

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners held a regular meeting in their offices north of Stephenson on Monday, July 13, 2009.

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following persons present or absent:

PRESENT: William Anderson, Roger Betzinger, Mary Maas, Darrell Moilanen and Lisa Savord. Also present were Jerry Truitt, Darlene Nerat, John Nerat, Dale Axtell, Mike Gustafson and Gary Dantine.

ABSENT: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions to agenda - None.

Public comments – Dale Axtell inquired who the foreman is for the south end of the county and how he could be reached. Moilanen responded that it is Bob Hanson and he can be reached by calling the Stephenson office.

Darlene Nerat commented that the area by the historical marker on US41 had not yet been mowed. Moilanen commented that there is currently only one mower and MDOT wants the clear vision areas cut first. Ms. Nerat also stated that the intersection of CR338 & CR577 was in need of mowing to allow better vision. Moilanen took note of that. She also asked where the gravel came from that was spread on CR338 as the dust is red and residents are complaining about the dust from the road.

Public appearances – Jerry Truitt: Mr. Truitt stated that he had assumed that at the February 10, 2009 meeting it was decided that he would be given an access road to his property from 17.75 Road. Discussion was held regarding the right of way of the county road and where Mr. Truitt would like the access road to be. Mr. Truitt stated that he would also like a second access road into the property from 17.75 Road. Moilanen explained that when a road is improved the property owners were usually given back the same amount of access that they had prior to the improvement. Mr. Truitt was also advised that if he were to put in an additional access road in the future, it would be at his own expense and that a Driveway Permit would be needed. Moilanen also recommended that he check with the railroad to determine what their right of way is in this area. Moved by Maas, seconded by Betzinger to provide Mr. Truitt with one access road into his property from 17.75 Road. Carried unanimously.

Additions/corrections to minutes for 06/09/09 and 06/22/09- There being no additions or corrections, Anderson declared that the minutes will stand as recorded.

Financial Report –

	Receipts	Expenditures	Payables/ Reserves	Balances
Balance, June 8, 2009				\$1,697,186.51
Receipts thru 06/30/09	139,769.85			
Expenditures thru 06/30/09		224,066.41		
Balance, June 30, 2009				\$1,612,889.95
Michigan Transportation Funds	259,362.17			
Receipts thru 07/13/09	44,196.77			
Expenditures thru 07/13/09		64,065.81		
State Maint. & Equip. Advances			105,811.00	
Balance, July 13, 2009	443,328.79	288,132.22	105,811.00	\$1,746,572.08

Payables & Reserves

Payroll 07/23, 08/06 (Est.)	120,000.00
Soc. Sec. 07/23, 08/06 (Est.)	9,180.00
Reserve for workers compensation insurance	6,750.00
Reserve for liability insurance	54,000.00
Reserve for rental grader lease	77,584.09
Reserve 4% set-aside for township allocations (2004/2005)	6,077.08
Reserve 4% set-aside for township allocations (2005/2006)	44,472.71
Reserve 4% set-aside for township allocations (2006/2007)	82,623.06
Reserve Hannahville 2% Funds - Wilson Creek Bridge	46,347.08
Reserve Hannahville 2% Funds - Town Line Rd to Vincent Ln. Const.	25,485.98

Reserve Hannahville 2% Funds - Town Line Rd to Vincent Ln. Pave	26,092.51	
Reserve Federal Aid Buy-Out [CR 338 Project]	292,870.08	
Reserve for driveway deposits	1,186.09	
Reserve for Design Engineering for Local Bridges	35,627.37	
Reserve for CR 557 Bridge over Big Cedar River	134,600.00	
Reserve for Old CR 352 Paving, Steph. Twp Advance	145,159.55	
Reserve for Bridge Inspections, Scour & Plans of Action	148,220.00	
Reserve for Design of F-4 Bridge over Big Cedar River	32,269.00	
Reserve for Evergreen Road (Twp. Advance Payment)	135,633.74	
Reserve for Forest Funds	161,015.98	
Reserve for equipment	4,317.52	(\$1,589,511.84)
		<hr/> \$157,060.24

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

Vouchers # 09-0550, 09-0051, 09-0053 09-0054, 09-0056 and 09-0630 – Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Maas, that the vouchers be approved and ordered paid. Carried unanimously.

