

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners began their annual meetings with township officials in the Road Commission offices north of Stephenson on Monday, February 20, 2017.

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following persons present or absent:

PRESENT: William Anderson, Anthony Kakuk, Joseph Skrobiak, Darrell Moilanen and Lisa Savord. Also present were Mike Arnold-MCRC Powers District Foreman and Tim Starzynski-MCRC Stephenson District Substitute Foreman.

ABSENT: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

FAITHORN TOWNSHIP

(6:00 p.m.) Present for Faithorn Township were Supervisor Jeff Kiser, Treasurer Renee Augustine, Clerk Kathy Branz, and Trustees Bill DeVoe and Ann Gurgall.

Moilanen welcomed the Faithorn Township officials. A copy of the road commission's 2016 ACT 51 report was presented to the township.

Moilanen presented Supervisor Kiser with a letter regarding the placement of wireless network facilities within the road right-of-way and asked that the township notify the road commission in the event they were approached by anyone requesting to install these facilities, including poles, towers, conduit, etc., in the right-of-way of any county road. Supervisor Kiser asked if the township could approve these facilities to be constructed on private land. Moilanen responded that they could, and that it was preferred that they were on private property, but that the road commission would still like to be aware of such construction as the utilities for them would still need a permit if any portion is in the right-of-way. Kakuk also added that these facilities may be constructed for the use of driverless vehicles.

A copy of the newly updated county road map was presented to each official.

Moilanen asked that the township inform him of any roads that become impassable during the spring breakup. Clerk Branz advised that 36 Road, to the east, was already getting bad. Moilanen will check on this road.

Moilanen presented the board with a list of projects for the upcoming year. He also noted that the 3-Way Road Funding program would be run again in 2018 and asked that the township submit their proposed projects for the program as soon as possible, so gravel needs could be planned for. He also advised that work in 2019 would be anything left over from the 3-Way program and then the focus would be on maintenance. Supervisor Kiser replied that Faithorn Township would do all graveling with their 3-Way funds, just as they did with the last program. Moilanen also stated that the gravel retriever would be sent to Faithorn Township this summer to pull in the shoulders.

Supervisor Kiser thanked Moilanen for the road commission's quick response to a complaint of the roads being plowed too narrow during a recent snowstorm. He also stated that he felt that when the railroad crossing near the intersection of CR577 and CR388 was repaved, it wasn't paved wide enough and now when trucks turn the corner there they are damaging the road.

Clerk Branz noted that the corner on CR577, by the south side of the cemetery, needed to be re-shouldered. Moilanen replied that crushed limestone may be used there instead of gravel as it will hold up better.

Faithorn Township officials and Tim Starzynski left the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

MEYER TOWNSHIP

(6:31 p.m.) Present for Meyer Township were Supervisor Robert Smith and Clerk Beth Bertolini.

Moilanen welcomed the Meyer Township officials. Clerk Bertolini advised that a resident was requesting a road name sign for "Vega Road O-1" in the area by Wendricks Truss. Moilanen explained that the township was responsible for purchasing these signs and that the road commission could install it once the township has it. Clerk Bertolini asked about the chip seal repair on Vega Road. Moilanen replied that crushed limestone had been used.

Clerk Bertolini inquired about who had approved the work that was done so far on W. 3rd Street. Moilanen stated that former Supervisor Bob Gurgall had approved the road commission to do the prep work on this project using the township's 2015 3-Way Road Funding funds. Moilanen also advised that if the township was still considering proceeding with any railroad crossing closures that the remaining funds received for the closures, once the closures were completed, could be used to pay for the double chip seal on W. 3rd Street. Clerk Bertolini stated that the township was waiting for the road commission to proceed with the process of initiating the possible closures. Moilanen replied that MDOT was waiting for the township to decide which crossings they would like to see closed. Once the township makes this decision, a public hearing would need to be held.

Moilanen presented the township with a copy of the 2016 ACT 51 report and gave each one of the new county road maps. Moilanen also presented Supervisor Smith with a letter regarding the placement of wireless network facilities within the road right-of-way and asked that the township notify the road commission in the event they were approached by anyone requesting to install these facilities, including poles, towers, conduit, etc., in the right-of-way of any county road.

Moilanen asked that if the township officials become aware of any roads with year-round residents become impassable during spring break up that they call the road commission office so that they can be looked at and a repair plan set. It was noted that No. 40 Road was pretty muddy each spring. This road will be worked on in either 2017 or 2018.

Moilanen presented the board with a list of projects for the upcoming year. He also noted that the 3-Way Road Funding program would be run again in 2018 and asked that the township submit their proposed projects for the program as soon as possible, so gravel/chip seal needs could be planned for. He also advised that in 2019 they would complete anything left over from the 3-Way program and then the focus would be on maintenance. In June or July of 2017 a new concrete box culvert will be installed on Vega Road over the Vega Creek.

