

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners began their annual meetings with township officials in the Road Commission offices north of Stephenson on Monday, January 31, 2011.

Chair Betzinger called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. with the following persons present or absent.

PRESENT: William Anderson, Roger Betzinger, Anthony Kakuk, Darrell Moilanen and Lisa Savord. Also present were Mark Jasper-Menominee County Commissioner, Raymond Betters-MCRC Powers District foreman and Robert Hanson-MCRC Stephenson District Foreman.

ABSENT: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MEYER TOWNSHIP

Meyer Township officials did not attend.

FAITHORN TOWNSHIP

(6:25 p.m.) Present for Faithorn Township were Treasurer Renee Augustine, Clerk Rose Gagne, and Trustee William DeVoe.

Moilanen welcomed the township officials and introductions were made. Moilanen stated that a copy of the Road Commission's ACT 51 report would be mailed to the townships by the end of February, 2011.

Moilanen presented information regarding upcoming changes to the reflectivity standards for road name signs within the townships and stated that as signs were damaged or stolen, the township would have to replace them with signs that meet the new standards.

Road Commission 2011 Projects – Moilanen presented a handout listing the projects that the road commission has planned for the upcoming year.

Faithorn Township's number one priority is still Gustafson Road. Brushing is also needed on Gustafson Road at the intersection of Cedar Lane.

Trustee DeVoe stated that he had received a call that CR388 needed sanding. He also stated that the northwest corner of Blom Road and CR577 and the area or CR577 near the cemetery (State Road) needed brushing.

Faithorn Township officials and Robert Hanson left the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

GOURLEY TOWNSHIP

(7:00 p.m.) Supervisor Stephen Wery, Clerk Cindy Berger, Treasurer Stephanie Walechka and Trustees Joe Bellmore and Jesse Wery were present for Gourley Township.

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Supervisor Wery asked about the County Three-Way Road Funding program. Moilanen stated that the county board had voted the program down.

Supervisor Wery stated that the township continues to apply for Hannanville 2% Grants for roads.

It was noted that CR557, from CR380 to CR374, is in bad shape and needs reconstruction work when funds are available.

DePas Lane is still holding up real well. Supervisor Wery stated that the road crews were doing a great job and were good to work with.

Gourley Township officials and Raymond Betters left the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

MENOMINEE TOWNSHIP

(7:30 p.m.) Supervisor Ken Goffin, Clerk Mike Armbrust, Treasurer David Wesoloski and Trustee Darlene Nerat were present from Menominee Township. Denny Kosewski, MCRC Menominee District Foreman and John Nerat also joined the meeting.

Supervisor Goffin called a special meeting of the Menominee Township Board to run concurrent with the road commission meeting.

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Supervisor Goffin asked what the plans were for River Road. Moilanen stated that dependent on the condition of the road it may be chip sealed in the future.

Supervisor Goffin stated that the township would like the road commission to go ahead with the construction on No. 9 Road and No. 7 Road. Moilanen will draw up the contracts for both projects based on the estimates.

Supervisor Goffin stated that Old US41 north of 6.25 Lane is in bad condition and should be pulverized if the road commission was working in the area. Moilanen stated that No. 6.25 Road would be monitored in the spring for possible improvements and/or ditching.

The following items were discussed regarding the township going out for bids for the paving of No. 7 Road and No. 9 Road: Supervisor Goffin and Moilanen will meet to review the bid spec's prior to the township advertising the projects; Kakuk suggested that the hot mix and cold mix be put on separate bids; the contractor that is awarded the bid will need to provide a certificate of insurance indemnifying the Menominee County Road Commission from liability; Menominee Township will provide copies of all invoices paid for the projects to the road commission for the purpose of recording the improvement to the infrastructure assets; once the time frames for the projects are established the road commission will provide the township with an estimate of the cost to provide an inspector for the various stages of the project.

Regarding the construction of No. 9 Road, Supervisor Goffin asked if tree removal and ditching were included in the estimate. Moilanen stated they were. Supervisor Goffin inquired where the embankment material would come from for the No. 7 Road. Moilanen stated that had not yet been determined. Supervisor Goffin suggested that when T-1 Road was ditched the material removed could be used on No. 7 Road. Supervisor Goffin asked how the billing for the gravel the township provides for the projects would be handled. Moilanen stated that the road commission would pay the township for the full cost and then bill the township back for their 50% share.

Supervisor Goffin asked if the township were to provide the gravel for general road maintenance within the township, would there be any additional costs to the township. Moilanen said there would not be any further costs as the road commission still provides the labor and equipment to apply

maintenance gravel at no cost to any of the townships.

Supervisor Goffin stated that when MDOT worked on US41 they removed the approach radius at the intersection of 9.5 Road. He asked if the township could have it fixed. Moilanen stated that they would need a permit from MDOT to work in their right of way. Moilanen will research the issue for the township.

Treasurer Wesoloski asked for an estimate of any other costs involved with the No.7 Road and No. 9 Road projects, or other items, such as dust control, etc, for budgeting purposes. Moilanen will look at last year's records to see how many gallons of dust control brine the township used and how many times they applied it. Kosewski suggested that the township consider purchasing calcium chloride instead of mineral well brine. It costs about twice as much per gallon, but lasts much longer. Treasurer Wesoloski asked how soon payment would have to be made for the township's 50% of the No.7 Road and No. 9 Road construction. Moilanen stated that an invoice would be issued.

Trustee Armbrust asked for an explanation of where the amounts came from on the construction estimates. Moilanen stated that the estimates are produced through MERL using average prices from throughout the state, and that it included all costs associated with each line item, such as labor, equipment, benefits, etc.

Supervisor Goffin asked if the idea of assessing a ½% sales tax to fund road projects had been looked into. Kakuk stated that it was illegal to do so per the Headlee Tax laws.

Treasurer Wesoloski asked if River Blvd. would need maintenance only. Moilanen stated some sections are in poor condition and would probably need an undercut and geogrid, with the section south of Sunset being worse off with 6" ruts in some areas. Soil borings would need to be done to determine a course of action.

Treasurer Wesoloski also said that Bay de Noc Road, from 48th Ave. to Evergreen was in the township's three year plan for reconstruction. Moilanen stated that the section from 48th Ave. to 56th Ave. would just need a crush, shape & pave or chip seal. The remaining section would need more extensive work. It is a federal aid eligible route. The township will contact CUPPAD to request a map of federal aid eligible roads within Menominee Township.

There being no further business, Betzinger declared the meeting adjourned. 8:27 p.m.

Finance Director/Clerk

Chair