

MINUTES OF THE BOARD  
OF  
MECOSTA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

NO 1392

The regular meeting of the Board of Road Commissioners was held in their offices in the City of Big Rapids, Michigan on Tuesday, March 23, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 5:20 p.m.

Members Present: John Currie, Randy Maxwell, Paul Jefts

Members Absent: None

Member Present from Board of County Commissioners: Art Aldeman

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

Minutes from March 4, 2010 were approved as written.

Jeff Hull, Grant Township resident discussed 135<sup>th</sup> Avenue north of 18 Mile Road with the Board. Mr. Hull requested an upgrade with some gravel. Board advised Mike Maneke, Superintendent to look at this and come back to Board with a cost. No action required.

Paula Haywood, 10100 185<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Mecosta Township discussed the drainage issues located at the above address with the Board. Board advised Mike Maneke, Superintendent to look at the situation. No action required.

Bruce Cummings, Martiny Township Supervisor was present to discuss the proposed project list in particular 13 Mile Road between 60<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Mr. Cummings stated the Township would be willing to do a cost share for a mill and pave not to exceed the amount of \$40,000.00 for the 1½ mile stretch. No action required.

City of Big Rapids, Big Rapids Township, and Green Township officials were present to discuss the 18 Mile Road project with the Board. The consensus was that the parties involved wanted to go forward with the project using local funding so that the project could be done this year. All parties agreed to contribute funding. The City will take back to Commission and ask for \$20,000.00 to help support the project. The project will entail grading, pulverize and paving, closing 210<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and fixing the intersection at 18 Mile and Northland Drive. Board advised they will be looking for a commitment to redo intersection of 205<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Northland Drive at which time Shamrock would also be closed in the future. Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded a motion to approve the 18 Mile Road Project to be paid with local funds; with Big Rapids Township and Green Township contributing \$70,000.00 each, the City contributing \$20,000.00 and Road Commission contributing the rest through monies and in kind services according to the estimate presented. Roll call vote of three yeas, motion carried.

Steve Sobers, City Manager informed Board they are in the process of getting the paper work together for the property swap. Board informed Mr. Sobers that the County has a surveyor that can survey the property as needed. Board advised Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director to have Art Ranger, Surveyor do the survey. No action required.

Clare Kwant, Green Township resident was present to discuss the condition of Round Lake Road and the repairs needed between 190<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Fir Drive. Township inquired as to whether just the ¼ mile that was really bad could be done. Board advised they would discuss this after the annual ride around. Board advised Mike Maneke, Superintendent to check on limestone as a possibility. No action required.

Board discussed the Annual Township Meeting being held on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director informed them that Ed Noyola, CRAM is the guest speaker, and MDOT will be present also. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director informed the Board that Ed Burch, Engineer would be submitting a road project on Buchanan between 100<sup>th</sup> and 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue for the High Risk Rural Road Grant Fund, and that Morton Township has committed to funding the 20% match in the

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amount of \$80,000.00 required if the project receives the grant for the 2011 or 2012 year. No action required.

Board reviewed the Aetna Township Resolution in regards to removing a stop sign on 4 Mile Road. Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director advised Board to review that area during their annual ride around. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director informed the Board of the following: 1) Redistribution of left over ARRA monies does not look good for 5 Mile Road therefore Ed Burch, Engineer will be submitting project through STP Funds; 2) Category F Grants for 2012 information has been given to Ed Burch, Engineer, no action required.

Board discussed the Tullymore Condominium project regarding 6 Mile Road, no action was taken.

Board discussed the auction being held tomorrow, Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at the Road Commission. Board reiterated to Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director that they wanted a reserve on the three tri-axles. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director reviewed the annual bid tabulations and truck bids with the Board. Board advised they would like more information from Toni Kailing, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor on the fuel bids at the next regular scheduled meeting. Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded a motion to purchase three F150 pickups at \$17,772.00 each, and one F450 dually truck for \$46,883.00 from Fox Ford. Roll call vote of three yeas, motion carried.

Board discussed the property listings and the sale of the 5 acres in Aetna Township. Randy Maxwell moved and Paul Jefts seconded a motion to sell the 5 acres on 230<sup>th</sup> Avenue north of 4 Mile Road, Aetna Township to Doug Sarns for \$2,200.00 an acre. Roll call vote of two (2) yeas (Maxwell, Currie), and one (1) nay (Jefts), motion carried.

Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director presented the Act 51 Audit Report. Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded a motion to have the Chairman sign the 2009 Fiscal Year Annual Financial Report. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

Board discussed the Commissioners Conference, April 11-13, and the APWA Equipment Show, May 15-27, 2010. Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director recommended sending Toni Kailing, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor to the Equipment Show. Board advised her to do that. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director informed Board that a gate was removed on 2 Mile Road east of 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue as it was in ROW. Ms. Kuipers reported that the ROW there has been decertified but never abandoned. Property owners had concerns of situation and would like to apply for abandonment, however due to the documentation they had dated from 2001 they would like the fee waived. Randy Maxwell moved and Paul Jefts seconded a motion to waive the fee for this road abandonment application. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

Board reviewed the incident/accident report. Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director informed the Board of the request from Attorney regarding the Pine Lake/Camp Lawsuit. Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded a motion to waive the attorney fees regarding the Camp Lawsuit. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director informed the Board that the 4 10's schedule will begin April 5<sup>th</sup>. No action required.

Board reviewed the letter from employee's union regarding opening contract negotiations. Board discussed meeting with union as requested, and advised Manager to inform the union a meeting would be forth coming. No action required.

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Board reviewed correspondence. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director informed the Board that; 1) Weight restrictions would be lifted tomorrow, Wednesday, March 24 at 8:00 a.m.; 2) The international build date will be approximately May 17-20<sup>th</sup> and there are four spots reserved for Road Commission. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director informed the Board that Millbrook Road west of Costabella is closed due to an old building falling down, and the Fire Department requiring the road be closed due to safety reasons. The detour was routed down Jackson Road. Ms. Kuipers also informed the Board that at this time there is no projected date the building will be removed or who will be funding the demolition of the building. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director informed the Board that; 1) The Remus garage is down at least two men; medical and other issues; 2) The night patrol position ended March 19<sup>th</sup>. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director discussed a request from Art Ranger, Surveyor to purchase a laser level instead of the Carlson software that had been approved earlier. Board advised to approve that. No action required.

Joyce Kuipers, Managing Director informed the Board that a request from St. Michael's Church, Wheatland Township, would like a school crossing sign posted on 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue south of St. Michael's close to God's Helping Hands building. Board advised Mike Maneke, Superintendent to look at this and report back to the Board. No action required.

Mike Maneke, Superintendent discussed the issues at M-20 and 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue with the Board. Mr. Maneke concludes that the north side of 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue is MDOT's responsibility to repair, and the south side of 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue is the County's responsibility to repair. Mr. Maneke recommended cutting it down and filling with four or five inches of asphalt to save it. No action required.

Board reviewed the MCRSIP property appraisals. Board advised Manager to contact them again as they still want to meet with appraiser. No action required.

Paul Jefts moved and Randy Maxwell seconded a motion to approve voucher 3/24/10 for payment in the amount of \$122,088.81 as presented to the Board. Roll call vote of three (3) yeas, motion carried.

Mike Maneke, Superintendent informed the Board of the complaint he received regarding a farmer driving his vehicles in the ditch lines leaving ruts in the ditches on Evergreen Road west of 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Chippewa Township. No action required.

Mike Maneke, Superintendent informed Board of the complaint from Mr. Ron Anger at the intersection of M-20 and 140<sup>th</sup> Avenue regarding the sod that was pushed back in his field during winter maintenance. Board advised to contact MDOT with issue. No action required.

Mike Maneke, Superintendent discussed the broken grade-all and the need to repair it. Mr. Maneke expressed that they will need it for many projects this summer. Paul Jefts moved and John Currie seconded a motion approving payment of \$35,000.00 to AIS for repairs to the grade-all. Roll call vote three (3) yeas, motion carried.

Mike Maneke, Superintendent informed the Board that John Price, Price and Company will be here April 1<sup>st</sup> to evaluate 13 Mile Road between 60<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue for the possible use of fabric when repairing. No action required.

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Board scheduled their annual ride around during the next regular scheduled meeting, April 13<sup>th</sup>. No action required.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

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BOARD SECRETARY

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DATE