Open Bids for HMA Base Crushing – Bids were received as follows: Bacco Construction Company, Iron Mountain, MI - \$28,763.32 (.52/sq yd + maximum mobilization of \$1,000). Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Maas to accept the bid. Carried unanimously.

Sign contract with Bacco Construction Company for paving of Old CR352 – Official contracts for the project were signed.

Resolution of participation and sign Cost Agreement with MDOT for Traffic Signal Control at US41/Mill Street, Stephenson -

Commissioner **Maas** offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption.

WHEREAS the Michigan Department of Transportation has contracted with Alger Delta Coop Electric for the modernization of an overhead flashing signal on US-41 at Mill Street, Stephenson, Menominee County,

AND WHEREAS the Department of Transportation has asked the Menominee County Road Commission to handle the energy billings;

AND WHEREAS the Department of Transportation will reimburse the Road Commission for those billings plus handling charges;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Menominee County Road Commission cooperate with the Department of Transportation in the payment of energy bills for the flasher referenced in MDOT Plan No. 55012-02-001, Work Auth No. 16053 at no cost to the Road Commission;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Engineer-Manager be authorized to sign the “Cost Agreement for Traffic Signal Control” documents.

Seconded by Commissioner **Betzinger** and carried by the following vote: Ayes: **3**, Nays: **0**

Discuss MDOT proposal to close the railroad crossing at G-3 Road, North of US2 – MDOT recommends the closing of the railroad crossing at G-3 Road due to safety concerns. Following discussion it was decided to send a letter to Spalding Township officials to get their input prior to any further discussion on closing this crossing.

Permission to place items in surplus sale - Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Maas, to have Moilanen prepare a list of items to be put up for sale. Carried unanimously.

Permission to bid for drilling of new well at Stephenson Office/Shop – Due to a continuing problem with bacteria in the well, the Health Department is requiring that a new well be drilled. Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Maas, to obtain bids for the drilling of a new well. Carried unanimously.

Permission to bid plow wing shoes – Moved by Maas, seconded by Betzinger to have Moilanen obtain bids. Carried unanimously.

Permission to bid paving of Old US41/Vincent Lane project - Moved by Maas, seconded by Betzinger to have Moilanen obtain bids. Carried unanimously.

Set rates for driveway plowing for the 09/10 winter season – Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Maas to continue with the program using the same rates as last year. Carried unanimously.

Discuss request from Hannahville Indian community for a permit to upgrade a portion of No. 39 Road, east of Hannahville – Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Maas to issue the permit, as long as there is no cost to the road commission and the road is built to MCRC standards. Carried unanimously.

Discuss Plunger/Faccio camp road in Meyer Township – Moilanen provided video of a sign and gate that property owners put up that closed the county road and redirected traffic to a private road. Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Maas to have Moilanen send a letter to the property owners requesting that the gate and sign be removed within ten days. Carried unanimously.

Any other business – Maas asked why the paving of Evergreen Road became so narrow at the end. Moilanen explained that due to wetlands mitigation and few residents in that area, the road commission and the Menominee Township board decided not to keep the road as wide in that area. Maas stated she thought a “Road Narrows” sign is needed in that area. Moilanen will have the sign put up.

Moilanen asked the board to consider demolishing the front office section of the Menominee building. Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Maas to have Moilanen write a bid spec for the demolition. Carried unanimously.

Discuss future use of road commission buildings and structuring of districts – Moilanen outlined several possible options for future utilization of road commission buildings and staff, and explained that any option the board chose could be made to work well for the road commission. A lengthy discussion was held regarding staff and facility utilization and the level of service provided to residents.

Moved by Betzinger to operate for the upcoming winter the same as last winter, with the Menominee crew working out of the Stephenson shop year round. The motion died for want of a second.

Moved by Maas, seconded by Anderson to move the Menominee crew, with the exception of the mechanic, back to the Menominee shop for the winter months (approximately November 9 to April 9). Carried by the following vote: Ayes: 2 (Maas, Anderson) Nays: 1 (Betzinger)

Public Comment – Darlene Nerat complimented the road commission on the installation of the culverts on CR577.

There being no further business, Anderson declared the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Road Commission Finance Director/Clerk

Chair