

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

**REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 25, 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	Marti Wegner, Vice-Chair
	Rob Drier, Commissioner	Dan Siirila, Commissioner
	Roy D'Antonio, Commissioner	Darren Pionk, Engineer/Manager
	Patricia Hagstrom, Secretary	

Also Present: 7 Public Attendees

- I. Call to Order** ~ Chairman Bennetts called the meeting to order at 5:00 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 with the following addition: OB. c. Truck Financing
- 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, July 11, 2016
 - Regular Meeting of Monday, July 11, 2016
 - Closed Meeting of Monday, July 11, 2016
 - Emergency Meeting of Tuesday, July 12, 2016
- V. Public Comment ~ On Agenda Items Only ~ 5 minute limit** ~ Mrs. Maki, a Lake Road Resident expressed thanks for the work that was done after the storm and what continues to be done.
- VI. Old Business**
 - a.** 2016 Flood ~ Darren briefly went over what was discussed at the Township Meeting (held prior to this meeting) regarding the flood and any updates. Commissioner Siirila made a motion, 2nd by Wegner, with all in favor to send a letter of invitation to the National Guard to hold the annual 2-week training drill in Gogebic or Ontonagon County to assist with storm damage and to send a letter of appreciation to the National Guard for the help that is currently being given.
 - b.** Coleman Engineering WO#1 Storm Damage Repairs ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Drier, will all in favor to have Darren sign WO#1 with Coleman Engineering for professional services needed to complete the assessments of damage, TOPO surveys and permits.
 - c.** Truck Financing ~ A motion was made by Wegner, 2nd by Siirila, with all in favor to call for bids from local financial institutions to provide financing for the new trucks.
- IX. New Business**
 - a.** CRASIF 2016 Board of Trustees Election ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Wegner, with all in favor vote for Mary Herman, Upper Peninsula Region; John Hunt, Southern Region and Joyce Randall, Northern Region.
 - b.** Craig Farrell, Marenisco Township Property Owner ~ Correspondence was received from Mr. Farrell that his property on Dunham Road will become his permanent

residence in October 2016. The letter was accepted and will be placed on file along with a response letter to Mr. Farrell.

- X. Engineer/Manager Reports** ~ Darren provided information on the Forest Fund Program by county. GCRC receives about \$202,000 yearly for the Category E Forest Fund Roads and this amount has not been adjusted since 1987. The report also shows the adjusted for inflation amount of \$427,000. The logging industry has been lobbying against the road commissions in regards that they have been paying this money for this. The road commissions response it that the loggers are not paying us as they are paying for their fuel and road use. This is a different fund. The logging industry is stating that the road commissions have money available. Darren added that the money received doesn't go far for maintenance to the forest roads to support the logging industry. Siirila asked if this fund was a part of the PILT money. Darren stated that this fund is completely different from the PILT money. Ed Noyola with the County Road Association asked what we do with it. The road commissions use it for match money on Federally Aided road repairs and culvert replacements. The GCRC's portion is going towards the Lake Road Paving project for this year. The amount received is not enough to sustain all of the gravel and local roads that are in need of repair. Siirila suggested this information should be given to the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners.
- XI. Public Comment** ~ Jim Manchester questioned Article 38b. Sick Leave from the Union Contract regarding the 2 (two) hour increments of usage. There was an issue where a union employee left for a funeral he was not allowed to return to work. This article does not state that the workers cannot return to work. Siirila stated that this issue will be addressed. Darren stated that this subject was brought up during the meeting following the signing of the contract. This issue will be held on Thursday to discuss this subject discussed and the grievances that have been filed. Siirila thanked the workers for the work they have done during the weather event. Roger Hill stated that he was contacted by a City of Ironwood employee and was told that Scott Cebolski, Shop Foreman was in a backhoe on a Friday working on a culvert on Vanderhagen Road and no GCRC union employees worked that day. Darren stated that the City of Ironwood was called in for a plugged culvert and their jetter became stuck in the culvert. He called Scott to come in and remove the jetter from the culvert. Mr. Hill also asked who moved a grader over the weekend. Scott Maki, Foreman said yes a union employee moved the grader from Bessemer to Lake Road. Mr. Maki, Lake Road resident asked about the condition of Lake Road from Little Girls Point to the Montreal River. Darren stated that it will remain in the condition it is in until funding is available. Mr. Maki asked what is going to happen when the snow hits. Darren stated it is what it is right now. Patti Hagstrom, Secretary, notified the Maki's to check the Gogebic County Road Commission web site as updates are posted regularly.
- XII. Adjourn** ~ A motion was made by Siirila, 2nd by Drier, with all in favor to adjourn at 5:49 pm.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

Secretary

Chairman