

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

**REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, March 27, 2017**

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, Chair  
John Matonich, Commissioner  
Darren Pionk, Engineer/Manager

Roy D'Antonio, Vice-Chair  
Dan Peterson, Commissioner  
Patricia Hagstrom, Secretary

**Excused:** Kevin Haustein, Commissioner

**Also Present:** 10 Public Attendees

- I. **Call to Order** ~ Chair Wegner called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Approval of Agenda** ~ A motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peterson, with all in favor to approve the agenda with the following addition: OB. b. Lake Road Gap Paving.
- IV. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** ~ A motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D'Antonio, with all in favor to approve the minutes from:
  - Finance Meeting of Monday, March 6, 2017 (with the addition of the payable and payroll amounts identified)
  - Regular Meeting of Monday, March 6, 2017
- V. **Public Comment** ~ Joe Gayan and Mr. & Mrs. Gary Kusz, property owners on Aspen Lane, asked that repairs be done on the roadway. There is a large sink hole and drainage issues that need to be addressed. A motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D'Antonio to repair the sink hole immediately and for Darren to come up with short and long term repairs to this road and present them at the next meeting.

Dan Siirila suggested that homework be done before selling equipment.
- VII. **Old Business** ~
  - a. Letter of Understanding Tiziani Grievance ~ The letter of understanding was presented to the Board for signatures. This agreement states that the GCRC will pay the single subscriber health insurance payment for Mr. Tiziani minus the monthly premium payment made by the active employees. The time frame for this added benefit will be from March 2017 through April 20, 2018 only. Mr. Tiziani will be required to make the premium payment to the Road Commission at the same rate as the active employees (on a monthly basis). The Union agrees to withdraw the grievance and the LOU is a final agreement between all parties. Both parties acknowledge that this settlement is non-precedent setting.
  - b. Lake Road Gap Paving ~ Discussion took place on the proposal made to the MDOT and the Federal Government to pave the entire length of Lake Road where the repairs were made in 2016. The Federal Government has denied this proposal. A motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D'Antonio, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ D'Antonio, Matonich, Peterson & Wegner to contact Ironwood Township to see if they would contribute half of

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the cost to pave the gap locations. If the township doesn't contribute, paving will be done only at the locations where the repairs were made.

### VIII. New Business ~

- a. George Peterson Septic Hauling ~ Mr. Peterson was not in attendance. D'Antonio would like information from past meetings on when the GCRC adopted to follow the Michigan Frost Laws.
- b. Pickup Truck and Mechanic Service Truck Purchase Options ~ A price quote for a 2017 GMC 4x2 pickup from Buick GMC of Westland per MiDeal Pricing was presented to the Board. A price quote from Red's Auto for a used mechanic truck was presented to the Board. A motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peterson, with a roll call taken Ayes ~ Peterson, Matonich, D'Antonio & Wegner to purchase the truck from Buick GMC in the amount of \$27,717 and call for bids on a used mechanic truck.
- c. Bid Date for Pavement Striping ~ Discussion took place and the Board would like to see more than 1 bid. A motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D'Antonio with all in favor to call for bids with the due date of Monday, April 10, 2017 at 10 am.
- d. Distance Measuring Devices and Traffic Counter Upgrades ~ Currently the GCRC has 1 DMI and it is felt that the foremen should also have this accessory. Darren would like to purchase 2 units to try and if it is felt that they are useful he would like to purchase 2 additional units. A motion was made by Peterson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D'Antonio, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ D'Antonio, Peterson, Matonich & Wegner to purchase 2 DMI's for \$600 each plus shipping.  
1 of the traffic counters is no longer functioning and needs to be replaced however the current system is obsolete. Information on a new system was presented to the Board. A motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peterson with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Peterson, Matonich, D'Antonio & Wegner to purchase a new system (2 traffic counters and software) for the amount of \$3,688.
- e. Summer Seasonal Workers ~ D'Antonio would like to see the roadside mowing done by the seasonal workers. Discussion on hiring individuals with mowing experience took place. A motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D'Antonio, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ D'Antonio, Matonich, Peterson & Wegner to hire 9 summer workers with priority given to college students for 6 of these positions. The individuals will be paid between \$11 and \$13 per hour.
- f. Road Commission Facility ~ Discussion took place and a special meeting will be scheduled to discuss this item.
- g. Letters of Appreciation for Winter Seasonal Workers ~ These letters were signed by the Board.

### VIII. Public Comment ~ Dan Siirila stated that a motion was made at a previous meeting to purchase the property in the Ironwood Industrial Park. He also suggested that the mechanics truck bids shouldn't be specked to mileage.

Scott Lonsway, an Aspen Lane property owner, stated he is concerned about the flooding of his property if a culvert is placed in the ditch near his property.

- h. Personnel Issue ~ A motion was made by D'Antonio, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matonich, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Matonich, D'Antonio, Peterson & Wegner to move into closed session at 6:50 pm. A motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D'Antonio, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ D'Antonio, Matonich, Peterson & Wegner to move into open session at 7:16 pm. A motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peterson with all in favor that a written warning be placed in Darren's file regarding the violation of the Vehicle Use Policy. This warning states that from the end of Friday, March 31, 2017, Darren is directed to use the GCRC vehicle only for GCRC business. This is a suspension of the part of paragraph 4 of the Vehicle Use Policy that allows Darren to take the "automobile to and from the employee's

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residence". Darren will commute to and from his home to the Road Commission office in his personal auto. If requested, this suspension of vehicle privileges can be reviewed after one year.

- IX. Adjourn** ~ A motion was made by Peterson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D'Antonio with all in favor to adjourn at 7:24 pm.

**BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS**

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**Secretary**

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**Chair**