

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

**REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 9, 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
Rob Drier, Commissioner
Roy D'Antonio, Commissioner
Patricia Hagstrom, Secretary

Marti Wegner, Vice-Chair
Dan Siirila, Commissioner
Darren Pionk, Engineer/Manager

Also Present: Numerous Public Attendees

- I. **Call to Order** ~ Chairman Bennetts called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
- II. **Approval of Agenda** ~ A motion was made by D'Antonio, 2nd by Siirila, with all in favor to approve the agenda with the following addition: NB. d. Administrative Office Hours.
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - Finance Meeting of Monday, April 25, 2016 ~ A motion was made by D'Antonio, 2nd by Siirila; with all in favor to approve the minutes.
 - Regular Meeting of Monday, April 25, 2016 ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by D'Antonio; with all in favor to approve the minutes.
- IV. **Public Comment** ~ On agenda items ~ 5 minute limit
 - Deke Routheaux, a property owner on Langford Lake, stated that this road has no gravel on it and the grader operator has nothing to work with. He stated that there are numerous cottages and permanent residences on Langford Lake and that this roadway is need of repair. He provided photos showing the condition of the roadway. He stated that the property owners on the east shore of the lake pay to maintain that roadway. Darren Pionk, Engineer/Manager stated that this road was an old log road and was never built to road specifications. He stated that he traveled this road while touring with the Watersmeet Supervisor and agrees it is in bad shape. Commissioner D'Antonio stated that this roadway is not the only road that is need of gravel. He stated that Watersmeet Township also holds some responsibility for repairs and/or upkeep. He suggested funding should be checked into from the USDA Forest Service, Marenisco Township and Watersmeet Township. Mr. Routheaux stated that good leadership solves problems and this is not the case with this issue.
 - Ruth Bozdech, a property owner on Langford Lake, requested a couple of truckloads of gravel be put down on this road. She stated that there has not been maintenance done on this roadway except for it being graded twice a year. Chairman Bennetts asked Mr. Pionk to look into this issue. Commissioner Siirila stated that the issue of Langford Lake is not on the agenda and the Public Comment Item at the beginning of the meeting specifically states that public comment is on agenda items and allowing this to happen needs to stop.
- V. **Old Business**
 - a. Bridge Design Proposal for Kimberly Road and East Shore Road Bridges ~ The design proposal from AECOM was discussed. Commissioner Siirila asked if there were other companies that are available to do this work. He stated that bids should have been called for. A motion was made by D'Antonio, 2nd by Wegner, with a roll call taken: Ayes

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- ~ Wegner, D'Antonio, Drier & Bennetts; Nays ~ Siirila to accept the proposal from AECOM in the amount of \$61,216 and allow Darren Pionk to sign the proposal.
- b. Bridge Inspection Proposal for 2016 ~ Darren Pionk explained that by law, bi-annual bridge inspections on all structures need to be done. Gogebic County has a total of 62 bridges. In addition, MDOT and FHWA are requiring new load ratings on these structures. This year Tier III bridges, which is the majority of Gogebic County structures, are required to be rated. A motion was made by Wegner, 2nd by Drier, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Drier, Wegner, D'Antonio, Siirila & Bennetts to accept the proposal from AECOM in the amount of \$17,952 and allow Darren Pionk to sign the proposal.
 - c. Review and Award Chip Seal Bid ~ The bid tabulations were presented to the Board. Upon the recommendation from Darren Pionk, a motion was made by Wegner, 2nd by D'Antonio, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ D'Antonio, Wegner, Siirila, Drier & Bennetts to award the bid to Fahrner in the amount of \$1.098 per sqy for single seal coat, \$2.582 per sqy for double seal coat and \$0.275 per sqy for fog seal. At the time of this meeting East Shore Road is scheduled for single chip sealing and Welch Creek Lane and Oak Hill Lane are scheduled for double chip sealing.
 - d. Review and Award HMA & Pulverizing Bid ~ The bid tabulations were presented to the Board. Upon the recommendation from Darren Pionk, a motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Wegner, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Wegner, Siirila, Drier, D'Antonio & Bennetts to award the bid to Northwood's Paving for the following: Vanderhagen Road (township match) for the amount of \$86,197.33, Anvil/Summit Roads (Board approval at 4/25/2016 meeting) for the amount of \$125,781.32, Copps Mine Road-pulverizing only (Board approval at 4/25/2016 meeting) for the amount of \$3,586.39, 2nd Street for the amount of \$47,136.61 and Division Lane for the amount of \$44,287.43. 2nd Street & Division Lane are awaiting Bessemer Township approval.

