

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners held a regular meeting in their offices north of Stephenson on Tuesday, December 10, 2013.

Chair Kakuk 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 Joe Skrobiak, David Wesoloski, Larry Barker, Gerald Piche, Darlene Nerat and John Nerat.

Absent: None

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public comments – None.

Public appearances – None.

Additions/corrections to minutes for 11/12/13 –There being no additions or corrections, Kakuk declared that the minutes will stand as written.

Financial Report –

	Receipts	Expenditures	Payables / Reserves	Balances
Balance, November 11, 2013				\$1,325,963.86
Receipts thru 11/30/13	188,687.90			
Expenditures thru 11/30/13		220,114.85		
Balance, November 30, 2013				1,294,536.91
Michigan Transportation Funds	239,015.38			
Receipts thru 12/09/13	20,410.80			
Expenditures thru 12/09/13		141,353.77		
State Maint. & Equip. Advances			117,398.00	
Balance, December 9, 2013	448,114.08	361,468.62	117,398.00	1,295,211.32
<u>Payables & Reserves</u>				
Payroll 12/19, and 01/02 (Est.)			125,000.00	
Soc. Sec. 12/19 and 01/02 (Est.)			9,562.50	
Reserve for workers compensation insurance			6,948.69	
Reserve for liability insurance			95,794.64	
Reserve for rental grader lease (Dec 2009)			18,261.53	
Reserve for rental grader leases (Oct 2010)			128,018.34	
Reserve for F-4 Lane bridge (Harris Twp)			575.25	
Reserve for snowplow cutting edges			0.00	
Reserve for design of CR 358 (US41 to K-1 Road)			8,275.00	
Reserve for Forest Funds			161,015.11	
Reserve RR X'ing closure funds for Nadeau Twp. projects			123,250.00	
Reserve for design of Pach Lane bridge			32,000.00	
Reserve for Hannahville 2% funds-crack filling machine rental			18,862.50	
Reserve for 2013 Federal Aid match			30.96	(727,594.52)
				\$ 567,616.80

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

Vouchers # 14-0009, 14-1130, and 14-0011 – Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Anderson that the vouchers be approved and ordered paid. Carried unanimously.

Discuss participation in the cost of Public Service Announcements on TV6 – Moved by Anderson, seconded Kakuk to not participate in the cost since a lot of the households in the county are unable to get programming from TV6. Carried unanimously.

Discuss correspondence received from Normenco Sportsman Club and the Cedarville Township Board regarding the proposed DNR ORV connector trails – Moilanen stated that the long term goal of the DNR was to have a multi-use trail throughout the entire UP. In Menominee County they want to connect at the Soo Line on Eustis Road to Camp O Road off of M-35. Moved by Anderson, seconded by Kakuk to have Moilanen write a letter approving the use of the county roads for the proposed ORV trail with Normenco being required to provide a certificate of insurance, obtain a permit for installing the ORV signs, and that the Road Commission is not responsible for any damaged signs. Carried unanimously.

Discuss weighmaster duties during the 2014 spring breakup – The current weighmaster may be on leave of absence during the 2014 spring breakup. The Michigan State Police Motor Carrier officer could provide some coverage at a rate of \$75/hour for wages & equipment. Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Anderson to have Moilanen request a contract from the Michigan State Police for these services. Carried unanimously.

Discuss winter snowplowing operations – Moilanen stated that there are currently 3 employees off on leave and that there is an employee considering retiring in early 2014. There are currently 2 winter temporary employees working. Due to the shortage of manpower, some routes may not be plowed as early as they have in the past. Betzinger noted that he had received complaints that CR374 and CR551 had not been plowed until late afternoon during the last storm and that these roads are heavily traveled. Moilanen will discuss the situation with the foreman to see if any changes to the routes can be made to improve service.

Discuss/approve the 2014 regular meeting schedule for the Menominee County Road Commission – Moved by Anderson, seconded by Betzinger to approve the following schedule:

Thursday, January 2, 2014	9:00 a.m. (Reorganizational Meeting)
Tuesday, January 14, 2014	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, February 18, 2014	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, March 11, 2014	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, April 8, 2014	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, May 6, 2014	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, June 10, 2014	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, July 15, 2014	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, August 12, 2014	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, September 9, 2014	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, October 14, 2014	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, November 11, 2014	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, December 9, 2014	9:00 a.m.

Discuss/approve the preliminary schedule for the 2014 Township/Road Commission annual meetings – Moved by Anderson, seconded by Betzinger to move the meetings to the week of January 20, 2014 so they do not conflict with the Michigan Townships Association Annual Conference. Letters will be sent to the townships in the next few days. Carried unanimously.

Permission to purchase laptop computers for office personnel - Moilanen explained that Savord's laptop was beginning to fail and that the laptop used by the stock clerk and mechanics for the engine diagnostics program was too old to install updates on any longer. Two new laptops would be purchased, for Moilanen and Savord, and Moilanen's current laptop would be used for the engine diagnostic software. Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Anderson to approve the purchase of two laptop computers at an estimated cost of \$1,500 - \$2,000 each. Carried unanimously.

Permission for Engineer-Manager to attend the County Engineers' Conference – moved by Anderson, seconded by Betzinger to have Moilanen attend the conference being held February 11-13, 2014. Carried unanimously.

Discuss correspondence from CN Railroad regarding invoice for 2011 Grade Crossing Protection maintenance – Moilanen explained that the railroad originally had tried to back bill for 6 years, but then changed to billing for just 2011 and 2012. At CRAM's suggestion, the road commission had paid the invoice for 2012. CN Railroad is now stating they will take legal action to collect the 2011 invoice. Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Kakuk to pay the invoice as it would be less costly than legal fees. Motion carried by the following vote: 2 yes (Betzinger, Kakuk), 1 no (Anderson).

Any other business – Moilanen asked for permission to hire DGR Engineering to take traffic counts on Pach Road and for those roads that are part of the 2014 and 2015 Federal Aid projects. Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Betzinger to hire DGR for the traffic counts. Carried unanimously.

Moilanen stated that a valid petition had been received requesting the abandonment of a portion of 31.75 Road. The portion that is being requested to be abandoned was decertified in 2003. Moved by Anderson, seconded by Kakuk to hold a Public Hearing on the Proposed Abandonment of a portion of 31.75 Road on March 11, 2014 at 8:45 a.m. Carried unanimously.

Gerald Piche stated that he appreciated that the winter plowing operation gave priority to school bus routes and the safety of the children.

Public Comment – Joe Skrobiak stated that the hill on G-18 near the Porky Pine Camp was very icy and could use some sand. Moilanen will inform the foreman.

David Wesoloski updated the board on the agenda of the upcoming MTA December meeting at the Island Resort & Casino. Topics include Open Meetings Act, Unlawful Expenditures, and visits from State Rep. Ed McBroom and a representative from Senator Tom Casperson's office. He noted that the meeting will be attended by a good representation of the townships, municipalities and county government officials.

Darlene Nerat stated that the bridge on 2.5 Road, west of CR577 was icy. Moilanen will ask the foreman to monitor it. The area has already been brushed to improve the drainage by the bridge. There is a large tree on the southeast side of the bridge that may need to be removed. The bridge has been submitted for Local Bridge funds, but has yet to be chosen for funding.

There being no further business, Kakuk declared the meeting adjourned at 9:51 a.m.

Road Commission Finance Director / Clerk

Chair