

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners held a regular meeting in their offices north of Stephenson on Tuesday, November 11, 2008.

Chair Betzinger called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. with the following persons present or absent:

PRESENT: William Anderson, Roger Betzinger, Judy Nerat, Darrell Moilanen and Lisa Savord. Also present were Sandy Davis, John Davis, Gary Dantine, Thomas Kmiecek, Darlene Nerat, John Nerat, Dale Axtell and Joe Skrobiak.

ABSENT: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions to agenda - None.

Public comments - None

Public appearances - None.

Additions/corrections to minutes for 10/14/08 – There being no additions or corrections, Betzinger declared that the minutes will stand as recorded.

Additions/corrections to minutes for 10/23/08 – Nerat inquired on the cost of providing health insurance for the employees and asked that the board consider the cost of this benefit when negotiating the upcoming contracts. There being no additions or corrections, Betzinger declared that the minutes will stand as recorded.

Financial Report –

	Receipts	Expenditures	Payables/ Reserves	Balances
Balance, October 13, 2008				\$1,254,163.55
Receipts thru 10/31/08	102,737.94			
Expenditures thru 10/31/08	-	191,363.85		-
Balance, October 31, 2008				\$1,165,537.64
Michigan Transportation Funds	306,235.21			
Receipts thru 11/10/08	199,233.98			
Expenditures thru 11/10/08		186,750.73		
State Maint. & Equip. Advances			105,811.00	
Balance, November 10, 2008	608,207.13	378,114.58	105,811.00	\$1,378,445.10

Payables & Reserves

Payroll 11/13 & 11/27 (Est.)	170,000.00			
Soc. Sec. 11/13 & 11/27 (Est.)			13,005.00	
Reserve for workers compensation insurance			57,600.00	
Reserve for liability insurance			97,720.00	
Reserve for new rental grader lease			114,880.00	
Reserve 4% set-aside for township allocations (2004/2005)			35,391.55	
Reserve 4% set-aside for township allocations (2005/2006)			79,226.80	
Reserve 4% set-aside for township allocations (2006/2007)			122,652.06	
Reserve - CR 551 paving (South of CR 374)			2,465.70	
Reserve Hannahville 2% Funds - Wilson Creek Bridge			50,000.00	
Reserve Federal Aid Buy-Out [CR 338 Project]			292,870.08	
Reserve for driveway deposits			1,707.30	
Reserve for Design Engineering for Local Bridges			68,603.00	
Reserve for Forest Funds			161,015.98	
Reserve for equipment			19,814.00	(\$1,286,951.47)

91,493.63

There being no questions or comments, Betzinger declared the financial report accepted as read.

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Vouchers # 08-1031, 09-0002, 09-0003, 09-0005

Moved by Anderson, seconded by Nerat, that the vouchers be approved and ordered paid. Carried unanimously.

Discuss email from Sherry Smith regarding the MCRC web site content – A discussion was held regarding posting the Agenda and Minutes from the MCRC meetings on the county web site. Betzinger stated that he would also like to see various forms posted for public use, as well as information on signed construction contracts. Moilanen will contact Smith to see if there is enough space available on the web site to post all information. Moved by Anderson, seconded by Nerat to approve posting MCRC information on the web site. Carried unanimously.

2008 ASMRC Annual Conference - Moved by Anderson, seconded by Nerat, to allow Moilanen to attend the conference. Carried unanimously.

Agreement with Railroad for Closure of Apple Blossom Lane RR Crossing – Moved by Anderson, seconded by Nerat, to sign the agreement. Carried unanimously.

Withdrawal of motion from 04/22/08 meeting regarding relocation of mechanics – Moved by Nerat, seconded by Anderson to rescind the previous motion to relocate all mechanics to the Stephenson shop. Carried unanimously. MCRC will operate with 2 mechanics at the Powers shop and 2 mechanics at the Stephenson shop.

Motions to Transfer Financial Authority and Authority to Sign Checks

Transfer of Financial Authority: Motion made by Anderson, and seconded by Nerat to approve the transfer of all financial authority, duties and responsibilities currently held by the previous Clerk-Office Manager (June Kirschner) to new Clerk-Office Manager (Lisa Savord). Carried unanimously.

Authority to Sign Checks: Motion made by Anderson, and seconded by Nerat to designate the following individuals as authorized signers with the Stephenson National Bank: (1) Darrell Moilanen, (2) Menominee County Treasurer, (3) Lisa Savord, and (4) Carla O'Neil. Carried unanimously.

Discuss publication of Snow Plowing Press Release, Mailbox Policy and US41 Plowing –

Moved by Nerat, seconded by Anderson to publish the Mailbox Policy in the Menominee County Journal. Carried unanimously.

Moilanen presented a proposed press release to inform the public of changes in the snow plowing routes due to the closure of the Menominee shop. Moved by Nerat, seconded by Anderson to publish the press release. Carried unanimously.

Moilanen presented information received from MDOT regarding the priority of plowing on the State Trunk line Highways. He also presented a proposed press release to pass the information on to the public. Moved by Anderson, seconded by Nerat to publish the press release. Carried unanimously.

Other Business - Moilanen presented a copy of the ORV Ordinance that is being proposed by the Menominee County Board. A discussion ensued regarding Sec 11-a of the ordinance that gives responsibility to the Road Commission to post signs indicating ORV speed limits or indicating whether a road is open or closed to ORV traffic. Moilanen state that this would be a burden on the road commission to keep up with all the possible changes and that publishing a map of the roads open to ORV's may be a better alternative. Moved by Anderson, seconded by Nerat to have Moilanen compose a letter to the county board stating the road commission's position and to also have Moilanen attend the public hearing on December 9. Carried unanimously.

Moilanen presented a letter received regarding the request submitted for Hannahville 4% funding in the amount of \$50,000 for the upgrading and paving of Old US 2 near the Wilson Creek. The letter stated that the MCRC will be granted \$25,485.98 for this project. Moilanen suggested that a letter be sent along with the signed acceptance stating that this grant will be accepted for the construction, but no paving would be done unless additional funds were granted. Moved by Anderson, seconded by Nerat to sign the grant acceptance and for Moilanen to compose the letter. Carried unanimously.

Betzinger inquired about the Snowplow Safety program. Moilanen stated that the program had begun this week and that he had heard back from all but 2 schools to schedule the presentation.

Nerat inquired as to how her vacancy on the road commission would be filled. Moilanen stated that per the County Administrator the opening would be posted in the local newspaper once an official resignation was received. The county board then reviews the applicants and appoints one of them to fill the remainder of the term.

Nerat asked if the \$300/month retainer fee being paid for legal council was worthwhile and whether we should continue this practice or hire legal council on an as needed basis. Moilanen stated that he did use their services, but would survey other counties to see what they do. He will also pull the contract between MCRC and Michael Kluck & Associates for discussion at the next meeting.

Public comments - None

There being no further business, Betzinger declared the meeting adjourned. 7:00 p.m.

Road Commission Clerk

Chair