

MINUTES OF THE BOARD  
OF  
MECOSTA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

The regular meeting of the Board of Road Commissioners was held in their offices in the City of Big Rapids, Michigan on Tuesday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: John Currie, Paul Jefts, and Randy Maxwell.

Members Absent: None

Member Present from Board of County Commissioners: Norm Turner.

Administrative Staff Present: Joyce Randall, Managing Director, Mike Maneke, Superintendent, and Brooke Steiner, Clerk.

Daryl Fenstermacher, Fensco, was present to discuss with the Board the proposed apartment complex of 66 units for Ferris State University students. Mr. Fenstermacher stated the site needs to be lifted approximately 2 feet. Mr. Fenstermacher also stated he did get an Irrevocable Letter of Credit for 14 Mile Road and 220<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Big Rapids Township. Mr. Fenstermacher has gotten his DEQ, Soil Erosion and Building permits and has also gone to the Township. Mr. Fenstermacher would like to use a portion of the county roads to haul the material he needs to lift the site up. Board advised that he could not use 230<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Woodward. Mr. Fenstermacher stated he plans to use the expressway for the most part. Board advised him to either amend or get another Irrevocable Letter of Credit for the second route he plans on taking and bring that back to the Road Commission. No Action Required.

Bill Ervin, Chippewa Township Resident, was present to discuss with the Board of a possible upgrade of 90<sup>th</sup> Avenue for a 1/8 of a Mile north of 20 Mile Road. Mr. Ervin stated that a couple of years ago he placed a new manufactured house on this Road and that was originally for recreational purposes. Now due to family reasons Mr. Ervin's son is living there permanently and would like to have the road more accessible. Board advised him that the Road Commissions policy is that the road can be upgraded but the cost is split 1/3 Township, 1/3 Road Commission, and 1/3 property owner. Board also advised to have Mike Maneke, Superintendent, and Nick Petersen, Estimator/Field Inspector, go out and take a look at the road and prepare an estimate for the upgrade. When the weather breaks the Road Commission will contact Mr. Ervin and meet with him out there. No Action Required.

Bruce Cummings, Martiny Township Supervisor, was present to discuss with the Board the issue of a second drive onto M-66 for Chippewa Hills Schools. Mr. Cummings stated that the State denied the drive based on the Road Commissions recommendations. Board advised that they never said this to the state. Board also advised that a second drive on M-66 would be a safety concern that close to the new passing lane. Board advised Mr. Cummings to have the school try again for the light at the intersection of Arthur Road and M-66 through the state.

At 9:30 a.m. Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded motion to open and read bids received for Annual Materials. Bids will be read and placed on file for the review of the administrative staff and if and when awarded, will be in the best interest of Mecosta County. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

Bids were read for the following materials:

- Underbody Scraper Blades
- Sign Materials
- Asphalt Emulsions
- Bituminous Materials
- Culvert/Pipe and Bridge Materials
- Limestone and Slag
- Pavement Markings
- State Gravel Hauling and Procurement
- Winter Maintenance Sand Haul
- Motor Fuel and Operating Fluids
- Liquid Calcium Chloride
- Pulverizing & Chemical Spraying

MINUTES OF THE BOARD  
OF  
MECOSTA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Drew Patterson, Attorney for United Entertainment, Ray Norris and Saroja Devarakonda, SSOE, Inc, were present to give the Board an updated presentation on traffic flow for the new proposed amphitheatre on Jefferson Road West of US131 in Aetna Township. Mr. Norris stated he got new traffic counts from the Road Commission and increased them for growth and summer travel. With the new traffic counts the presentation showed the Northbound and Southbound off ramps had backups. Mr. Norris then proceeded to show two scenarios: 1) with added turn lanes and length for both the Northbound and Southbound off ramps and added lanes on Jefferson Road, the traffic still showed moderate backup of traffic; 2) the second scenario included the same as above and a traffic controller was added at the Northbound, Southbound off ramps and the drive intersections. With this scenario the traffic seemed to flow more smoothly. Mr. Norris stated that United Entertainment still needs to get their special use permit from the Township. United Entertainment has talked with MDOT and they are willing to work with them on the road changes. United Entertainment is willing to pay for 100% of the cost to any necessary road changes. The Board advised to have United Entertainment get what they need from the Township and come back to the Road Commission and we will work with them. No Action Required.