VI. New Business

- a. Letter of Appreciation for Mark Doleshal ~ This letter will be signed by the Board.
- b. UP Road Builders Copper Harbor June 8-10, 2016 ~ Darren asked if it would be alright for him to ask Jacquart Fabric Products to donate Stormy Kromers for the scholarship auction to be held during this meeting. The Board agreed.
- c. Resolution for Critical Bridge Application ~ A grant application for the Chaney Lake Road Bridge over Little Black River was presented to the Board. A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Wegner, with all in favor to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gogebic County Board of Road Commissioners has determined that the following bridge is in need of rehabilitation or preventative maintenance, listed in order of priority;

1. Preventative Maintenance
Chaney Lake Road over Little Black River, Bridge #2987

WHEREAS, this bridge is in need to be rehabilitated or preventative maintenance performed, and

WHEREAS, this bridge is essential to the road system in Gogebic County, and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Road Commissioners have reviewed and are actively seeking participation in the rehabilitation or preventative maintenance of the structure, and

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WHEREAS, the Board of County Road Commissioners are committing the necessary local funds for design and construction engineering in addition to the 5% (five-percent) funding match for the construction phase of this project,

THEREFORE, the Gogebic County Road Commission hereby makes applications for federal and state critical bridge funds to rehabilitate or perform preventative maintenance on such bridge.

- d. Administrative Office Hours ~ Commissioner D'Antonio wanted to discuss the office hours. He suggested that Patti Hagstrom and Jamie Linn rotate working on Fridays. Discussion took place and information on what other road commissions do will be presented at the next meeting.

- VII. Correspondence** ~ The Draft Drawdown Management Plan for Superior Falls Hydro from Xcel Energy was provided for information only.
A letter was received from John Turkal, Chairman of the Bessemer Planning Commission.
An appreciation card was received from Dawne and Dan Peterson, residents of Stone Road.
A copy of the Work Rules was given to the Board for their information.

- VIII. Financial Reports** ~ The Program Budget Report, Motor Vehicle Report, April Deposit Report, and State Budget Report were discussed. Discussion took place on OPEB (other post-employment benefits). According to the Actuarial Valuation Report for Gogebic County, the Gogebic County Road Commission's 2016 contribution is \$187,576. The County Treasurer and two (2) members of the Retirement Commission attended a meeting in November of 2015 to discuss this liability. At that time the GCRC Board tabled the issue. Darren Pionk and Patti Hagstrom conducted an internal review of OPEB and found the amounts comparable. A graph was presented to the Board at the December 2015 to show that overall the OPEB will decrease. Vice-Chair Wegner stated that \$200,000 was invested in two (2) CD's to help offset the OBEB liability. Commissioner Siirila would like to discuss this further. Information will be provided to the Board for the next meeting. Patti Hagstrom will meet with the County Treasurer to discuss this item.

Chairman Bennetts moved, 2nd by Drier, with all in favor to recess the meeting for 5 minutes.

- IX. Union Negotiations** ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Drier, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Drier, Siirila, D'Antonio, Wegner & Bennetts to move into closed session at 6:25 pm. A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Wegner, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Wegner, Siirila, Drier, D'Antonio & Bennetts to move into open session at 7:27 pm.

- X. Public Comment** ~ none

- XI. Adjourn** ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Wegner, with all in favor to adjourn at 7:29 pm.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

Secretary

Chairman