

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners held a special meeting in their offices north of Stephenson on Tuesday, March 31, 2015.

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

Present: William Anderson, Anthony Kakuk, Joseph Skrobiak, Darrell Moilanen and Lisa Savord. Also present were Jordan Barley and Larry Barker.

Absent: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public comments – None.

Public appearances – None.

Open bids for Vega Road Category A Grant project – Bids were opened and read aloud as follows:

Barley Grading & Underground UT Contractor, Menominee, MI	\$173,219.01
Payne & Dolan, Gladstone, MI	\$123,623.50
Havelka Construction, Wallace, MI	\$134,947.75
Bacco Construction, Iron Mountain, MI	\$101,333.05

Moved by Anderson, seconded by Kakuk to award to the apparent low bidder, Bacco Construction, pending tabulation of the bids and approval from MDOT. Carried unanimously.

Discuss closing Bogdan pit – Moilanen explained that the road commission was no longer taking materials from the pit, and that per the agreement with the landowner, Steve Bogdan, the road commission was to level the pit. Mr. Bogdan has offered to close the pit out himself for \$1,000. Moilanen stated that it would be more expensive for the road commission to close the pit. Moilanen would request that Mr. Bogdan sign a statement that upon receipt of the payment of \$1,000, the road commission would not be obligated to do anything further with the pit. Kakuk added that Mr. Bogdan owns the equipment necessary to do the work. Skrobiak asked that Moilanen have Mr. Bogdan first submit a letter requesting the payment. Moved by Skrobiak, seconded by Kakuk to pay Steve Bogdan \$1,000 to do the necessary work to close the pit on his property, once a letter of request is received for the payment and an agreement is signed removing any further obligation from the road commission. Carried unanimously.

Discuss results of union negotiations – Moilanen advised that board that the members of Teamsters Local 406 had voted to ratify a one year contract, effective April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016, that provided a \$0.50/hour pay increase to all job classifications within the bargaining group. The annual cost of the pay increase is approximately \$26,000. The employees will now also be able to choose between two different insurance plans through the MCTWF, at no additional cost to the road commission. Moved by Anderson, seconded by Kakuk to have Moilanen sign the contract on behalf of the road commission. Carried unanimously.

Any other business – Moilanen stated that the \$0.50/hour pay increase for the union employees is equivalent to 2.7% and asked if the board was willing to offer the non-union personnel a 2.7% increase also, or if they would prefer to negotiate with them separately. Kakuk asked what the annual cost of the increase for the non-union employees would be. Moilanen stated the cost would be approximately \$11,100. Skrobiak asked how the wages here compared to other counties in the UP. Moilanen stated that the union employees would be in the bottom 1/3 and for the management employees it varied by position. Moved by Anderson, seconded by Skrobiak to increase the wages of all non-union employees by 2.7% effective April 1, 2015. Carried unanimously.

Anderson stated he had received a call that logging operations were damaging No. 5 Road. Moilanen replied that he had checked the road and that so far there was no rutting. The weighmaster is also checking the area periodically.

Skrobiak asked if the road commission had a sign program. Moilanen stated that the previous federal mandate had been relaxed and that signs now only needed to be replaced with the new prismatic signs as needed. He also noted that all signs were replaced as construction projects were completed. Skrobiak said he has noticed some signs that are so faded they are no longer visible at night. Moilanen asked him to call the office with the location of those signs as he finds them so they

can be put onto a list to be replaced.

Kakuk noted that many of the county roads were still bleeding and that road restrictions will need to be continued until they are done. Moilanen added that it will likely be a long breakup this year.

Kakuk advised that he had been contacted by Gil Grinsteiner with a concern about the road commission limbing some of the oak trees on his property east of US 41 on Wildwood Road. Mr. Grinsteiner asked that the oak trees not be trimmed between April and November as oak wilt is easily spread during this time.

Kakuk stated that Steve Brock had asked him if the road commission could help with the process of putting stone on the driveways leading into farm fields. Moilanen replied that it would be up to the board if they wanted to participate with this or not.

Kakuk asked about the damage caused to some of the roads by the new transmission line project being performed MJ Electric. Moilanen stated that MJ Electric is aware of the damages and that the road commission will submit a repair cost estimate to them that they will forward to American Transmission Company for payment consideration.

Kakuk asked when the CR358 project would be started. Moilanen replied that the trees would be cut soon, prior to May 1.

Public Comments – None.

There being no further business, Kakuk declared the meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Road Commission Finance Director / Clerk

Chair