, Commissioner Brisson - aye, and Chairman Carey - aye. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Milbrath and supported by Commissioner Bilski to vote yes on the second amendment which changes the Southern Association name to state Road Agencies rather than Road Commissions. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Brisson - aye, Commissioner Milbrath - aye, Commissioner Bilski - aye, Commissioner Johnson - aye, and Chairman Carey - aye. The motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION TO CLOSE PINE MOUNTAIN ROAD FOR SKI TOURNAMENTS: A motion was made by Commissioner Bilski and supported by Commissioner Milbrath to authorize this closure as needed and done in previous years. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Johnson - aye, Commissioner Brisson - aye, Commissioner Milbrath - aye, Commissioner Bilski - aye, and Chairman Carey - aye. The motion carried.

ALL SEASONS ROADS LIST DISCUSSION: Superintendent of Operations Harris indicated each year they will do an assessment of the roads, and noted concerns on some of the roads in the County. He further asked the Board if they want he and Engineer Malburg to monitor the roads, see how the weather is, and get back with any recommendations if needed. Everyone was in agreement to do this.

KIMBERLY LANE DISCUSSION: Superintendent of Operations Harris indicated the history of this situation where 200 feet of blacktop had to be taken out because of issues in the road. A citizen who lives by this part of the road was told it would be repaired. Superintendent of Operations Harris also noted they had put crushed asphalt down and the road is maintained. Conversation ensued regarding what to do, the price

to fix it, and when it could possibly be done. It was determined we will approach the awarded contractor of the Sawyer Lake Road project being done this summer, and see if we could get a price from them to do this work and then get back to the Board with the price.

DISCUSSION OF RESOLUTION AND CONTRACT BID FOR THE COUNTY ROAD 581 BRIDGE PROJECT: Engineer Malburg informed the Board that the bids came in over estimate on this project. He also noted we would be contributing approximately \$3,300 more to this project and wanted to know if the Board wanted to move forward. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Milbrath and supported by Commissioner Bilski to move forward with this project with the additional cost. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Bilski - aye, Commissioner Johnson - aye, Commissioner Milbrath - aye Commissioner Brisson - aye, and Chairman Carey - aye. The motion carried.

EQUIPMENT DISCUSSION: Superintendent of Operations Harris indicated he and staff put together a packet of information including a full assessment of the equipment. Evaluations were done and he noted they wanted to give the Board all this information so they could make a decision on how they wanted to proceed for 2016. After a lengthy discussion with everyone's input, the decision was made to keep all the equipment we currently have, make necessary repairs to the 410 Backhoe, make no purchases in addition to what has been budgeted, and wait until 2017 to prioritize the equipment needs again.

LETTER OF OPPOSITION TO HB 5016 - REIMBURSING TELECOM FOR RELOCATION: Superintendent of Operations Harris indicated although this legislation has not passed, it could come up again. He presented information and a drafted letter indicating the Dickinson County Road Commission is not in support of this or any similar legislation and why. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Bilski and supported by Commissioner Milbrath to send the letter as drafted opposing this legislation. All ayes and the motion carried.

DISCUSSION OF SB 571 - PLACING RESTRICTIONS ON LOCAL UNITS FROM COMMUNICATING BALLOT ISSUES WITHIN 60 DAYS OF AN ELECTION: Discussion regarding this new legislation recently signed into law took place. Director of Finance Lindholm indicated we had spoke to the County Clerk and need to be very careful at all times 60 days before the election and that clock has started ticking. Superintendent of Operations Harris stated this really ties our hands in our ability to state the facts to the public. Superintendent of Operations Harris indicated he will research this legislation further, but in the meantime, everyone needs to be informed.

AUTHORIZATION TO BID BREITUNG TOWNSHIP PROJECTS: Superintendent of Operations Harris indicated he attended Breitung Township's meeting last night and they have indicated which roads they would like us to go out on bids for. A motion was made by Commissioner Bilski and supported by Commissioner Milbrath to authorize the bids. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Milbrath - aye, Commissioner Bilski - aye, Commissioner Johnson - aye, Commissioner Brisson - aye, and Chairman Carey - aye. The motion carried.

COUNTY BOARD LIAISON: Henry Wender had nothing to report.

CITIZEN'S TIME: Denny Olson, Breitung Township, indicated they are hosting a meeting on January 25th at 7:00 P.M. regarding the E-Bar-D Road and what has to be done to repair it.

Ted Testolin, Waucesha Township, noted the Township Association meeting coming up on Monday, January 18th at Waucesha Township.

COMMISSIONER'S PRIVILEGE: Attorney LaCost indicated she had information regarding Hupp's Road, the findings from the title company, and distributed it to the Board. She explained the findings and where the deeded right-of-way lies. Further discussion regarding the information ensued. Superintendent of Operations Harris stated when attending a meeting downstate, there had been case law on this type of issue and he was working on getting a copy of the findings. Attorney LaCost agreed with this. Chairman Carey indicated if everyone feels there is not enough information to move on this issue tonight, we should wait, and hopefully at the next meeting be able to render a decision. The Hudson's requested the information discussed tonight as well.

Engineer Malburg noted to the Board the upcoming CRAM Annual Highway Conference has a very good agenda and speakers and encouraged them to consider attending.

Engineer Malburg stated the Lake Antoine/Quinneseec Road project is finally complete. Engineer Malburg was congratulated on this project.

Commissioner Bilski noted the need for a letter from Superintendent of Operations Harris to help the MDNR secure funding for the Felch Grade trail bridge project. He stated this would help give them some ammunition to get the project moving. A motion was then made by Commissioner Bilski and supported by Commissioner Brisson authorizing a letter be sent. All ayes and the motion carried.

Commissioner Brisson thanked whoever put the Yield Sign up on the end of Bush Lake Road.

Commissioner Brisson noted the article in the paper about Tom King and also asked about getting a sign back up on Tom King's Creek. Chairman Carey stated he may still have this article and maybe it could be sent to Marty Fitante and Superintendent of Operations Harris asked for a copy as well.

Commissioner Milbrath stated the speaker at the Township Meeting will be from the MSP telling farmers what they can do on the roads. There are concerns about heavy equipment running on the roads and the potential damage it could cause.

Superintendent of Operations Harris went over the meeting attendance for February and also noted the chance there may be additional federal funding this year. He stated once they know they will inform the Board. Engineer Malburg also noted the type of projects we could possibly do.

Superintendent of Operations Harris noted there is a legislator who may be introducing legislation earmarking how the new road funding dollars can be spent. He further noted he will keep the Board informed of this too.

Superintendent of Operations Harris stated we budgeted money for culverts on the Bush Lake Road.

Chairman Carey asked about log plates and if some people do not have them legitimately doesn't this shortchange the roads. Denny Olson offered some information, but this might be a legislative issue.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bilski and supported by Commissioner Milbrath to adjourn. All ayes, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

James Carey, Chairman

Sandra Lindholm, Secretary