

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners held a regular meeting in their offices north of Stephenson on Tuesday, March 5, 2019.

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

Present: Kenneth Bower, Anthony Kakuk, Kenneth Kline, Darrell Moilanen and Lisa Savord. Also present were Dana Dziedzic, Mike Foley, Lyle Gearhart, Joe Linder, Chuck Behrend, Larry Barker, Charlene Peterson and Lowell Bengry.

Absent: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public comments – Lowell Bengry complimented the crew on the great job they are doing maintaining the roads and keeping them safe for travel.

Public appearances – None.

Additions/corrections to minutes for 02/19/19, 02/21/19 and 02/28/19 – There being no additions or corrections, Kakuk declared that the minutes will stand as written. Carried unanimously.

Financial Report –

	Receipts	Expenditures	Payables / Reserves	Balances
Balance, February 15, 2019				\$3,641,256.99
Receipts thru 02/28/19	182,508.69			
Expenditures thru 02/28/19		316,631.94		
Balance, February 28, 2019				\$3,507,133.74
Michigan Transportation Funds	517,172.84			
Receipts thru 03/04/19	0.00			
Expenditures thru 03/04/19		0.00		
Set aside for purchase of graders in 2020			800,000.00	
State Maint. & Equip. Advances			146,142.00	
Balance, March 04, 2019	699,681.53	316,631.94	946,142.00	3,078,164.58
<u>Payables & Reserves</u>				
Payroll 03/21 and 04/04 (Est.)			175,000.00	
Soc. Sec. 03/21 and 04/04 (Est.)			13,387.50	
Reserve for workers compensation insurance			28,141.76	
Reserve for liability insurance			121,940.50	
Reserve for rental grader leases - John Deere (Oct 2015)			38,167.00	
Reserve for rental grader leases - Cat Financial (Dec 2015)			172,626.82	
Reserve for Forest Funds			161,011.03	
Reserve RR X'ing closure funds for Meyer Twp. projects			199,788.35	
Reserve for Federal Aid Match for No. 5 Rd. Bridge			723.07	
Reserve for Federal Aid Match for No. 10 Ln. Bridge			1,602.98	
Reserve for Federal Aid Match for CR360 project			12,000.00	
Reserve for Federal Aid Match for 2018 Chipseals			0.00	
Reserve for Construction Engineering for CR360			2,731.63	
Reserve for Scour Protection bid documents & oversight			1,512.96	
Reserve for Bridge scour protection			22,986.50	
Reserve for DEQ Permit submittal for Shakey Lakes Culvert project			0.00	
Reserve for DEQ Permits for various culverts			3,113.90	
Reserve for 2018 General Engineering services			774.18	
Reserve for Design Engineering for CR348			20,253.25	
Reserve for Hannahville 2% funds - Broom			20,000.00	
Reserve for Hydraulic Detachable Gooseneck Trailer			54,825.00	
Reserve for 3 Heavy Duty Tandem Dump Trucks			730,704.00	(1,781,290.43)
				\$ 1,296,874.15

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

Vouchers # 19-0026 and 19-0228 – Moved by Kline, seconded by Bower that the vouchers be approved and ordered paid. Carried unanimously.

Award RFP for construction engineering for CR400 – The following RFP’s were received:

UP Engineers & Architects	\$54,900.00
Coleman Engineering	\$63,843.00

Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Kline to award to UP Engineers & Architects. Carried unanimously.

Award RFP for construction engineering for C-1 Bridge – The following RFP’s were received:

UP Engineers & Architects	\$63,475.00
Coleman Engineering	\$72,779.00

Moved by Kline, seconded by Bower to award to UP Engineers & Architects. Carried unanimously.

Award RFP for 2019 Bridge Inspections – The following RFP’s were received:

UP Engineers & Architects	\$13,700.00
Ayres Associates	\$14,200.00
AECOM	\$21,132.00

Moilanen recommended that since Ayres Associates has specialized in bridge inspections since 1972, that they be awarded the RFP. He also noted that the scope of the Ayres’ proposal may need to be changed due to added requirements from MDOT that bridge scour documents now be digitally uploaded into MIBridge.

Moved by Bower, seconded by Kline to award to Ayers Associates and to allow Moilanen to change the scope of the Ayre’s proposal if needed. Carried unanimously.

Permission to bid 800 MHz radios – Moilanen advised that he had recently met with the tower work group. The existing tower is out of plump approximately 4^o and was determined to be unsafe to climb, which would be a problem should any of the lights need to be replaced. To replace the tower may cost up to \$300,000 and the road commission and county board would split the cost. If we were to switch to 800MHz radios the cost would be an estimated \$80,000 - \$100,000 and it would eliminate the need for us to use the tower. Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Kline to allow Moilanen to go out to bid for the 800 MHz radios. Carried unanimously.

