

MINUTES OF THE BOARD
OF
MECOSTA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NO 1439

The regular meeting of the Board of Road Commissioners was held in their offices in the City of Big Rapids, Michigan on Tuesday, December 14, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: John Currie, Randy Maxwell, Paul Jefts

Members Absent: None

Member Present from Board of County Commissioners: Jerry Williams

Administrative Staff Present: Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director, Mike Maneke, Superintendent, and Connie Larson, Board Secretary.

Minutes from November 9, 2010 and November 16, 2010 were approved as written.

Jim Quinlan, Morton Township Supervisor was present to discuss road projects for 2011. Mr. Quinlan discussed Buchanan, 70th Avenue, Grant Road and East Blue Lake Drive. Mr. Quinlan also requested trees on Pierce Road be cut as they are causing a hazard. Mr. Quinlan thanked the Board for the clean up after the storm. No action required.

Jackie Fitzgerald, County Drain Commissioner updated the Board on the Green Drain status. Ms. Fitzgerald informed the Board that the route in course has been changed back to the original plan, soil borings will be done this week, the historical culvert will be removed. Ms. Fitzgerald also informed the Board that the dam at Pickerel Lake is eroding away. No action required.

At 9:15 Randy Maxwell moved and Paul Jefts seconded a motion to open and read bids received for Curb Sweeping and Catch Basin Cleaning. Bids will be placed on file for review by the Administrative Staff and MDOT, and will be awarded in the best interest of Mecosta County. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried. Bids also included Emergency and Non Emergency bid prices along with Holding Tanks and Floor Drain Bids. Bids were read as follows:

<u>SWEEPING:</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
Greenscape	\$3,140.28	\$10,661.64
B & B Environmental	N/A	N/A
 <u>CATCH BASINS:</u>		
Greenscape	\$3,458.00	\$8,360.00
B & B Environmental	\$3,822.00	\$9,240.00

Green Township residents were present to discuss the weight restrictions recently posted for the bridge on 220th Avenue between 21 Mile and 22 Mile Roads. David Molnar, Engineer informed the public and Board of the process that was taken and why the bridge was restricted. Mr. Molnar and Joyce Kuipers recommended the road be closed to the Board. Green Township residents concurred and asked that the road be closed. Bob Baldwin, Green Township Supervisor expressed that the bridge should be fixed in the future. Board discussed turnaround points, Nicole Horchner, Green Township resident volunteered her barn driveway as a turnaround point, Board advised Superintendent to look at the options for turnarounds for the road crew. No action required.

Jerry Williams asked about the status of the culvert issue on 20 Mile Road and 20th Avenue, Fork Township. David Molnar, Engineer stated DNRE has not been here yet to look at it. Mr Williams also had positive comments on the road conditions after the storm. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers informed the Board they are working on the Federal projects for 2011. No action required.

Board reviewed Wheatland Townships 2011 proposed projects. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers informed the Board of the new signage project that MDOT did on M-66 and how it affected the road signs the Townships had placed on that highway. Ms. Kuipers informed

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the Board there are signs that don't meet MDOT's standards and will not be put back up therefore she has requested they be returned. Ms. Kuipers also informed them that MDOT did replace some of the signs at no expense to the Road Commission. No action required.

Board reviewed the local bridge program selections with David Molnar. Mr. Molnar explained how the ratings work and what qualifies. No action required.

Board meeting dates for 2011 were reviewed and discussed. Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded a motion to approve the board meeting dates for 2011. Roll call vote of three (3) yes, motion carried. No action taken.

Mike Maneke informed the Board that the release for a turnaround on Okemos has not been returned yet. Board advised to contact Bart Chupp and have him come in today if possible to sign. No action required.

David Molnar updated the Board on the status of the situation on 6 Mile Road at Tullymore. Mr. Molnar stated Tullymore would like proof that they caused the issues there from the Road Commission. No action required.

