

**BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
GOGEBIC COUNTY ~ BESSEMER MICHIGAN**

**REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners was held in its offices in the Courthouse Annex, City of Bessemer, on the above date.

Present:	Don Bennetts, Chairman	Marti Wegner, Vice-Chair
	Rob Drier, Commissioner	Dan Siirila, Commissioner
	Darren Pionk, Engineer/Manager	Patricia Hagstrom, Secretary

Excused: Roy D'Antonio, Commissioner

Also Present: 7 Public Attendees

- I. **Call to Order** ~ Chairman Bennetts called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Approval of Agenda** ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Wegner, with all in favor to approve the agenda with the following additions: OB. a. Add to discussion-Coleman Engineer Company CE Services and d. Lake Shore Drive.
- IV. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Drier, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Drier, Siirila, Wegner & Bennetts to approve the following minutes:
 - Special Meeting of Thursday, September 8, 2016
 - Finance Meeting of Monday, September 12, 2016
 - Regular Meeting of Monday, September 12, 2016
- V. **Public Comment ~ On Agenda Items Only ~ 5 minute limit** ~ none
- VI. **Old Business**
 - a. Lake Road Culvert Replacements Update ~ Darren presented the email received from Randy VanPortfliet from MDOT stating that the UBR Team does not believe that the bid submitted by MJO Contracting is mathematically unbalanced or that the dispute filed by Snow Country Contracting is justifiable. It is anticipated that the award contract with MJO will be received tomorrow and a pre-construction meeting is planned for Wednesday. A proposal was received and presented to the Board for construction engineering service for the Lake Road project. Darren advised the Board that FHWA and MDOT have indicated that this project is non-typical and that there is no time to solicit bids for these services. FHWA and MDOT are funding 80% of these services. The proposal from Coleman Engineering identifies 6 tasks that are requirements set in place by FHWA and MDOT. The amount to perform these tasks is \$130,108 and is for actual work performed and will not exceed this amount. Wegner asked if the GCRC has to pay for any portion of this amount. Darren stated that GCRC will have to pay 20%. A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Wegner, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Wegner, Siirila, Drier & Bennetts to approve the proposal and allow Darren to sign the work order.
 - b. Lake Road Spring Update ~ A revised survey exhibit showing the portion of property to be deeded to Ironwood Township was discussed. At the regular meeting held on September 12, 2016 the Board gave Darren the authority to proceed with the paperwork needed to complete the quick claim deed.

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- c. Duck Lake Road ~ There is a culvert crossing over Duck Lake Road which is an outlet for Duck Lake. There are 3 culverts at the location. In the past residents have dumped cement bags, dumb bells and put up boards to block the culverts to build up the lake level. Over time the GCRC has removed these items. Darren stated that the culverts are functioning but not functioning great as there is a bag of cement stuck in the middle of 1 of the culverts. Darren has received a lot of calls regarding how high the water is. The issue is that some of the residents want the lake level high and some want the lake level low. He has visited the site with John Gustafson with the DEQ. It is felt that a legal lake level needs to be established where a single structure would be installed with a weir lake level system to keep the water level at the legal limit. To accomplish this the property owners would need to petition the drain commission and pay for the study, determination and control structure. Darren stated that there are no defects with the roadway and that the responsibility of the GCRC is for the motoring public. Mr. Gustafson stated he cannot approve a permit to install a new structure without a lake level established. He can approve a permit to replace the existing culverts at the same size, length and elevation. A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Wegner, with all in favor to have Darren write a letter to the drain commissioner stating that the Board does not feel it is the responsibility of the GCRC to maintain the lake level of Duck Lake.
- d. Lake Shore Drive ~ Bessemer Township would like to move forward with the contracted project and have gravel placed on Lake Shore Drive this year. This project along with all township projects have been postponed due to the weather event on July 11, 2016. Jeff Randall indicated that the township would pay 100% of the contract and that the GCRC could either reimburse the 40% match amount or give credit for a future project. A motion was made by Wegner, 2nd by Drier, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~Drier, Wegner, Siirila & Bennetts to call for bids and allow Darren to award the work to the lowest bidder.

VII. New Business

- a. MDOT 2016 Lake Road Culvert Replacement Contract ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Drier, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Drier, Siirila, Wegner & Bennetts to accept the contract, authorize Chair Don Bennetts and Vice-Chair Marti Wegner to sign the contract and adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gogebic County Board of Road Commissioners does hereby accept and approve for signature of Chair Don Bennetts, and Vice-Chair Marti Wegner, the agreement between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Gogebic County Road Commission for the following project:

*ER 27053; JOB #132274A; ER 1627(011); RT 0538; CONTRACT #16-5487:
Permanent culvert and roadway repair work at various locations along Lake Road from the Wisconsin state line easterly for approximately 6 miles; and all together with necessary related work.*

The estimated cost of this contract is \$2,782,133. Federal Funds (Emergency Relief) share is \$2,225,706 leaving the remainder \$556,427 the responsibility of the GCRC and is part of the SIB loan approved at the September 12th meeting.

