

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners held a regular meeting in their offices north of Stephenson on Tuesday, May 6, 2014.

Chair Anderson 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 Darlene Nerat, John Nerat, Joe Skrobiak, Gerald Piche, Chuck Behrend, Larry Barker, Joe Linder, Bill Nicholson and David Wesoloski.

Absent: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public comments – Joe Skrobiak thanked the road commission for the grading on Miscauno Island Road.

Bill Nicholson thanked the road commission for the plowing done on CR577 this winter and asked if there were any restrictions against a private party plowing on a county road. Moilanen stated that any private citizen plowing on the county roads should carry liability insurance as they would not be covered under the road commission’s insurance. Mr. Nicholson asked if there was any liability to the road commission if they did not get a road plowed after a storm. Moilanen replied that there was not.

Joe Linder asked when the work on 4th Street was scheduled. Moilanen replied the work was scheduled to be done after Bay de Noc Road and M-4 but noted that work was already behind schedule due to the late spring break up. Mr. Linder asked for an estimate of the cost for the 4th Street project. Moilanen will send him a copy.

Public appearances – None.

Additions/corrections to minutes of 04/08/14 and 04/17/14 –There being no additions or corrections, Anderson declared that the minutes will stand as written.

Financial Report –

	Receipts	Expenditures	Payables / Reserves	Balances
Balance, April 7, 2014				\$1,969,111.94
Receipts thru 04/30/14	112,689.23			
Expenditures thru 04/30/14		388,720.04		
Balance, April 30, 2014				1,693,081.13
Michigan Transportation Funds	274,006.63			
Receipts thru 05/05/14	3,526.08			
Expenditures thru 05/05/14		0.00		
State Maint. & Equip. Advances			128,438.00	
Balance, May 5, 2014	390,221.94	388,720.04	128,438.00	1,842,175.84
<u>Payables & Reserves</u>				
Payroll 05/08, and 05/22 (Est.)			125,000.00	
Soc. Sec. 05/08 and 05/22 (Est.)			9,562.50	
Reserve for workers compensation insurance			21,000.00	
Reserve for liability insurance			11,463.83	
Reserve for rental grader lease (Dec 2009)			18,261.53	
Reserve for rental grader leases (Oct 2010)			128,018.34	
Reserve for design of CR 358 (US41 to K-1 Road)			5,225.00	
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			1,000.00	
Reserve for Hannahville 2% funds-crack filling machine rental			18,862.50	

Reserve for 2013 Federal Aid match			30.96	
Reserve for 2014 Federal Aid Match			53,302.80	
Reserve for Construction Engineering on River Drive project			29,003.71	
Reserve for 2015 Three-Way Road Program			200,000.00	
Reserve for 2014 Culvert needs			30,236.86	
Reserve for Capital Outlay - Equipment			18,634.00	
Reserve for Capital Outlay - Boiler replacement			55,000.00	(1,008,867.14)
				\$ 833,308.70

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

Vouchers # 14-0036, 14-0038, and 14-0430 – Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Anderson that the vouchers be approved and ordered paid. Carried unanimously.

Discuss 3-Way Funding Program – Moilanen explained that a meeting had been held on April 28th to discuss the program and that the townships seemed to be very positive about running the program again in 2015. The county board would not be able to guarantee their share of the funds until the 2014/2015 budget was approved in September. It was decided at the April 28th meeting that the road commission should contact the townships and request that their list of projects for the 2015 program be submitted by the end of June, 2014. Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Kakuk to have Moilanen draft the letter for approval by the road commission at an upcoming special meeting. Carried unanimously.

Kakuk stated that he had received calls from some of the townships that were in attendance at the meeting, voicing their disappointment that there was too much discussion about topics that did not concern the 3-Way Program and some individuals also felt that the legislators in attendance had been invited as guests for the 3-Way Program meeting and should not have been questioned about non road related items at that time.

Anderson asked how the amount of each township’s contribution would be determined. Moilanen stated that it would be the same format as the last program, using road miles. Any changes to a township’s miles since the last program, such as road abandonments, would be used in the new calculation.

Kakuk stated that the Menominee City Engineer wants to use their share of the funds on some of the city streets. Moilanen explained that they can do that, but they can only receive funds from the county, as none of the road commission’s funds can be used on roads that are not in the road commission’s jurisdiction.

Betzinger asked that the road commission have a motion to set aside their share of the funds for the program. Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Anderson to allocate \$200,000 to the 3-Way Road Funding Program for 2015. Carried unanimously.

Discuss streets in the Villages of Ingalls and Spalding and road in Nadeau Township – Moilanen stated that the 2 roads were currently certified by the road commission, but have not been maintained for many years. [The street in Ingalls does not have a place for the plow to turn around, the street in Spalding runs directly through the parking lot of Graham Transport.] Due to snow cover, Moilanen has not had the opportunity to look at the Nadeau Township road yet. The road commission should decide if they are going to decertify the 2 roads or begin maintaining them. The commissioners will look at each of the areas so that a decision can be made at a future meeting.

Act on Resolutions to allow chair or vice-chair to sign Road & Risk Reserve Funds agreements –

Commissioner Kakuk moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Menominee County Road Commission to pave a portion of County Road 577, from Klippel Lane northerly to Chalk Hills Road, using Road and Risk Reserve Funds.

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 Road and Risk Reserve Funds for the projects listed above.

It was seconded by Commissioner Betzinger and carried by the following vote: Ayes: 3; Nays 0.