Tim Vogel, Van Johnson, and Stephen Sobers, City of Big Rapids, were present to discuss the possible building of a new salt shed at the Big Rapids Garage. Joyce Randall, Managing Director, showed pictures of Ionia County Road Commissions salt shed which cost \$550,000.00. MDOT will pay for approximately 70% to 76% of the cost and with the remainder a local share. The current salt shed is 35 to 36 years old. Board advised to have the trees clear cut and have that money go towards the cost of the salt shed. No Action Required.

Henry Diemer and Eric Seguin, Wilcox Associates, were present to discuss with the Board the preliminary plans for Hills of Mitchell Creek drive coming out onto Madison Avenue. Mr. Diemer stated that Ed Burch, Engineer, looked at the plans and had a couple of issues with them. The Board advised to connect Hills of Mitchell Creek to the apartments next door and have the drive come through there out onto Sheridan. The Board feels that the drive coming out onto Madison at the bottom of the hill is a safety concern. Mr. Diemer stated there is going to be a right hand deceleration lane with blacktop curbs at the drive intersection. Board advised them to come back around 1:30 p.m. when Mr. Burch comes in. No Action Required.

Board recessed for lunch at 11:45 a.m.

Board reconvened at 12:35

Minutes from February 8, 2005 were approved with corrections made. No Action Required.

John Currie, Chairman, asked Norm Turner about three of the County Commissioners willing to pay for the purchase of Deaf Child signs. No Action Required.

Brooke Steiner, Clerk, asked the Board what to do with the invoice for damage done to Edgewood Drive in Big Rapids Township. Mrs. Steiner stated she has sent several invoices and Mike Maneke, Superintendent, has called a couple of times and has had no response. Board advised to send the invoice to Morningstar since they actually did the damage. No Action Required.

Brooke Steiner, Clerk, presented the financial reports to the Board. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the letter from Austin Township in regards to Pierce Road review. No Action Required.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD  
OF  
MECOSTA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Board reviewed the TEDF Category F grants. Joyce Randall, Managing Director, informed the Board that Ed Burch, Engineer, is looking this over. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the 2005 Capital Outlay. Board advised to go ahead and send out bids for the replacement of three brine tanks. No Action Required.

Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded motion to have the Chairman sign the gravel lease with Larry Hanson and Ruth Kizer. Roll call vote of (3) three yeas, motion carried.

Supervisor's meeting at 1:03 p.m. present: Frank Randall, Charlie Cornell, Mike Simon, and Randy Wilson.

Supervisors updated the Board on patching, Cutting trees and brush, winter maintenance, thawing tubes, repairing washouts, repairing sinkhole, placing weight limit signs, stockpiling salt, and pumping state tanks. No Action Required.

Cliff Halliday, Halliday Sand & Gravel, was present to discuss the entrance to the pit located on 230<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Tyler Road in Aetna Township. Mr. Halliday would like to extend 230<sup>th</sup> Avenue another 1100 feet to his drive for truck traffic. Mr. Halliday presented the Board with the estimated truck traffic in and out of the pit. Mr. Halliday also presented the Board with a 3-D topographical map of Byers Pit. Board advised to have Mr. Halliday bore it in the spring. No Action Required.

Henry Diemer and Eric Seguin, Wilcox Associates, and Ed Burch, Engineer, were all present to discuss with the Board the preliminary plans for the Hills of Mitchell Creek drive off of Madison Avenue. Mr. Burch stated he had no problems with the preliminary plans except for the couple of issues that were discussed. Mr. Burch also stated that the Cul de Sac needs to be less than 600 feet long. Board advised to have the Road Commission put there concerns in writing to Mr. Diemer and he would get back with them on any changes made. Board also advised they are not sure if they will take the drive over. No Action Required.

Fred Myers, Big Rapids Township resident, was present to apologize to the Board on grading 215<sup>th</sup> Avenue prior to paving when he shouldn't have. Mr. Myers stated he would like to see a break down of the cost. Joyce Randall, Managing Director, provided Mr. Myers with the break down of the cost. Board advised Mr. Myers if he had any questions to come back and see them. No Action Required.

