

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners continued their annual meetings with township officials in the Road Commission offices north of Stephenson on Thursday, January 23, 2014.

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with the following persons present or absent.

PRESENT: William Anderson, Roger Betzinger, Anthony Kakuk, Darrell Moilanen and Lisa Savord. Also present was Robert Hanson-MCRC Stephenson District Foreman.

ABSENT: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

LAKE TOWNSHIP

(8:30 a.m.) Present for Lake Township was Supervisor Ron Johnson.

Mr. Johnson was presented with a copy of the Road commission's ACT51 report for the fiscal year ending 9/30/13.

Moilanen gave Supervisor Johnson a copy of the proposed work to be done in the county for 2014 and noted that the two projects on CR577 are being funded through the Road and Risks Reserve Fund. Also included on the list were shouldering which includes G-12 and CR577 in Lake Township, sign upgrades, crack sealing which will include G-12 west of US41, pothole patching, pavement markings on federal aid routes, bridge maintenance and stump removal.

Moilanen stated that the planks on the Shakey Lakes Dam were going to be replaced this year and that the draw down pipe will probably need to be relined in approximately 2 years due to corrosion.

At the 2013 meeting Trustee Alan Majkrzak had asked Moilanen to look at S-4 Lane. Moilanen stated that it was a gravel road and that one of the residents has a paved driveway that extends into the right of way, so it would be difficult to cut the hill. The road will be sanded as needed.

Z-1 Road has a drainage issue that will be checked this spring.

Moilanen stated that most calls received from Lake Township residents are regarding the Sturgeon Landing Road which gets rough due to the large amount of logging truck traffic on the road. He also noted that Linderoth Road may be chip sealed in the future. G-12 will likely be chip sealed in 2016. Supervisor Johnson advised that there was a rough stretch on G-12 near River Road. Moilanen will have the patch truck work on that area.

Moilanen stated that CR356 was bad beginning at Linderoth Road, heading west to CR577, and will be considered as a future project. Church Road will also be monitored. Supervisor Johnson also noted that P-1 Road, south of G-12, and South Cheese Factory Road, just south of the stop sign, have pot holes that need to be filled and Whispering Pines Road has areas that are washed out.

Supervisor Johnson asked if gravel was added to bad areas on the roads. Moilanen answered that it depends on how the base was. Sometimes pit run would need to be added first. Supervisor Johnson asked what happened on River Road, south of the substation. Foreman Bob Hanson responded that there is a hole in the culvert there and also a spring under the road.

Supervisor Johnson inquired about what wording to use when he orders a new sign for Lake Township's end of Palmer Road. Moilanen suggested that he call Central Dispatch to be sure the name on the sign is the same that they use when calling out emergency responders.

Supervisor Johnson and Robert Hanson left the meeting at 8:54 a.m.

MELLEN TOWNSHIP

(8:55 a.m.) Present for Mellen Township was Supervisor Gerald Newlin. Menominee District Foreman Denny Kosewski also joined the meeting.

Supervisor Newlin was presented with a copy of the Road commission's ACT51 report for the fiscal year ending 9/30/13.

Moilanen also gave Mr. Newlin a copy of the proposed work to be done in the county for 2014. Items included on the list were shouldering, sign upgrades, crack sealing and pothole patching, pavement markings on federal aid routes, bridge maintenance and stump removal. Moilanen pointed out that CR577 and G-08 would be shouldered this year and Wallenslager Road was scheduled to be crack filled.

Moilanen asked if the township had any plans for graveling this year. Supervisor Newlin will check the roads in the spring and let the foreman know if the township wants any graveling done.

Moilanen asked if the township wanted to close the park entrance on 14 Road. Supervisor Newlin stated that the township did want to proceed with the closure and he will coordinate this with Kosewski in the spring.

Moilanen stated that G-08 should eventually be chip sealed. Wildwood Road is also being monitored and may be considered to be pulverized and double chip sealed in the future. Supervisor Newlin asked for the cost to double chip seal. Moilanen responded it is approximately \$75,000 per mile, which includes pulverizing, graveling and double chip sealing. Supervisor Newlin stated he thought that CR342 was on the list of road projects about 5 years ago. Moilanen replied that it was bumped out further as we are currently trying to preserve the roads that are in decent shape, then CR342 and others that need to be rebuilt will be looked at.

Supervisor Newlin asked if there was any way to keep ORV's from tearing up the shoulders of the roads, such as calling the DNR or State Police. Moilanen replied that the county ordinance allows ORV's to travel along the shoulders and that he thought the damage was a low priority item for local law enforcement since it has been occurring in isolated areas only. Mr. Newlin also commented that it was a shame that money was being spent on shouldering just so to have it tore up right away.