Commissioner Anderson moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Menominee County Road Commission to pave a portion of County Road 577, from 18th Avenue northerly to 38th Avenue, using Road and Risk Reserve Funds. 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 Road and Risk Reserve Funds for the projects listed above.

It was seconded by Commissioner Kakuk and carried by the following vote: Ayes: 3; Nays 0.

Discuss request from WE Energies for a permit on River Road – Moilanen explained that WE Energies was requesting a permit to raise the grade on River Road by 4 inches for a distance of 175 feet. Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Anderson to have Moilanen issue the requested permit. Carried unanimously.

Permission to purchase a new server for accounting software – The current server has Windows XP as the operating system. Both Microsoft and Cogitate is discontinuing support for this platform. The current server is nearly 10 years old and not worth upgrading. A new computer with Windows 8 will cost under \$1,500. Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Kakuk to allow Savord to purchase the new computer and have UES Computers in to set it up. Carried unanimously.

Discuss request for Adopt-A-County Road permit – A request has been received from the House of Dreams Clubhouse to adopt a county road. They are leaving the choice of which road they will adopt up to the road commission. Moilanen suggested that the road commission issue the permit for Birch Creek Road, from US 41 to CR 577. Moved by Anderson, seconded by Kakuk to issue the permit for this road and have the appropriate signs made. Carried unanimously.

Any other business – Moilanen stated that he had received a request from Robert Kuntze for the Stephenson High School Girls & Boys Track & Field Teams, asking the road commission to provide barricades for road closures along the route of their 4th of July 5k Run/Walk Event. Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Kakuk to issue a permit for the event and provide the barricades as requested. Carried unanimously.

Moilanen advised that the Twin City Airport had sent correspondence regarding the amount of trash that is being dumped at the end of the West Drive cul de sac, stating they would like to have barricades put up on the road to discourage the dumping. Kakuk stated that “No Dumping” signs may help. It was decided to put up temporary barricades for the spring months if necessary.

Moilanen received a request from Coleman Engineering to do borings from Miscauno Island Road, thence east to past the double curve, on CR374. Coleman Engineering would like permission to do the borings in the right of way if they are unable to get permission from the landowners to do the borings on their property. They will also need a permit to bring in the equipment for the borings. Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Kakuk to work with Coleman on their request providing that the permit holds Coleman Engineering responsible for any damages to the road and right of way. Carried unanimously.

Moilanen asked permission to put the crusher shack out on bids to road commission employees. Moved by Anderson, seconded by Kakuk to sell to the highest bidder, with a \$180 minimum bid. Carried unanimously.

Moilanen asked the board to schedule a special meeting to open/award bids for the upcoming pulverizing projects. The special meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Betzinger asked if the plow trucks were being used to grade on the gravel roads. Moilanen responded that a few are grading with the underbodies, and that the crews are also working on removing the snow plow equipment from the trucks to be painted and repaired if necessary. Betzinger also asked how much more salt & sand were used this past winter than in prior years. Moilanen will prepare an analysis of the past few years.

Gerald Piche agreed with Kakuk that the 3-Way Funding meeting should not have been used to discuss other topics and that the legislators should not be criticized when you are asking them to find ways to provide additional funding. He thinks that the meeting should have been better controlled to avoid this. Betzinger responded that the meeting was hard to keep on track as there was no gavel

provided. It was also noted that there were no minutes from the prior meeting presented even though approval of those minutes was an agenda item.

Public Comments – Bill Nicholson noted that he had seen the US Senate use a rock for a gavel.

Joe Linder asked how much money the road commission had received for the closing of the railroad crossing in Nadeau Township. Moilanen stated that so far \$125,000 had been received from MDOT. There is another payment of \$7,500 expected from the railroad within in the next month and once received, there will be an additional \$7,500 to come from MDOT.

David Wesoloski asked when weight restrictions would be lifted. Moilanen stated that he is monitoring the roads and there may be a partial lifting of restrictions around May 17.

Bill Nicholson asked if log trucks should be hauling on CR577 during the restrictions. Moilanen stated that part of CR577 is all season road so regular hauling is allowed, and the sections of CR577 that are restricted can still be used with reduced loads. Mr. Nicholson asked when the paving projects would be done on CR577 and if there would be any road closures during the construction. Moilanen replied that the projects were scheduled to be completed by September 20 and there would be no closures necessary. Mr. Nicholson asked how far up Aman Lane the paving would go. Moilanen stated that only the radius would be paved.

Bill Nicholson asked how much it would cost for a private citizen to have dust control put on their road. Moilanen stated that the costs per gallon were the same as last year, and the total cost would depend on how heavy they wanted the brine sprayed. He also advised Mr. Nicholson that he would need to contact his township supervisor to get the dust control put down as the road commission doesn't deal directly with a private citizen.

Mr. Nicholson asked if a private citizen can cut grass in the road right of way. Moilanen replied that they can, but that they would be liable for any problems that may occur.

Closed session to discuss Teamsters Local 406 wage reopener proposal – Moved by Betzinger, seconded by Kakuk to move to closed session at 9:55 a.m. Carried unanimously.

Darlene Nerat, John Nerat, Joe Skrobiak, Gerald Piche, Chuck Behrend, Larry Barker, Joe Linder, Bill Nicholson and David Wesoloski left the meeting at this time.

Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Betzinger to return to open session at 10:18 a.m.

Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Betzinger to authorize Moilanen to continue with negotiations. Carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Anderson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Road Commission Finance Director / Clerk

Chair