

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS  
GOGEBIC COUNTY ~ BESSEMER MICHIGAN

SPECIAL MEETING  
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016

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

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

**Excused:** Don Bennetts, Chairman

- I. **Call to Order** ~ Vice-Chair Wegner called the meeting to order at 3pm.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Approval of Agenda** ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D'Antonio to approve the agenda.
- IV. **Road Maintenance Projects** ~ Darren Pionk presented documentation and discussion took place with the Board on the following:
  1. Motor Vehicle Funds. Information was given on funds received from 2004 to the present. This information showed that funds received in 2015 is about the same received in 2005. As expenses increase and with no increase in funds, maintenance work declines.  
Discussion took place on the MDOT Maintenance Contract and how it contributes to GCRC funding. MDOT pays 100% of labor, equipment, materials, fringe benefits and the additional 8.5% overhead costs for work performed on the State Trunkline System. GCRC also receives additional funding for extra work (TWA) Transportation Work Authorization's.
  2. Optional Transfers. Part of the ACT 51 Report outlines that the GCRC Fund Balance (Primary, Local, Road Commission) cannot have a negative balance. Documentation provided shows that transfers from primary to local have been needed for at least the past seven (7) years. This means that more maintenance work has been being performed on the local system than the primary system. Currently the amount allowed to be transferred is 50% from primary to local and 15% from local to primary.
  3. Township Match Program. Documentation provided information on how other road commissions in the Upper Peninsula are funding this program. GCRC has a 60% Township/40% GCRC match program.
  4. Road Millage. Information was given showing the calculations of 1 Mill, 1.5 Mills and 2 Mills. The amounts generated in the calculation showed the miles of maintenance that could be performed. It was suggested that this subject should be presented to the individual townships.
  5. Budget to Date Update. This information was given for the future budget amendment.
  6. Additional Funding (2017 to 2020). Additional Funding is expected to start in 2017. Spreadsheets were presented showing the increases and how the funds will be used for each township and for a new facility.

## JUNE 13, 2016 SPECIAL MEETING CONTINUED

Creating a policy/plan on how the additional funding will be disbursed should be created and utilized. Setting priorities items of work should be considered. This policy/plan would be by board direction and should take in to consideration that some townships are contributing to projects and some are not.

A question about a recent new paper article identifying Joe Bonovetz, Chairman of the Gogebic County Board, stating that the county board could choose to take over the road commission operations. There was a bill that was previously enacted and has lapsed. A new bill was enacted into law and extends to January 1, 2020.

It was suggested that winter seasonal workers should be hired for plowing operations only. If snow removal is not needed, then the individual would not work. Also, it was felt that additional summer seasonal mowers should be hired.

It is felt that funds should be transferred from the cash balance and split between the six (6) townships for additional work to be done this year. A motion was made by D'Antonio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Siirila, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Siirila, D'Antonio, Drier & Wegner, to transfer \$250,000 from the cash balance and divide it equally among the six (6) townships for gravel maintenance for 2016.

- V. **Adjournment** ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Drier to adjourn the meeting at 4:43pm.

### BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

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Secretary

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Vice-Chair