

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners held a regular meeting in their offices north of Stephenson on Tuesday, December 13, 2011.

Chair Betzinger called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following persons present or absent:

PRESENT: William Anderson, Roger Betzinger, Anthony Kakuk, Darrell Moilanen and Lisa Savord. Also present were Chuck Behrend, Joe Skrobiak, Darlene Nerat, John Nerat, Dale Axtell, and David Wesoloski.

ABSENT: None

Public comments – Dale Axtell asked if House Bills 5125 & 5126 had passed. Moilanen stated that they had passed the House and were being taken up in committee today in the Senate. Axtell asked if the county board were to take over the road commission, what would happen to the current employees. Moilanen stated that would be up to the county board how they would want to structure the road commission. Kakuk commented that it would be a big job for the county boards to take over the road commissions as 75% of the state’s roads currently fall under the jurisdiction of the road commissions, with the other 25% being under the State & local governments. Axtell asked if the county board would be able to do an adequate job of running the road commission. Moilanen stated that the current system works, but the real problem is inadequate funding.

John Nerat asked if the road commission was considering scheduling some of their regular meetings in the evening. Betzinger stated they would continue to be in the morning as the attendance did not increase when the meetings were held in the evening. It was also noted that if someone had a concern they wanted to address with the board, the board could accommodate their schedule.

Joe Skrobiak asked if an “ICY” sign could be put up at the bridge where G18 comes into Michigan. Moilanen stated he will have the foreman put extra sand down in the area.

Public appearances – None.

Additions/corrections to minutes for 11/08/11 – There being no additions or corrections, Betzinger declared that the minutes will stand as recorded.

Financial Report -

	Receipts	Expenditures	Payables / Reserves	Balances
Balance, November 07, 2011				\$1,172,615.40
Receipts thru 11/30/11	31,684.66			
Expenditures thru 11/30/11		334,201.38		
Balance, November 30, 2011				870,098.68
Michigan Transportation Funds	218,843.27			
Receipts thru 12/12/11	36,416.61			
Expenditures thru 12/12/11		147,307.40		
State Maint. & Equip. Advances			93,809.00	
Balance, December 12, 2011	286,944.54	481,508.78	93,809.00	884,242.16

Payables & Reserves

Payroll 12/22, 01/05 (Est.)	130,000.00
Soc. Sec. 12/22, 01/05 (Est.)	9,945.00
Reserve for workers compensation insurance	10,013.00
Reserve for liability insurance	95,688.00
Reserve for rental grader lease (Dec 2009)	55,334.59
Reserve for rental grader leases (Oct 2010)	258,125.58
Reserve 4% set-aside for township allocations (2005/2006)	2,327.67
Reserve 4% set-aside for township allocations (2006/2007)	24,373.37
Reserve for MCRC balance of Old US2 over Wilson Creek	0.00
Reserve Hannahville 2% Funds-County Line Rd.	
Borings	0.00

Reserve Hannahville 2% Funds-Sign Truck	22,500.00	
Reserve for 2011 bridge inspections & load ratings	24,852.50	
Reserve for F-4 Lane bridge (Harris Twp)	248.60	
Reserve for Forest Funds	161,015.98	
Reserve for driveway plowing	3,462.30	
Reserve for equipment (Sign Truck)	125,686.00	(923,572.59)
		\$ (39,330.43)

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

Vouchers # 12-0008, 12-0009, 12-0011, 12-1130, and 12-0013 – Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Anderson that the vouchers be approved and ordered paid. Carried unanimously.

Discuss 2012 Regular Meeting schedule – Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Anderson to approve the schedule as follows, carried unanimously:

Tuesday, January 3, 2012	9:00 a.m. (Reorganizational Meeting)
Tuesday, January 10, 2012	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, February 7, 2012	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, March 13, 2012	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, April 10, 2012	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, May 15, 2012	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, June 5, 2012	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, July 10, 2012	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, August 14, 2012	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, September 11, 2012	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, October 9, 2012	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, November 13, 2012	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, December 11, 2012	9:00 a.m.

Discuss permit request from Merit Network, Inc. – Moilanen explained that Merit Network, Inc., was a non-profit corporation that was installing fiber optic cable to provide internet to rural areas. The permit request was for installation along 39.25 Road, from US 41 to CR566 and back to US 41. Moved by Anderson, seconded by Kakuk to allow the permit only if Merit Network, Inc. agrees to the inclusion of language indicating that there would be no cost to the Road Commission for any future relocation of the cable or for any damage to the cable. Carried unanimously.

Act on resolution allowing Chair or Vice-Chair to sign Federal Aid contracts for Crack Sealing & Chip Sealing various roads –

Commissioner Anderson moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Menominee County Road Commission to Crack Seal and Chip Seal various roads within Menominee County, using STP, Federal D and State D Funding.

AND WHEREAS, it is necessary to complete the forms and contracts for such funds,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chair or Vice-Chair are herewith authorized and empowered to enter into and sign any and all agreements necessary to receive STP, Federal D and State D Funds for the project listed above.

It was seconded by Commissioner Kakuk and carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 3; Nays: 0.

Discuss attendance at January 5, 2012 GLC meeting – All commissioners and Moilanen will attend the meeting in Baraga.

Any other business – Kakuk stated that the meeting in Lansing with the legislators regarding HB5125 & 5126 had gone well. He encouraged township officials to contact their senators & representatives also.

Kakuk stated he had received a request for grading on the Sturgeon Landing Road due to logging operations in the area. Moilanen will have the foreman look at this area.

Public Comment – David Wesoloski asked if the road commission had funds coming in the future that would offset the current deficit at the bottom of the financial report. Moilanen stated that the number changes each month depending on the flow of revenues and expenditures.

Mr. Wesoloski asked if the road commission knows where they will be using the balance of the gravel that the township had crushed. Moilanen stated it would depend on the projects that are approved in the township for the upcoming year.

Mr. Wesoloski stated the MTA state meeting was scheduled for January 24 – 27, 2012 and that the county MTA meeting would be on January 19, 2012; and asked that the road commission take these dates into consideration when planning the annual township meeting schedule.

Joe Skrobiak asked if the road commission could alter the employees' vacation schedule so that there were more employees working during hunting season. Moilanen stated that the bargaining agreement lists the first week of hunting season as one of the designated vacation weeks.

Dale Axtell asked if Bay de Noc Road from 48<sup>th</sup> Ave. to Evergreen Road could be chip sealed. Moilanen stated that the road was in too poor condition for a chip seal and would need to be pulverized, rebuilt and repaved, but funds are not available at this time for the project.

Chuck Behrend asked if the state township organization had taken a stand on HB5125 & 5126. David Wesoloski replied that they had remained neutral on both bills.

John Nerat asked about the deadline for replacing the road signs under the federally mandated program. Moilanen stated that the law had been changed to now allow signs to be replaced as needed.

There being no further business, Betzinger declared the meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

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Road Commission Finance Director/Clerk

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Chair