

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners conducted their annual meetings with township officials at the Road Commission offices north of Stephenson, on Wednesday, January 14, 2026.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. with the following persons present or absent:

Present: Leonard (Denny) Kosewski, James Marsicek, Ken Bower, Darrell Cass, and John Olsen. Also, present were Matt Miller, and Powers District Foreman Dave Blahnik.

Absent: None.

GOURLEY TOWNSHIP

(8:00 a.m.) Present for Gourley Township were Treasurer Stephanie Walechka, Clerk Ivy Netzel, Trustee Jesse Wery, and Trustee Dan Cordy.

Cass and the Board welcomed the township officials and made introductions.

Cass provided an overview of the 2025 Transportation Funding Package approved last fall. Cass noted that the first component was to exchange the Sales Tax on gasoline sales for a consistent twenty-one cent Fuel Tax – all dedicated to roads. This tax starts to be collected January 1, 2026, and is expected to reach the Road Commission by mid-year 2026. These funds are part of the MTF fund and will be subject to the existing MTF rules. He noted that the previous Individual Income Tax allocation was removed effective Oct 1, 2025, and has resulted in a temporary 19% reduction in 2026 Road Commission funds.

Cass explained the new Neighborhood Roads Fund. The NRF is expected to consist of a new allocation of Corporate Income Tax and a Wholesale Marijuana Tax. The Corporate Income Tax is replacing the Individual Income Tax component of the MTF. It is expected that the Road Commission will see these funds sometime in FY2027.

Next, Cass explained the Road Commission 2026 Proposed Budget. He reviewed the revenues and expenditures, noting that all revenues were committed to specific expenditures. A pie chart demonstrated where the funds come from and where they are used-noting that nearly all revenues result from mandatory expenditures. Cass noted that the Road Commission has been working to maintain a healthy fund balance to account for fiscal year shifts of major expenditures and catastrophic events.

Cass provided a map and summarized the road projects completed in 2025. Significant work was completed throughout the county, thanks to the countywide road millage. Projects included over thirty miles of chip sealing and over eight miles of asphalt paving.

Cass shared a map of the anticipated 2026 road projects. Additional projects will be programmed after all the Townships have provided their input on priority projects. A project selection meeting will be held in late February.

The specific areas of concern within the township were discussed. Cass provided a list of concerns that the Road Commission has identified and asked the Township officials what road concerns they have.

-Cass noted that Kellog Rd needs gravel and ROW brushing. Townline Rd, in partnership with Nadeau Township, needs gravel. DePas Lane and Mack Rd also need gravel.

-Township noted a culvert collapse on CR551 just north of Maple Ln.

-Township requested maintenance gravel on gravel portion of CR551.

-Township requested dust control be applied as early as possible in the summer.

Township officials left the meeting at 8:28 am.

SPALDING TOWNSHIP

(8:30 a.m.) Present for Spalding Township were Supervisor Jim Moraska and Trustee Kevin LaBonte.

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- Cass noted road segments needing gravel resurfacing: Oro Rd, including grade lift; North Gabor Rd, also needing grade lift. They discussed possible sources for pit run to use on N. Gabor Rd.
- Cass mentioned that Kell Rd and Pine Avenue were potential local road millage candidates.
- Township requested estimate for gravel resurfacing and grade lift on Oro Rd.

Township officials left the meeting at 8:59 am.

FAITHORN TOWNSHIP

(9:03 a.m.) Present for Faithorn Township were Clerk Kathy Branz, Trustee Rita Bal, and Trustee Bill DeVoe. Stephenson District Foreman Scott Phelps and Engineering Assistant Henry Golding joined the meeting.

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-Cass noted that Blum Rd was pulverized and ready for gravel resurfacing. He also announced the CR577 federal aid safety project to replace/install guardrail along CR577 north of CR388. Chip sealing of that segment of CR577 is also proposed.

- Township thanked the Road Commission for the Blum Rd improvements.
- Township requested maintenance gravel on Bird Rd just off of CR577.
- Township informed of a collapsed culvert on State Rd north of Blum Rd.
- Township noted a drainage issue on State Rd between fire numbers N15348 and N15356.

Township officials left the meeting at 9:30 am. Blahnik and Phelps also left the meeting.

CEDARVILLE TOWNSHIP

(10:00 a.m.) Present for Cedarville Township was Supervisor Lin Peterson. Menominee District Foreman Brent Stanislawski joined the meeting.

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- Cass mentioned non-compliant speed limit signs placed by residents.
- Cass suggested that a continuation of paving on CR551 was a possible road millage candidate.

-Township mentioned that gravel portion of CR551 south of CR366 needs maintenance gravel and possible grade lift.

Township official left the meeting at 10:29 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Finance Director / Clerk

Chair