Kakuk noted that the electric pole at the intersection of CR346 and CR577 was close to the road and could be a safety hazard. He asked if the power company should move the pole or if guard rail should be installed. Moilanen said the area has been monitored and to date there had not been any accidents there. The area is sanded in the winter and delineators could be installed. The cost of guard rail would be approximately \$12,000. Kakuk asked if the power company could be asked to pay for the cost of the guard rail. Moilanen stated that the electric company had received a permit to install the pole in the right of way. It was also noted that the road commission's liability was from white line to white line.

Betzinger asked Mr. Newlin what was being done at the old school building in Wallace. Mr. Newlin replied that the company manufactures a blender that is used in plastic container manufacturing. The business currently employs around 50 people and hopes to expand into tire recycling in the future.

Supervisor Newlin left the meeting at 9:22 a.m.

INGALLSTON TOWNSHIP

(9:29 a.m.) Supervisor Paul Anderson, Clerk Kay Keefer-Bronkhorst and Trustee Carl Johnson were present for Ingallston Township.

The township officials were presented with a copy of the Road commission's ACT51 report for the fiscal year ending 9/30/13.

Moilanen gave each official a copy of the proposed work to be done in the county for 2014. Items included on the list were shouldering, sign upgrades, crack sealing and pothole patching, pavement markings on federal aid routes, bridge maintenance and stump removal.

Supervisor Anderson asked where the money comes from for closing a railroad crossing. Moilanen replied that for the Nadeau Township closing \$125,000 came from MDOT, with the amount determined based on a formula that uses the number of trains and vehicles at the crossing per day. An additional \$7,500 is then received from the railroad and the MDOT provides an additional \$7,500 match.

Moilanen noted that Rangeline Road and CR577 would be shouldered using the gravel that was crushed in the Windbiel pit and that the DEQ permit had been received for the Behrend driveway.

Township officials had sent a list of their road priorities to the road commission office. Paving Pinewoods Loop was listed as the top priority, but would have to wait until funds were available. Moilanen stated that Beatie Creek Road needed to be ditched and he gave an estimate of \$30,000 to pulverize, gravel and double chip seal Butchli Road.

Clerk Keefer-Bronkhorst asked about having brushing Dale's Lane. Moilanen replied that we were waiting for the go ahead from the township. It was also noted that Rangeline Road may be chip sealed in the future.

Clerk Keefer-Bronkhorst stated that crack filling had not been completed in the area of CR338 east of her home and asked why it had not been done. Moilanen replied that the crew had to be moved to other areas that had been committed to, and by the time they were done there the rental agreement had run out. The crack filler will be rented again this year and the crew will return to CR338 to finish up where they left off.

Supervisor Anderson asked if the chip seals would be done using the black chips that were brought in from the Ishpeming area. Moilanen stated that it would be up to the contractor where they wanted to haul the chips in from, as long as they meet spec. The black stone was usually more expensive and the chip seals will be fog sealed regardless.

Moilanen noted that Wildwood Road would eventually have to be pulverized and double chip sealed. Clerk Keefer-Bronkhorst asked if there was any talk of additional funding for roads from Lansing. Moilanen replied there was not at this time, but possibly during lame duck. Without additional funding the three leased graders will be going back at the end of their lease terms, leaving the county with just three graders.

Supervisor Anderson what the cost will be to the township for brushing Dale's Lane. Moilanen stated it would be done at no cost to the township. Clerk Keefer-Bronkhorst asked how it was decided which roads to ditch. Moilanen said the foremen and equipment operators monitor the roads and the ditching is done on roads that can be drained within the right of way.

Ingallston Township officials left the meeting at 9:57 a.m.

CEDARVILLE TOWNSHIP

(9:59 a.m.) Supervisor Lin Peterson was present for Cedarville Township.

Supervisor Peterson was presented with a copy of the Road commission's ACT51 report for the fiscal year ending 9/30/13.

Moilanen gave Ms. Peterson a copy of the proposed work to be done in the county for 2014. Items included on the list were shouldering, sign upgrades, crack sealing and pothole patching, pavement markings on federal aid routes, bridge maintenance and stump removal. It was noted that G-12 would be shouldered and new signs installed.

Moilanen stated that the DEQ permit for the Camp O headwall was obtained and that it would be repaired this year. Supervisor Peterson replied that she had received calls from residents on this.

Moilanen noted that the G-12 chip seal was scheduled for 2016. The culverts on CR551 are still in good shape and an extra culvert was installed on County Line Road along the bay. A resident had requested ditching on the east side of Blue Fox Lane. The gravel retriever will be run in the Menominee district this year. It was also stated that 28 Road, east of M-35, now has a year round resident so the road will be monitored during spring breakup.

