

# REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

## GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2018 4:13PM | *Meeting called to order by* Marti Wegner

### In Attendance

Marti Wegner-Chair	Roy D'Antonio-Vice Chair	John Matonich	Dan Peterson
Kevin Haustein	Barry Bolich	Phil Strong	Patti Hagstrom
			7 Public Attendees

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda with the following changes: NB. a. Rural Task Force move to be included in the Engineers Report and replace with MDOT Contract Amendment was made by Haustein, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D'Antonio; all in favor, none opposed.

### Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Peterson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Haustein; all in favor, none opposed.

- Finance Meeting of Monday, November 12, 2018
- Regular Meeting of Monday, November 12, 2018
- Special Meeting of Tuesday, November 13, 2018

### Public Comment

None

### Engineering Report

Updates were given on the following:

- MDOT Rural Task Force Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at 10am (GCRC Office)
- Highland Copper (CR519) meeting will be scheduled (Phil & Barry)
- MDOT US2 Bridge over Presque Isle (Marenisco Township) 2019 project
- BIA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, 2018 (Phil & Barry)
- Seasonal Roads-research ongoing
- GCRC Work-Winter Operations
- Change in Ramsay Snowmobile Crossing is delayed

No action was taken.

- a) Senate Bill 396 ~ Discussion took place on this item. A motion to adopt the following resolution opposing Senate Bill 396 and also let it be noted that the GCRC follows Michigan Frost Laws and will continue to consider special circumstances for waivers, temporary lifts as weather may allow, etc. during spring weight restrictions as not to impact travel by the logging industries, etal to protect roads under its jurisdiction; was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Haustein; roll call: Ayes ~ Haustein, Matonich, Peterson, D'Antonio & Wegner, Nays ~ none.

**GOGEBIC COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS  
SENATE BILL 396 RESOLUTION**

***WHEREAS, Roads are the backbone to the social, cultural and economic stability of Gogebic County and the Upper Peninsula; and***

***WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018 allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (aka “frost laws”) to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and***

***WHEREAS, It is a fact in Gogebic County and throughout the northern states that roads become soft in the spring and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading on soft roads, is fool hardiness that defies common sense and a law allowing such nonsense is poor public policy; and***

***WHEREAS, SB-396 also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and***

***WHEREAS, the provisions of SB 396 WILL result in damage to the public road system; and***

***WHEREAS, the provisions of SB 396 WILL negatively impact the traveling public accessing the road system, resulting in burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs to maintain the public road system; and***

***WHEREAS, the provisions in SB 396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system WILL negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of Gogebic County residents and the traveling public; and***

***WHEREAS, the Gogebic County Road Commission and the other road commissions throughout the Upper Peninsula work closely with the logging industry to keep the economic vitality of the County and the Upper Peninsula moving by continuously monitoring road conditions and permitting the logging industry to move equipment and material on roads when the roads can structurally support such loading without negatively impacting the road system and the traveling public;***

***THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gogebic County Board of Road Commissioners hereby STRONGLY opposes SB 396; and***

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a vote hereon be taken by aye and nay and spread at large on the minutes of the Board.***

- b) Job Positions ~
- Manager Job Description ~ The description was accepted by the Board and will be presented at the next meeting for the signature of the Chair.
  - Full-Time Hires ~ This item will be tabled pending discussion among the Manager and Foremen.

---

## New Business

---

- a) MDOT Contract Amendment ~ Motion to accept, approve, have the Chair sign the amendment and adopt the following resolution was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D'Antonio; roll call: Ayes ~ D'Antonio, Matonich, Haustein, Peterson & Wegner support, Nays ~ none.

### **RESOLUTION**

*WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Gogebic County Road Commission are mutually agreeable to the amendment of Contract #2017-0165/A1 to the MDOT State Maintenance Contract, and*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gogebic County Board of Road Commissioners approves the amendment and authorizes Chair Wegner to sign the amended contract.*

---

## Actions Items

---

Research information on Seasonal Roads/Class 4 Roads will continue.

Old M28-possibly contact the USDA Forest Service (future timber cut/sale)

---

## Information Items

---

GCRC employees who were in attendance were advised of the "good job" compliments from the Township Supervisors who attended the previously held Township Discussion Meeting.

---

## Public Comment

---

Dan Siirila, a representative of the Gogebic County Board, congratulated Barry Bolich on his position as Manager of the GCRC. Dan also mentioned a phone call he received from a Lake Road resident regarding the grader operator helping him remove his snowblower from being stuck during a recent storm.

---

## Adjourn

---

Motion to adjourn was made at 4:55 PM by Haustein, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matonich; all in favor, none opposed.

## BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

---

SECRETARY

---

CHAIR