

## MINUTES

Chairman Matiash called the February 23, 2017 meeting of the Mason County Road Commission held in their office at 510 E State Street, Scottville, MI to order at 1:00 pm.

Members present: Matiash, Robidoux, Schwass, Manager/Director Schoonover and Secretary Samuels. Absent: Superintendent Moody.

Visitors: Amber Township Supervisor Jim Gallie and Dick Alway mentioned that striping needs to be done on John Harland Drive and had a question on the Jagger Road pavement marking. Wondered who is responsible for North Quarterline Road/Crystal Lake North of Hanson. Manager/Director Schoonover will check into this. Mentioned some of the projects they will be doing. Deb Del Zoppo from the Conservation District stated they have control of 40 acres by Bradshaw Road off Lakeshore and requested a three way stop be placed, but it was determined it was in the best interest of everyone to make a designated parking area instead. Brad Harkness from Michigan Chloride was in to discuss fast tracking the brine pit. More discussion will follow. Carolyn Cater from the Republican Party was in to observe and asked how the new tax bill will affect the MCRC and also invited one of the board members to speak at one of their meetings.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Schwass seconded by Robidoux to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes all. Motion carried.

Conflicts: None

The minutes of the February 7, 2017 regular meeting were discussed:

Motion by Robidoux seconded by Schwass to approve the minutes as presented with the correction of a typo. Ayes all. Motion carried.

The Board took the following action after reviewing the accounts payable.

Motion by Schwass seconded by Robidoux to approve accounts payable for ck #75068 thru ck#75119 for \$391,342.52, and approve payroll #4 for February 23, 2017.

At 1:04 pm the Board looked over the contingent liability and revenue sheet.

**Superintendent's Report Given by Shop Foreman T Woirol:** Cold patching everyday as weather allows. The limb crew has been out in the plow areas removing hanging limbs and the tree crew has been working on the list of dead trees that need to be removed. Blading and extra help in the shop. The Cat Excavator has been out working on washouts.

**Shop Foreman Report:** Mentioned to the board that we are in need of 2 pickups. The DEQ has been in to inspect the fuel system. There was a class scheduled for Class C operators to become familiar with where to shut off the fuel and how to contain an oil spill. All persons that use the pumps were required to attend. #603 has been traded to John White for a Brine Trailer with a check for the balance due to John White of \$4,000.00. Woirol said that Star Rental would have a truck available to us this summer if we need one. He discussed looking into a new air

conditioning system for the office called mini-splits.

### **Manager/Director Report:**

#### **Engineering**

- On-going File Reviews: ***No change in status.*** Neil Street Culvert, 2016 Pavement Marking, Rasmussen Rd Construction
- Hansen Rd, Dennis Rd to Stiles Rd: Pre-Con was held on the 15th. Detour route signing to begin early March and construction is to start mid-March with tree removals. Contractor anticipates completion prior to Memorial Day. (C&D Hughes Bid: \$808,709.98. 80% Federal STP, 20% State D. Progress Clause: Completion date of on or before June 23, 2017)
- Hansen Rd, W. of Gordon Rd to US-31: ***No change in status.*** Design is progressing with working on a GI package.
- Gordon Rd RXR Bridge: ***No change in status.*** Marquette Rail has noted to us to proceed and keep them informed of a progress schedule when it is available. (Estimated at \$203,400).
- Sass Rd, Grant Twp: ***No change in status.*** Preliminary plans have been submitted to the Twp and they have expressed their desire to increase the limits to the east. (Estimated at \$60,000)
- Stephens Rd over Big Sauble Bridge: Grading easements have been secured and ROW Attachment B completed and sent to NDG for project submission. Anticipate a May 5<sup>th</sup> Letting.
- Decker/Stephens Rds over S Br Lincoln River/Frog Paradise Drain: Final plans, special provisions, programming and estimate have been submitted to MDOT. Anticipate a May 5<sup>th</sup> Letting. Engineer Estimates: Decker/Stephens over S Br Lincoln River - \$639K;

#### **Informational Items**

- Brine Pond Update: Spoke with MCS reps yesterday and both parties are agreeable with continuing to look into the feasibility of the MCRC being the lease holder. Improvements needed are pond lining sediment removal and liner repair(s), new liner installation and monitoring wells with bench lines established.
- GPS: – Reviewed and confirmed pricing remain consistent with the two main vendors.
- MCRCSIP update: The summary disposition hearing was held Feb 9<sup>th</sup> and the Court dismissed the Complaint on the basis of faulty notice. The Final Order has been submitted and once the Court has entered it we'll receive a copy. It is conceivable the Plaintiff will appeal within the 21-day period, but unlikely.
- Rasmussen Rd Category F Grant Application: Not approved for funding. Applications requests totaled \$13.1M for the \$2.5M appropriation.
- 2018 Bridge Projects: Notifications to proceed have been made.
- Highway Maintenance Conference, May 2<sup>nd</sup>: This new one-day conference is focused on maintenance training for operators, mechanics, and other front-line workers, as well as foremen, supervisors, and superintendents. Session speakers will address training-related topics including safety, regulations and requirements, repairs, methods, and more.

**Under unfinished business the following was discussed**

1. Staff Compensation Discussion postponed until the next meeting.

**Under new business the following was discussed**

1. CRA Constitution and Bylaws Proposed Amendment #1-See Motion
2. Establish Associate Memberships-Proposed Amendment #2-See Motion
3. Board of Directors Ballot-See Motion
4. US Forest County Line Road Maintenance Agreement Approval-See Motion

**Items Requiring Board Action****CRA Constitution and Bylaws Amendment #1**

Motion by Schwass seconded by Matiash to approve the CRA Constitution and Bylaws Amendment #1 that would acknowledge the addition of a standing S>A>M> Committee with the focus of review and comment on questions and policies specifically related to operation and maintenance issues encountered by the county road agencies. (Article V, Section 13). Ayes all. Motion carried.

**Establish Associate Memberships-Amendment #2**

Motion by Matiash seconded by Schwass to approve the CRA Amendment #2 to acknowledge the membership associate members that wish to further the objectives and purposes of the association and who is otherwise ineligible for membership under Section 1 of Article III. (Article III, Section 3). Ayes all. Motion carried.

**Board of Directors Ballot**


Motion by Schwass seconded by Robidoux to vote for Burt Thompson for the CRA Board of Directors three-year term that begins April 1, 2017. Ayes all. Motion carried.

**US Forest County Line Road Maintenance Agreement**

Motion by Robidoux seconded by Schwass to approve and authorize Manager/Director Schoonover and Chairman Matiash to sign an agreement between the Mason County Road Commission and the USDA Forest Service, Huron-Manistee Nation Forest. The purpose of this Project Agreement is to document the parties' cooperation in the stabilization, improvements and maintenance of a portion of Hoague Road within Free Soil Township. Ayes all. Motion carried.

**The next regular meeting has been rescheduled from March 9, 2017 at 10:00 am. to March 10, 2017 at 10:00 am**

**There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm.**

  
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 Mary Samuels Secretary

  
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 Nick Matiash Chairman