Supervisor Peterson asked if the approach to the stop sign on G-12 where it intersects to M-35 could be sanded for a longer distance. Moilanen will have the foreman check on this.

Supervisor Peterson noted that since CR551 had been graded, the gravel had built up under the guardrails, and asked if it was alright if she moved it. Moilanen said it was okay for her to do so, but she should work on the ends of the guardrail only as the DEQ does not want the gravel falling into the stream.

Supervisor Peterson said she had talked to Senator Casperson regarding culvert permit fees and asked if the road commission had to pay them. Moilanen replied that a portion of the ACT 51 funds goes to the DEQ for permits so there is no additional fee to the road commissions.

Supervisor Peterson stated that CR551 in the area where the river comes close to the road was in need of more gravel. Moilanen will check on this. She also stated that the biggest issue for Cedarville Township at this time was the Camp O headwall.

Supervisor Peterson left the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

MENOMINEE TOWNSHIP

(10:30 a.m.) Supervisor Ken Goffin, Treasurer David Wesoloski and Trustee Darlene Nerat were present for Menominee Township. John Nerat also joined the meeting.

The township officials were presented with a copy of the Road commission's ACT51 report for the fiscal year ending 9/30/13.

Moilanen gave each official a copy of the proposed work to be done in the county for 2014. Items included on the list were shouldering, sign upgrades, crack sealing and pothole patching, pavement markings on federal aid routes, bridge maintenance and stump removal.

It was noted that Barley Trucking & Excavating has been awarded the contract for River Drive and the pre-construction meeting will be held on February 4, 2014. The two projects on CR577 have been funded through the Road and Risk Reserve Program. The project on Bay de Noc Drive will start after spring break up, with the dirt work scheduled to be complete by Memorial Day, after which the road can be double chip sealed. The estimated cost to the township for the chip seal is approximately \$100,000. Supervisor Goffin asked why the township has to pay 100% when in the past the township share had been 50%. Moilanen responded this was due to the road commission's cash reserve being lower than it used to be. Supervisor Goffin stated that since the bid on River Drive came in lower than the original estimate, the township's cost of \$285,000 is now nearly 35% of the total project.

Treasurer Wesoloski noted that if the township's cost on Bay de Noc Road is more than \$100,000 they may have to push it into a future year.

Treasurer Wesoloski asked what the engineering costs will be on the River Drive project. Moilanen stated that the design cost was \$16,000 and that UP Engineering had just been awarded the bid for the construction inspection at \$30,000.

Trustee Nerat asked about the large trees that needed to be cut on Bay de Noc Drive. Moilanen stated that there were six trees that had already been removed by a contractor.

Supervisor Goffin asked what the cost would be to pulverize Bay de Noc Drive. Moilanen replied it would be approximately \$10,000 if done by a contractor or \$2,000 if done by the road commission's grader. Supervisor Goffin asked that the road commission grader be used to cut costs and also asked the road commission to consider contributing 25% to the cost of the project if possible.

Supervisor Goffin asked what the problem was with the chip seal that was supposed to be cutting bike tires. Moilanen replied that Mr. Tanguay may be using thin high performance tires that would be more easily cut by the chips. The only other option would be to turn the road back to gravel.

Supervisor Goffin asked if MDOT specified the materials to be used on River Drive. Moilanen responded that MDOT specs must be used for all federal aid eligible routes.

It was noted that Bay de Noc Drive was currently posted for no trucks. Supervisor Goffin stated that a 1 ½ inch layer of cold mix may hold up better than a chip seal.

Moilanen stated that CR577, from 38th Ave. to No. 2 Road, would eventually be reconstructed to an all seasons road.

Treasurer Wesoloski asked if there was any bridge maintenance scheduled this year in the county. Moilanen said there will be routine brushing performed.

Trustee Nerat asked if the 2.5 Road Bridge was scheduled for replacement. Moilanen stated it had been submitted for 2016, but hadn't gotten funded. Ms. Nerat asked if anything could be done for better drainage. Moilanen said the area had already been ditched.

Treasurer Wesoloski asked when the first payment for River Drive would be due. Moilanen said it depends on when the project starts. The first pay estimate would be done within two week of the start date.

Supervisor Goffin stated that No. 2 Road, east of CR577 and R-1 Drive, between #3 and # 5 roads, were in poor condition. These roads will be monitored.

Menominee Township officials, John Nerat and Denny Kosewski left the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

There being no further business, Anderson declared the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Finance Director/Clerk

Chair