

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

**REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 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:	Marti Wegner, Vice-Chair	Rob Drier, Commissioner
	Dan Siirila, Commissioner	Roy D'Antonio, Commissioner
	Darren Pionk, Engineer/Manager	Patricia Hagstrom, Secretary

Also Present: 6 Public Attendees

- I. Call to Order** ~ Vice-Chair Wegner called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Approval of Agenda** ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by D'Antonio, with all in favor to approve the agenda.
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes** ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Drier, with all in favor to approve the following minutes:
 - Finance Meeting of Monday, October 10, 2016
 - Regular Meeting of Monday, October 10, 2016
- V. Public Comment ~ On Agenda Items Only ~ 5 minute limit ~ None**
- VI. Old Business**
 - a. Lake Road Culvert Replacements Update ~ Darren stated that culverts 17, 34 & 18 have been installed and have been repaired to gravel grade. Culvert 13 (bridge) has been excavated for foundation, the forms are set and concrete will be poured this week. Oman's Bridge was excavated, the embankment was re-compacted, the concrete approaches have been poured and this location is open to traffic. Culvert 21 will be delivered on Monday. Culvert 27 will be delivered on Friday and work will begin at this location when 21 is open. Powers Road is being monitored and grading is being done as needed. Borings were taken at the Big Fill location and no rock was found resulting in a change order for design for this location increasing the amount to repair this location an additional \$20,000. Paving and guardrail installation are scheduled for 2017. Wegner asked that Darren let the Board know if paving will be done this year.
 - b. 2016 Budget Amendment #2 ~ Darren explained the supporting documentation on the budget amendment. Siirila asked how the costs for the projects are determined when they are not complete. Darren stated that progress billings are submitted identifying the costs. Siirila stated that the amendment is etched in stone which it isn't. Darren stated that this is a budget amendment to reflect actual amounts for expenditures and revenues to date. Darren stated that a final amendment will also be done closer to the end of the year due to weather conditions resulting in changes to regular routine maintenance and/or winter maintenance. Wegner asked how the changes have affected the budget aside from the SIB Loan. Darren stated that each line item has been changed due to computation of to date expenditures and revenues. He added that road commission budgets are dynamic as they can change due to weather as with the July 11th storm. Wegner asked about the emergency fund. Darren stated that the 5 CD's amount to \$961,986 with 2 of the CD's identified for OPEB. A motion was made by Wegner, 2nd by Drier, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Drier, Wegner, Siirila & D'Antonio to approve the budget amendment.