Ed Burch, Engineer, was present to discuss with the Board the following items: 1) Big Rapids Industrial Park Preliminary Plans for Sanitary Sewer in Big Rapids Township. The Township provided plans for directional boring; the Township needs permission to work in the road right of way. The Board approved the directional boring plans. There was also a permit for an access drive off of Pioneer Drive to serve the water wells. Board stated the information was inadequate in order to approve the permit; 2) M-20 and 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue hill cut in Wheatland Township, Mr. Burch stated to do the project and cut the hill as proposed. No Action Required.

Randy Maxwell moved and Paul Jefts seconded motion to have the Board sign the Final Inspection Acceptance and Certification Report of the Hoover Road Bridge in Fork Township. Roll call vote of (3) three yeas, motion carried.

Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded motion to purchase the property on 187<sup>th</sup> Avenue North of 11 Mile Road in section 1 of Mecosta Township for \$58,000.00. Roll call vote of (3) three yeas, motion carried.

Board reviewed the Doxtater Gravel Lease and stated due to other gravel resources they decided not to enter into the lease. Board advised Joyce Randall, Managing Director, to let Newaygo County know about the property. No Action Required.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD  
OF  
MECOSTA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Board reviewed the Michigan State Police traffic study for Buchanan Road in Morton Township. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the property lease with Scott Vanderkolk in Grant Township. Board advised to have Jim Knapp, Surveyor, survey the property. Board advised to make suggested corrections to the lease and bring back to the Board. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the CRAM annual conference designated voter of CRAM policies and chose Randy Maxwell. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the Finance and Human Resource Seminar in Sault Ste. Marie on May 10-12, 2005. Board advised to have Joyce Randall, Managing Director, and Brooke Steiner, Clerk, to attend. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the appraisal quotes. Board advised to have Larry Cox do an appraisal. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the information on all the Road Commissions property. Joyce Randall, Managing Director, informed the Board that she is getting acreage on all the property. No Action Required.

Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded motion to have J & J Contracting repair the Guardrail on 21 Mile Road west of 220<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Green Township for \$3,400.00. Roll call vote of (3) three yeas, motion carried.

Board reviewed all the Irrevocable Letters of Credit. No Action Required.

Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded motion to approve Resolution #05-05 policy #3-26 in regards to Electronic Transactions. Roll call vote of (3) three yeas, motion carried.

Board reviewed the Commissioners Seminar on April 10-12, 2005. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the Engineers Workshop on April 5-7, 2005. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the Incident/Accident report. Board approved the employees leave without pay with the condition that he returns on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the correspondence from Robert and Lois Lessa in regards to the Cul de Sac at the Canadian Lakes Development. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the correspondence in regards to new urban boundaries. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the correspondence from Robert and Mary Heyart in regards to the ditching concerns on 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Coolidge Road in Fork Township. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the correspondence from the Mecosta County Development Corporation in regards to there annual board meeting. No Action Required.

Board reviewed the final deadline for the Biodiesel Incentive Program Grant. No Action Required.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD  
OF  
MECOSTA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Joyce Randall, Managing Director, informed the Board of the following items: 1) sent letter to CRAM removing Paul Jefths from the Nominating Committee; 2) for \$180.00 the employees can build a small roof over the back door were they walk in and out, Board advised this was fine to do; 3) NACE needs two items from Mecosta County for CRAM meeting, Board advised to go ahead and get something; 4) leave without pay for employees who have worked over 16 hours straight and would like to go home when tired, Board advised this was okay; 5) employees are asking about 4-10's again for this summer; 6) also pavement markings, wondering if we can do a test spot on Buchanan Road for approximately \$7,000.00. Board advised to check with Canadian Lakes and Martiny Township to see if they will share the cost; 7) the auction is March 22, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.; and 8) the auditors were here the week of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005. No Action Required.

Mike Maneke, Superintendent, informed the Board about Rhonda Olsen on 19 Mile Road, she would like to have a tube and driveway put in since one wasn't done during the project. Board advised to wait and see if she comes to the Board again. No Action Required.

Board scheduled their spring ride around trip to view various roads in Mecosta County on April 12, 2005 following the regularly scheduled day meeting. No Action Required.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date