

**LAPEER COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, July 29, 2009
8:00 a.m.**

Present: Mr. Joseph Suma, Vice Chairman; Mr. Dale Duckert, Member

Excused: Mr. Douglas Hodge, Chairman

In Attendance: Mr. Ryan Doyle, Assistant Engineer; Ms. Tami Erickson, Acting Board Secretary/Chief Financial Officer; Mr. William Meinz, County Highway Engineer; Mr. Erick Pearson, Managing Director.

Also in attendance: Mr. Charles Buckel and Ms. Nancy Angellotti.

Mr. Suma, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

Approve Agenda:

072909-120

Motion by Mr. Duckert, seconded by Mr. Suma to approve the agenda.

Roll Call: Duckert, aye; Suma, aye. Two ayes. Motion carried.

Financial Report Review:

The Board reviewed the accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll check register, and cash statement.

Consent Agenda:

072909-121

Motion by Mr. Duckert, seconded by Mr. Suma to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following,

Approve Minutes For: Committee of the Whole 07/13/09
 Regular Meeting 07/15/09

Approve Payment of Bills: \$379,748.76

Approve Projects:

Burlington Township

409 004 904802 Bridge Design Engineering, Castle Road Over the North Branch of the Flint River
Estimated Cost: \$18,158.76

Hadley Township

504 010 903904 Replace 18" x 40' Cross Culvert with 36" x 40' Culvert, Diehl Road between Pratt and
Cramton
Estimated Cost: \$2,750.00

504 010 903905 Install Tile in Road to Ditch, Wynn's Mill between Farmers Creek and Pratt
Estimated Cost: \$3,000.000

504 010 909906 Replace 36" x 42' Cross Culvert, Brigham between Gregory and Greens Corner
Estimated Cost: \$2,750.00

504 010 903907 Replace 18” x 40’ Cross Culvert, Brigham between Gregory and Hadley
Estimated Cost: \$1,890.00

504 010 903908 Replaces 18” x 40’ Cross Culvert, Fox Lake between Honert and Hadley
Estimated Cost: \$1,890.00

Lapeer Township

504 012 904110 Ditching and Replace 18” x 40’ Cross Culvert, Hunters Creek Road between Broker and Wilder
Estimated Cost: \$8,000.00

Roll Call: Duckert, aye; Suma, aye. Two ayes. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Duckert reported that the Board Members and staff attended the Blue Water Highway Council Meeting. Mr. Duckert reported that a number of State Representatives attended, and the decrease in funding was discussed. Mr. Duckert reported that it was a consensus that a gas tax increase would not be addressed until after the budget deficit was resolved. Mr. Pearson stated that there was nothing encouraging discussed due to the budget cuts which will be necessary at the State level to balance the budget.

Managing Director Report:

Mr. Pearson reported that the project to remove the centerline reflectors on I-69 has been completed. Mr. Pearson stated that the crews will begin the concrete slab replacement project on I-69 next. Mr. Pearson stated that along with the slab replacement, the crews will also be filling the centerline cracks.

Mr. Pearson reported that the crack-seal machine will be here in August and there are several Townships, which have expressed interest in having this program performed in their Township.

Mr. Pearson stated that in 1998 and 1999 the Road Commission reviewed all properties that they owned, and made the decision to sell several of the old gravel pits as surplus. Mr. Pearson stated that these properties had been mined of all material useful to the Road Commission. Mr. Pearson stated that after these properties were sold, the revenue from the sale was placed into a savings account, and earmarked for purchasing new gravel properties in the future. Mr. Pearson stated that things have changed since this time, and what is done now typically, is property is found within the Township that needs gravel, and then leased. Once the needed gravel is crushed and spread, the property is restored and the Road Commission turns it back over to the property owners. Mr. Pearson explained that this way our costs are lower, and it is more economical for the Township. Mr. Pearson stated as he does not feel it is necessary to save these funds any longer, he would like to utilize them on extending the rebuild project on M-21. Mr. Pearson stated that it would be much more economical to tie our project to the stimulus project, and we could get more bang for our buck. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Pearson reported that our fiscal year-to-date MTF total is \$5,284,509.94. Mr. Pearson stated that if August and September of this year are equal to last year, we will be down \$205,351.30 or 3%. Mr. Pearson reported that they are predicting that our MTF will be down an additional 5% - 8% next year, or an additional 3 - \$500,000.00. Mr. Duckert stated that what is often not realized is that will make us down \$2,000,000.00 from 5 years ago. Mr. Suma stated that in addition to the drop in revenue, the cost of everything has greatly escalated.

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Meinz stated that we have approval from the Township to begin the process to replace the Bridge on Castle Road. Mr. Meinz stated that the design work will begin very soon.

Mr. Meinz stated that the safety projects are complete.

Mr. Meinz stated that there is approximately two more days of work until the bridge inspections are complete. Mr. Meinz stated that he is going to request a few additional inspections of some of our smaller bridges, which have load postings.

Mr. Doyle stated that they have submitted the projects for 2011 and 2012 safety funds. Mr. Meinz stated that they have been aggressively going after these projects as they only require a 20% match.

Mr. Doyle reported that Imlay City has contacted him, and has requested assistance in putting in some cutouts to weigh trucks. Mr. Doyle stated that the City owns property on Industrial Drive, and is interested in placing them there.

Public Comment:

Ms. Nancy Angellotti inquired the total amount of the gravel property reserve fund. Ms. Erickson stated that it is \$500,000.00. Mr. Pearson stated that he is hoping that we will be able to pave an additional mile of M-21 with these funds.

Board Discussion:

Mr. Duckert stated that the spot gravel, which was placed in Imlay Township, looks great and rides smooth. Mr. Duckert stated that the crew spreading the gravel did a very good job.

Mr. Suma that he has noticed more and more damage to our road system; however we do not have the funding to repair them. Mr. Pearson stated that we will soon be in the same situation as other counties that have begun to turn their paved roads back into gravel because they cannot afford to repair them. Mr. Pearson stated that 25 counties have already had to resort to this.

072909-122

Motion by Mr. Duckert, seconded by Mr. Suma to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

Roll Call: Suma, aye; Duckert, aye. Two ayes. Motion carried.

Douglas Hodge, Chairman

Linette Daily, Board Secretary