

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners continued their annual meetings with township officials at the Harris Township Hall on Wednesday, February 16, 2011.

The meeting was called to order by Harris Township Supervisor Peter Kleiman. The road commission portion of the meeting began at 7:40 p.m.

PRESENT: William Anderson, Roger Betzinger, Anthony Kakuk, Darrell Moilanen and Lisa Savord. Also present were Harris Township officials: Peter Kleiman-Supervisor, Robert Hanchek-Clerk, Doreen Bower-Treasurer, Alex Jorasz-Trustee and Les Kleiman-Trustee; and those attending the Harris Township Board meeting.

ABSENT: None.

Moilanen introduced the road commissioners and staff to the township board.

Road Commission 2011 Projects – Moilanen presented a handout listing the projects that the road commission has planned for the upcoming year. Future projects in Harris Township include chip sealing various roads, construction of the F-4 Lane Bridge, the Wilson Creek con-span, tree cutting on Mazur Road, and graveling & shouldering as needed on various roads.

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.

Supervisor Kleiman asked if Moilanen could provide a cost for the construction Old US2, east of Vincent Lane. Moilanen stated that soil borings of the road bed would need to be done first. Supervisor Kleiman stated that he had received complaints about the condition of the road from the school bus drivers. Moilanen will look at the road in the spring.

Supervisor Kleiman asked about the soil borings on County Line Road. Moilanen will send a copy of the reports to the township board. Moilanen noted that this project was not a funding priority with the BIA at this time.

Supervisor Kleiman asked if the Pach Road Bridge had been funded. Moilanen stated that it had not been funded in the current round. Applications can be submitted again in May, 2011 for consideration for 2014 funds.

Supervisor Kleiman stated he had received complaints from residents on CR551 that the road was being plowed to late in the day during snow storms, presenting a problem for residents that travel to the Escanaba area for work. Moilanen stated that this was the longest plow route in the county. Supervisor Kleiman asked if the driver for this route could work on Eastern time. Moilanen stated that the road commission operated on Central time. Currently the drivers begin plowing at 4 a.m. Central time if the snow has ended or at 7 a.m. Central time if it is still snowing.

Clerk Hanchek stated that the grader is pushing the fence down at the cemetery on Cheese Factory Road. Moilanen will contact him on February 17, 2011 to meet at the cemetery to look at it.

Supervisor Kleiman asked when Mazur Road would be graveled. Moilanen replied it was scheduled to be done by Nov. 1, 2011.

Supervisor Kleiman asked why there was more ice control sand spread on the south end of the county than on the north end. Moilanen stated that there is more traffic on the south end travelling at higher speeds and with a higher rate of accidents. The only complaint the road commission had received on the north end was on Chelowan Lane.

A township resident asked why the grass on D-1 Road was only mowed to the end of the blacktop on the first pass, and not all the way to the end of the gravel. Moilanen stated that the road commission's policy is to mow all the paved roads first, with the gravel roads being done last.

The road commission representatives left the meeting at 8:35 p.m.