

LAPEER COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, February 5, 2014
4:30 p.m.

Present: Mr. Gary Howell, Chairman; Mr. Dale Duckert, Vice Chairman; Mr. Michael Hemmingsen, Member
In Attendance: Ms. Linette Daily, Board Secretary; Mr. Erick Pearson, Managing Director; Mr. Ryan Doyle,
County Highway Engineer

Mr. Gary Howell, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Lapeer County Road Commission Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

020514-017

Motion by Mr. Hemmingsen, seconded by Mr. Duckert to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

020514-018

Motion by Mr. Duckert, seconded by Mr. Hemmingsen to approve the Regular Meeting minutes for January 22, 2014. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS

020514-019

Motion by Mr. Hemmingsen, seconded by Mr. Duckert to approve disbursements dated February 6, 2014 in the amount of \$379,161.89. Motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Pearson asked the Board to approve the Annual Bid Tabulations with the exception of the Roadside Mowing bid, as there was only one bid received for this item.

020514-020

Motion by Mr. Hemmingsen, seconded by Mr. Duckert to approve the 2014 Annual Bid Tabulations with the exception of Roadside Mowing and award in the best interest of the County. Motion carried.

Mr. Pearson went on to state that he will speak with the lone Roadside Mowing bidder and then decide how to manage the workload.

Mr. Pearson then explained that the March 3 Committee of the Whole meeting had been eliminated due to the change of the March 5 Regular Meeting to March 4 to accommodate the County Road Association Meeting which begins on Tuesday March 4. Mr. Pearson stated that Mr. Mike Strader from MERS was scheduled to be present at the March 3 meeting, and we would like to keep that presentation date if possible.

It was decided to place the March 3 Committee of the Whole meeting back on the agenda.

Mr. Pearson then reported that the winter maintenance budget expenses were at \$1.4 million as of the January 31 and he had budgeted \$1.3 million. Mr. Pearson went on to state that there have been 9500 labor hours spent on snow removal, 8,067 ton of salt and 3,000 ton of sand used, 35,000 gallons of natural brine used and nearly 100 mailboxes given out.

Mr. Pearson stated that he has heavy maintenance items in his budget that he can postpone in order to keep the budget in line. Mr. Pearson stated that he is not pushing the panic button yet regarding the cost of winter maintenance.

Mr. Pearson explained that he is working with Wilkinson Corporation to keep brine for salt and sand wetting, in supply at all three garage locations. Mr. Pearson stated that he is happy to report that they are giving us a discounted rate for the product due to the severity of this winter season. Mr. Pearson stated that he is very appreciative of this offer at this time.

Mr. Pearson explained that we continue to work on keeping the stockpiles of sand at all of the garages and are trying to get additional salt and blades. It was stated that MDOT was also working to secure additional salt.

Brief discussion was held regarding the fact that when the snow begins to melt, the culverts are going to be plugged due to the massive amount of snow piled in front of them.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Mr. Doyle reported that the support pole for the street light at the intersection of Mt. Morris and Washburn was hit over the weekend and will have to be replaced.

Mr. Doyle stated that he received a response from the Keregnondi Water Authority and they are now agreeable to the terms, except the 4.7 miles of re-pavement for both lanes. They are going to try and move this section out of the roadway. Mr. Doyle went on to state that he would be willing to work out a winter construction procedure if they agree to pave the roads as the Road Commission requested they must do.

Mr. Doyle brought the Board up to speed on the court case which involves a piece of Hemstead Road which has been decertified by the Road Commission. Mr. Doyle explained that the Court of Appeals argument was heard and our attorney is waiting for the Court's opinion. Mr. Howell asked why we were involved in the case. Mr. Doyle stated that the road was decertified in 1939 and in the 1990's an adjoining property owner placed a gate and a no trespassing sign. The Road Commission was notified when horse riders wanted to use the roadway and were blocked by the gate. The Road Commission then notified the residents that placed the gate, and subsequently the lawsuit was filed. Mr. Doyle stated that the roadway is a section line road and the Road Commission has a policy to not abandon section line roads, and that is why the road was decertified. Mr. Howell asked that a summary be completed for the case for a subsequent meeting.

Mr. Howell declared the meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Gary Howell, Chairman

Linette Daily, Board Secretary