Clerk Bertolini stated she had received complaints that W. 3rd Street was not as wide as it was before. Moilanen stated that it used to be 20' wide, but was reconstructed to a 24' width. Ms. Bertolini also asked about the culvert near Golden Shores not being replaced. Moilanen answered that it had been in good condition and did not need to be replaced, but that he would take a look at it again this year. Moilanen also noted that culverts would be looked at for possible replacement if necessary on CR579.

Clerk Bertolini advised that the pole holding the road name sign at the intersection of CR388 and Linden Street had been hit by a car and is bent. Moilanen answered that the road commission sign truck could be sent to repair it, with the cost being billed back to the township. The township can let the road commission know if they would like this repaired.

Meyer Township officials left the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

GOURLEY TOWNSHIP

(6:57 p.m.) Supervisor Stephen Wery, Clerk Annette Soper, Treasurer Stephanie Walechka, and Trustees Jesse Wery and Dan Cordy were present for Gourley Township.

Moilanen welcomed the Gourley Township officials. A copy of the road commission's 2016 ACT 51 report was presented to the township. A copy of the updated Menominee County road map was given to each official.

Moilanen presented Supervisor Wery with a letter regarding the placement of wireless network facilities within the road right-of-way and asked that the township notify the road commission in the event they were approached by anyone requesting to install these facilities, including poles, towers, conduit, etc., in the right-of-way of any county road.

Moilanen asked that if the township officials become aware of any roads with year-round residents become impassable during spring break up that they call the road commission office so that they can be looked at and a repair plan set.

It was noted that 35 Road, east of CR551, would be getting a grade lift and may need larger culverts. The chip seal blowouts on DePas Lane will be repaired this summer also. Bridge scour protection is also scheduled to be done on the CR551 bridge. CR551 in Cedarville Township will have a grade lift and graveling done, paid in part by a Hannahville 2% grant of \$15,000.

Supervisor Wery asked when CR557 would be worked on. Moilanen responded that it would not be on the schedule until at least 2021-2023. Mr. Wery asked if CR551 form the SDA Academy to Hannahville Road was Class A. Moilanen replied that it was not.

Moilanen stated that the 3-Way Road funding program would run again in 2018 and asked that the township submit their proposed projects for the program as early as they can. Supervisor Wery responded that their board would discuss this and get back to Moilanen.

Gourley Township officials left the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

HARRIS TOWNSHIP

(7:21 p.m.) Supervisor Peter Kleiman, Clerk Thomas Draze and Trustee Alex Jorasz were present for Harris Township.

Moilanen welcomed the Harris Township officials. A copy of the road commission's 2016 ACT 51 report was presented to the township. A copy of the updated Menominee County road map was given to each official.

Moilanen presented Supervisor Kleiman with a letter regarding the placement of wireless network facilities within the road right-of-way and asked that the township notify the road commission in the event they were approached by anyone requesting to install these facilities, including poles, towers, conduit, etc., in the right-of-way of any county road. Supervisor Kleiman asked that any further information regarding this be forwarded to Trustee Jorasz as he was on the Harris Township Zoning Board.

Moilanen remarked that the Cedar Lane grade lift was done in 2016. He also noted that he had received a call from a resident on Morel Lane, west of Whitney Road, and that improvements to that road will be done when time permits. Supervisor Kleiman advised that there was a camp on N. Gaber Road that is now a full time residence and that he has received a request that the road be plowed up to the home. A turnaround would be needed.

Discussion was held regarding County Line Road and requests from property owner Todd LaFave that the road commission maintain the road further than they have been. Moilanen explained that the road commission's jurisdiction ends near the gravel pit on the left, and that LaFave had at one time talked about gating the road at that point. Moilanen had advised him to discuss this with other land owners on the road, including the DNR. Supervisor Kleiman added that the full time residents on the road had not requested any additional service, but that the township may submit a request to Hannahville for 2% grant funds to add gravel to the area of the road beyond the road commission's jurisdiction.

Moilanen stated that the Hannahville Indian Community has plans to build a walking path from the health center, around the golf course and to the casino using BIA grant funds.

Moilanen advised that the bridge on Mazur C-1 Road had been approved for reconstruction in 2019.

Moilanen stated that the 3-Way Road funding program would run again in 2018 and asked that the township submit their proposed projects for the program as early as they can. Supervisor Kleiman mentioned that Vincent Lane, east to CR557 or Old US 2, west of CR551, may be considered and asked Moilanen to provide cost estimates for these projects.

Supervisor Kleiman stated that they would like to see the bad area on Eustis Road fixed and that there is a culvert on Swede Road that needs to be replaced.

The proposed ORV/Multi Use Trail was discussed. Mr. Kleiman asked who would be responsible for repairing the shoulders on Eustis Road if they get damaged by the ORV's. Moilanen replied that the road commission would do the repairs and then bill the ORV Trail sponsors.

There being no further business, Anderson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.