- b. MDOT Emergency Relief Contract ~ Darren stated that this contract is for the emergency repair work that has been completed after the disaster. The final audit has to be done and the estimated cost of this contract is \$342,707 which is 100% funded by Federal Funds (Emergency Relief). A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Drier, with a roll call taken:

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Ayes ~ Drier, Siirila, Wegner & Bennetts to accept the contract, authorize Chair Don Bennetts and Vice-Chair Marti Wegner to sign the contract and adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gogebic County Board of Road Commissioners does hereby accept and approve for signature of Chair Don Bennetts, and Vice-Chair Marti Wegner, the agreement between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Gogebic County Road Commission for the following project:

ER 27053; JOB #132268A; ER 1627(012); JJ 5581; CONTRACT #16-5488:

Culvert emergency repair work at various locations along Lake Road from the Wisconsin state line easterly for approximately 12 miles; and all together with necessary related work.

- c. Partridge Lane Gravel Pit Process Gravel ~ Darren requested from the Board to have gravel crushed at the Partridge Lane pit. He stated that Brackett is currently crushing gravel for the County Forestry Department and GCRC at the forestry pit on Lake Road. There is a large amount of sand that has 6' to 10' of pit run material over it. This sand will need to be screened and will provide many years of stock material for winter use. He would like to contact Brackett requesting him to move into Partridge pit and crush the gravel for the current bid amount being used to produce material at the forestry pit. A motion was made by Wegner, 2nd by Siirila, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Siirila, Wegner, Drier & Bennetts to proceed with having the material crushed at the Partridge Lane pit.
- d. Appreciation Letter to Seasonal Worker ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Wegner with all in favor to sign the letter.

VIII. Engineer/Manager Reports ~ Advertisements are posted for seasonal plow drivers. Plow routes have been posted internally with the union workers. The Winter Letter of Understanding has been received from MDOT. There are some changes that need to be made and this letter will be presented at the next regular meeting. Winter sand is being hauled to Ramsay. A quote will be requested from Angelo Luppino to wedge the manholes on Lake Road. Darren would like to hold a budget workshop due to the disaster and with the possibility of additional gas tax funding he would like to get direction from the Board. Siirila asked if anything can be done to improve the condition of Copps Mine Road in Marenisco. Darren said that the excavator can be moved to that road to remove some of the large rocks from the roadway. Documentation on retirement dates of the employees was presented for information only on future pension and OPEB costs. Information was presented on the Open Meetings Act regarding changing the times of meetings. This was item brought up at the last meeting. A motion was made by Wegner, 2nd by Siirila, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Siirila, Wegner, Drier & Bennetts to change the Finance Meetings to 5 pm and the regular meetings to 5:15 pm for the remainder of the year. The Township Meetings will stay the same starting at 4:15 pm.

IX. Public Comment ~ Carl Maki asked if the logging traffic will be slowed down on Powers Road. Darren stated that he will talk with Greg Ryskey as part of Powers Road is Gogebic County Forestry's jurisdiction. Carl asked for a quick update on the Lake Road repairs. Sharon Hallberg asked if the updates could be posted on the website. Darren stated in the bid specifications the contractor has to notify the road commission twice a day on their progress. The contractor is also required to contact the residents along Lake Road when

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they are changing repair locations. Carl Maki stated that this is crucial for his wife's health. Darren stated that he will advise the contractor regarding this situation. Phil Strong with Coleman Engineering advised the Board that there will be a ribbon cutting on Monday, October 24, 2016 at noon for the non-motorized trail. Mr. Wegner asked if the culverts on Duck Lake Road are at the same elevation or staggered. Darren stated that they are staggered and there hasn't been any survey work done at the locations. Mr. Wegner asked if there are signs at the locations stating that legal action will be brought against individuals who block the culverts. Darren stated that the road commission has placed rebar grates in front of the culverts which have been removed by whomever. Sharon Hallberg asked if the shoulder near her driveway will be repaired as part of the Lake Road project. Darren stated that he will have Scott Maki look at this location. Mrs. Hallberg asked about placing a dip in the repair location near her home as the water from the Hendrickson's driveway runs into her property. Darren stated that this is being looked at to correct this problem.

- X. **Adjourn** ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Wegner, with all in favor to adjourn at 5:53 pm.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

Secretary

Chairman