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- c. Fleet Manger Recommendation ~ 3 candidates were interviewed for the position. The recommendation of Darren, Scott Cebolski and Scott Maki is to hire Mark Selin for the position. Scott Cebolski added that Mark has shown dedication in performing his mechanic position duties and will bring his dedication and drive as the fleet manager. Darren recommended at starting salary of \$47,500 with a 6-month review and wage adjustment at that time if he receives a positive review. D'Antonio asked why Mark is not in attendance at this meeting. Darren stated that he is working. D'Antonio commented "so". D'Antonio asked if we are looking at Mark because there were only 3 applicants and if we should re-advertise. Darren stated that when interviews are being performed there is an understanding that the interviewees may not be hired just because there is an opening. If the applicants are not qualified for the position the opening is advertised again. D'Antonio asked if Mark is the guy we are looking for and is leery with some of the foreman that we have had and thinks Mark should have been in attendance at this meeting. He added that if Mark is hired the 6-month review should include the Board and if he is not the right person for the Board then we do something differently because we can't go down the road with bad foremen. He stated that he is leery as Mark has only been employed for 2 years. Darren stated that his work history was looked at and he has the experience. D'Antonio asked if Darren thinks he will be a good leader. Darren stated that he will be a good and honest leader. He has a good work ethic and the knowledge on what needs to be fixed. Drier stated that Mark has the knowledge to determine if something can be fixed in house or needs to be shipped out. Siirila stated his only issue with this is why Mark didn't apply the first time the job was posted and who talked him into it. He likes Mark and thinks he will do a good job but why didn't he apply the first time. Cebolski stated that with him being down on the east end during these last few months, Mark has taken it upon himself to help keep things moving along in the shop and has seen what can be improved and that he may have decided to apply because of this. Wegner stated that it seems that he has taken initiative and thinks outside the box and sees the big picture. Cebolski stated that he has taken the initiative from the day he started. Siirila would have liked to see Mark at the meeting so he could have answered questions from the Board. Siirila stated that Mark would be leaving the union to take this position and if at the 6-month review it is found he is not doing his job he can't go back into his previous position. Scott Maki stated that he can go back within the first year if that position is open. Darren stated he has discussed this issue with Mark. A motion was made Drier, 2nd by D'Antonio, with all in favor to hire Mark Selin as the Fleet Manager at the salary of \$47,500 with a \$1,500 salary adjustment after 6-months with a positive review.
- d. New Hires ~ Due to changes in the work force there is an opening for a light equipment operator and a mechanic. The mechanic opening will be posted for 5 days in house before it can be advertised. For the leo opening there are active applications on file from the interviews held in August. A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by D'Antonio, with all in favor to advertise for the mechanic opening and select and hire for the leo position from the recent pool of interviewees.
- e. Duck Lake Update ~ Darren advised the Board that there is a meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2016 at the Watersmeet High School. D'Antonio will try to attend this meeting.

VII. New Business

- a. Lansing Meetings Update ~ Darren attended numerous meetings in Lansing last week. He met with Senator Casperson and Senator Hanson regarding the severe weather event damages that occurred in July. Discussion took place on a general appropriations plan for funding for repairs needed on the local road system. Darren will keep the Board updated on this.

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- b. Winter Safety Meeting ~ This meeting will be held on Thursday, November 3rd at 7:30 am at Indianhead Mountain. Discussion will be held on 2016 work, winter operations and future plans. The commissioners are invited.

Darren advised the Board that the GCRC is short 2 seasonal snowplow drivers and would like to increase the wage for the winter seasonal employees. A motion was made by D'Antonio, 2nd by Siirila, with all in favor to pay the winter seasonal employees \$16.00 per hour.

- c. Revised Resolution for Truck Financing ~ Due to the passing of Don Bennetts the resolution for the truck financing needs to be revised to identify Marti Wegner as the signatory for the documents. A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Drier, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Drier, Siirila, D'Antonio & Wegner to accept and approve for the signatures of Vice-Chair Marti Wegner and Engineer/Manager Darren Pionk on the truck financing loan between the First National Bank, Wakefield, Michigan and the Gogebic County Road Commission.

- VIII. **Engineer/Manager Reports** ~ The 4 bridge projects are wrapping up and should be completed by Tuesday, November 1, 2016. Darren has been in discussion with Mike Bigalo with the USDA Forest Service regarding addition FLAP Grant monies. Darren asked for direction from the Board on applying for this grant for work on the North Thayers Road Bridge and possibly for Marion Lake Road. The Board agreed to have Darren apply for the grant. Winter sand hauling is complete and salt still needs to be delivered in Watersmeet. The Elm Lane Road Bridge has been repaired. The budget workshop will be scheduled in November.

- IX. **Public Comment** ~ Scott Cebolski stated that he has been checking Duck Lake Road on a weekly basis. 1 of the new trucks has been delivered and available for the Board to look at. Vern Blomberg from Hedberg Road stated that ditching still needs to be done north of his driveway and if it is not done now he will have water problems in the spring. He stated that the ditching that has been done has left the ditch in his driveway lower than his culvert. Darren and Scott Maki will look at this location. Carl Maki, a Lake Road resident, stated that the repairs being done on Lake Road are fantastic.

- X. **Adjourn** ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Drier, with all in favor to adjourn at 6:44 pm.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

Secretary

Chairman