Board reviewed the following: 1) Christian Oil letter. Joyce Kuipers recommended cleaning up the property and selling it. Ms. Kuipers stated there may be an opportunity to work together with Christian Oil this spring as they will be returning to finish up some work there and could provide some of their services in the cleanup effort; 2) MCRCSIP Board vacancies; 3) Big Rapids salt shed roof in regards to the shingles falling off. Board advised to go back to original contractor when building was built; 4) Extension of the listing for the 55th Avenue property with a recommendation to lower the price from the realtor. Board agreed to lower the price; 5) Maple Street building information regarding history and a request to donate money to replace roof. Board advised staff to look at the building; 6) WMPW Mutual Agreement, Board advised they are not interested at this time; 7) APWA Best Practices Seminar; 8) Truck Traffic Enforcement Seminar for weighmaster training. Board advised not to send anyone this year. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers informed the Board that the closing on the sale of the property in Altona, Hinton Township is scheduled at the end of the week. Board authorized John Currie, Chairman to attend and sign the closing documents for the sale of the above property. No action required.

Board discussed the weighmaster position for the upcoming season with Mike Maneke. Board offered Mike Maneke the position for 2011 season that would include an hourly wage. Board will discuss the details at a later date for the position. No action required.

Board reviewed the incident/accident report. No action required.

Supervisors meeting at 11:00 a.m. present: Jim Johnson, Frank Randall, Toni Valley. The Board was updated on regular and winter maintenance. Board discussed a snow fence issue on M-20 with Frank Randall. No action required.

Board reviewed correspondence. No action required.

Board discussed the seeding on 190th Avenue north of Jefferson with Mike Maneke and David Molnar. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers reviewed the finances with the Board. Randy Maxwell moved and Paul Jefts seconded a motion to approve 2010 Budget Revision #3 to bring budget in compliance. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

John Currie discussed the changes being made at the state level regarding the department head for DEQ. No action required.

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Meeting recessed for lunch at 11:30 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

David Molnar, Engineer reported to the Board that he received an estimate for the bridge on 220th Avenue from Krenn Bridge. Mr. Molnar also discussed the failing culvert on 19 Mile Road east of 65th Avenue. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers discussed with the Board the following; 1) The new mechanic begins Monday, December 20th; 2) An email from Bob Thomas in regards to his certificates for possible future employment; 3) Providing a safety dinner for the employees and retirees. It was decided to schedule a safety dinner for Thursday, December 30th at the Big Rapids garage, and the meat would be provided. The Board also discussed safety awards. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers and the Board discussed the Consulting Engineer's position. Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded a motion to retain Ed Burch as a Consulting Engineer for the 2011 year to be billed accordingly for his services as needed with the amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for the year. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

Joyce Kuipers discussed with the Board the comments from Specialty Claims regarding the DEQ issue and the reason for their lack of support. No action required.

Mike Maneke informed the Board that they are staking 5 Mile Road for tree cutting. Cards have been sent out to the property owners. No action required.

Mike Maneke discussed the catch basin located on 90th Avenue south of M-20 with the Board. Mr. Maneke stated the issues and recommended a contractor come in and do a boring to drain the water off 90th Avenue. Paul Jefts moved and no one person seconded a motion to approve getting estimates for a contractor to bore 90th Avenue south of M-20 with the cost not to exceed \$7,000.00. Roll call vote of two (2) yeas (Jefts, Currie), one (1) nay (Maxwell), motion carried.

Mike Maneke discussed the restricted road signage and the issues of enforcing the restrictions. Board advised to go to the townships for added signage needed. No action required.

At 2:15 p.m. Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the new superintendent's wage. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

At 2:25 p.m. Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded a motion to move back into general session. Roll call of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded a motion to approve paying the new superintendent an annual salary of \$43,000.00 effective February 1, 2011. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

Randy Maxwell moved and Paul Jefts seconded a motion to approve voucher 11/24/10 for payment in the amount of \$83,579.84 and voucher 12/15/10 for payment in the amount of \$112,418.18 as presented. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

John Currie discussed the bill from Zurich regarding the annual renewal fee for commercial storage tanks. Mr. Currie recommends we look at other companies including quotes from Farm Bureau Insurance. Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded a motion to hold check #33384 to Zurich until staff has an opportunity to look at other options. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

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Board discussed hiring an additional truck driver. Board advised Joyce Kuipers to offer the position to Brian Charron from the last interviews as a truck driver in the Big Rapids area. No action required.

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Board discussed the crew taking vacation during the winter season. No action required.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

BOARD SECRETARY

DATE