Discuss correspondence from Attorney William Henn regarding his legal opinion on L-1 Lane – Moilanen explained that the road commission certifies 1.0 miles and has 0.5 uncertified miles of L-1 Lane. The property owner, Ken Mattson, is approximately 60 feet beyond the end of the uncertified road. Mr. Mattson would like to improve the uncertified 0.5 mile of L-1 Lane. Discussion was held of the road commission’s policy regarding the standard for improving a road prior to the road commission taking it into their jurisdiction, and that the requesting party would bear the cost of the improvement. Kline noted that Mr. Mattson was his neighbor and that he was willing to pay the cost of the improvements. He also stated that Mr. Mattson does have an easement for the last 60’ needed to get to his property. Bower asked why Mr. Mattson wants to improve the road. Moilanen replied it was to get access to the property that he owned. Moved by Kline, seconded by Bower to allow Mr. Mattson to make the road improvements as long as he follows the road commission’s policy. Moilanen will present him with a copy of the policy. Carried unanimously.

Select item for Hannahville 2% Grant request submittal – Moilanen suggested that since the board has approved the purchase of the 800 MHz radios, that they request 2% grant funds to use towards the cost. Moved by Bower, seconded by Kakuk to submit a grant request for funds to use for the purchase of the radios. Carried unanimously.

Sign contracts with Iron City Enterprises for gravel crushing – Contracts with Iron City Enterprises for crushing 22A gravel were signed by the board. Bower asked when the crushing would start. Moilanen advised that Iron City would be moving their crusher into the pit prior to weight restrictions going on and that they had until May 10, 2019 to complete the work.

Permission to hire DGR Engineering for gravel testing – Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Bower to have Moilanen hire DGR Engineering to perform the testing. Carried unanimously.

Discuss candidates/interviews and compensation package for Engineer-Manager position – After researching new hires from other counties, Moilanen suggested a starting salary of \$80,000 - \$84,000 per year, with the ability to renegotiate salary once the candidate assumes full responsibilities of the position at Moilanen's retirement. Other components of the package would include the option to take a road commission vehicle home each day; and to receive the same benefits as outlined in the union contract, with the exception of the pension plan which would be the MERS Defined Contribution Plan currently offered to non-union employees. The position would be of an at-will employee. Kakuk stated that his choice for the position would be Darrell Cass due to his experience with MDOT and MNDOT. He also noted that he had taught at MI Tech following his graduation, is currently overseeing the Escanaba River Bridge project for MDOT and that he seemed to have a great demeanor. Kline noted that all 3 candidates that had been interviewed had good engineering backgrounds, but that Darrell Cass also had an understanding of road funding due to his employment with MDOT. Since Bower had been unable to attend the interviews, he didn't offer an opinion on the candidates. Moved by Kline, seconded by Kakuk to have Moilanen offer the position to Darrell Cass and to negotiate the compensation package with him as outlined above. Carried unanimously.

Any other business – Moilanen advised that he had received notice that he was going to be deposed regarding an issue with Orley Lane and asked permission to hire an attorney to accompany him for the deposition. Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Bower to grant permission. Carried unanimously.

Moilanen asked for permission to hire private trucking to expedite the work on grade lifts needed on 18 Road, so the work could be completed prior to weight restrictions being imposed. Moved by Kakuk, seconded by Bower to grant permission. Carried unanimously.

Moilanen advised that he had received a request from a family that wants to participate in Adopt A County Road, on Elmwood Road from US41 to CR577. The road commission typically will provide signs for the area and the bags for the trash pickup. Moved by Bower, seconded by Kline to have Moilanen approve the request. Carried unanimously.

Moilanen stated that the CR348 project may require that a mussel survey be done on the Big Brook crossing, and asked permission to hire a firm to perform the survey and relocate the mussels if necessary. Bower asked why the mussels would need to be moved. Moilanen replied that they are considered an endangered species. Kline asked if the cost of the survey would be covered by federal aid dollars. Moilanen responded that the survey was typically a part of the design process, which was not covered by federal aid. Moved by Kline, seconded by Bower to have Moilanen hire out the surveys, if needed. Carried unanimously.

Moilanen advised that weight restrictions would possibly start in the next week or so and that the weighmaster would be out prior to that time. It was also noted that the crews would be winging back the banks on the highways in the next few days.

Kakuk showed a photo of a banner that a resident had on display thanking the road crews for their work. He also noted that the CR400 project had come in approximately \$100,000 under the engineer's estimate.

Larry Phelps asked if the grade lifts on 18 Road would also help Mr. Burby have better access in the spring. Moilanen responded that it would.

Public Comment – Lowell Bengry asked what was being done on CR348. Moilanen replied that it would be repaved.

Larry Phelps asked for an update on the visibility of the Camp Shakey sign. Moilanen stated that it had been discussed with Lake Township at their annual meeting and that there are concerns with the culvert and drainage in the area.

There being no further business, Kakuk declared the meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.