

The Menominee County Board of Road Commissioners began their annual meetings with township officials in the Road Commission offices north of Stephenson on Monday, January 26, 2009.

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with the following persons present or absent.

PRESENT: William Anderson, Roger Betzinger, Darrell Moilanen and Lisa Savord. Also present were Bob Gurgall-Meyer Township Supervisor, Barb Kell-Meyer Township Treasurer, Bob Whitens- Meyer Township Trustee, Scott Haelterman and Brett Harter.

ABSENT: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MEYER TOWNSHIP

Moilanen welcomed the township officials, introduced the Road Commissioners and staff and encouraged township officials to call at any time with questions or concerns about Road Commission operations.

Road Commission Funding – Moilanen stated that a copy of the Road Commission's ACT 51 report would be mailed to the townships no later than March 31, 2009. Moilanen explained where the Road Commission's funding comes from and discussed the decrease in MTF Revenues over the past years. The possibility for a Federal Economic Stimulus package was also discussed, with Moilanen stating that if the current package were to be approved, the Menominee County Road Commission would be eligible for approximately \$545,000 in stimulus funds.

Road Commission 2009 Projects – Moilanen presented a handout listing the projects that the road commission has planned for the upcoming year. A possible change to the painting of pavement markings on local roads, due to limited funding, was discussed.

Township account - Moilanen expressed the Board's appreciation for Meyer Township's consistent payments and noted that they are making progress in paying down their balance. Moilanen then talked about the 4% funds appropriated to the townships and reviewed the township's balances. Since the current 4% Set-aside program is ending, Moilanen asked the township to submit any suggestions they may have for a replacement program for local roads construction. Moilanen also encouraged the Township to continue to pursue Hannahville 2% Funds.

Meyer Township projects were discussed as follows:

- Vega Rd., Old US-2 to the end of the existing blacktop
- R-3 Road, US-2 to County Line

Per Gurgall, Vega Road is still a top priority for the township. Moilanen discussed the possibility of getting a demonstration of the Asphalt Zipper for the pulverizing of R-3 Road. The township would like to see Vega Road paved also. Township officials asked if Forest Funds could be used for Vega Road due to the heavy logging traffic, use by hunters & other sportsmen, Wendrick's Truss traffic and the 11 year round residents. Gurgall also requested an itemized statement for the approximate \$18,000 already spent on Vega Road. Moilanen will provide this.

R-3 Road is in poor condition and the township would like to see this pulverized this year if possible.

Gurgall also asked if the snow banks at the intersections with US2 can be knocked down as it is getting difficult to see over them at the stop signs, creating a safety hazard. Moilanen will check with MDOT for approval to do this since it is part of the state trunkline.

Meyer Township officials left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

HOLMES TOWNSHIP (6:34 p.m.) Present for Holmes Township were Joe Skrobiak-Holmes Township Supervisor, and Trustees Ray Furmanski and Mike Zemba. District Foreman Robert Hanson also joined the meeting.

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Township account - Moilanen expressed the Boards appreciation for Holmes Township's payments and noted that they are making progress in paying down their balance. Moilanen then talked about the 4% funds appropriated to the townships and reviewed the township's balances. Since the current 4% Set-aside program is ending, Moilanen asked the township to submit any suggestions they may have for a replacement program for local roads construction.

Holmes Township priority projects were discussed as follows:

- Snow Road
- Zemba Lane

Mr. Skrobiak requested a list of graveling projects in the township. Moilanen will provide this.

Skrobiak also inquired as to the cost of Chip Sealing. Moilanen stated it runs approximately \$15,000 to 20,000/mile for a single layer or \$30,000 – 32,000/mile for a double layer.

Miscauno Island Road was said to have a dip in it where the culvert is. Moilanen stated it will be looked at in the spring.

Mr. Furmanski asked if Mineral Well Brine would again be used for dust control. Moilanen stated that it is less expensive than other options, had worked well in the past and would be used again this year.

Holmes Township officials left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

FAITHORN TOWNSHIP (7:02 p.m.) - Present for Faithorn Township were Supervisor Jeff Kiser, Clerk Rose Gagne, Treasurer Renee Augustine and Trustees Peggy Bryant and Bill DeVoe. District Foreman Bob Hanson was also present.

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Road Commission 2009 Projects – Moilanen presented a handout listing the projects that the road commission has planned for the upcoming year. A possible change to the painting of pavement markings on local roads, due to limited funding, was discussed.

Township account - Moilanen talked about the 4% funds appropriated to the townships and reviewed the townships balances. Since the current 4% Set-aside program is ending, Moilanen asked the township to submit any suggestions they may have for a replacement program for local roads construction.

Faithorn Township priority projects were discussed as follows:

- Top Priority is Gustafson Road

The need for graveling on Church Lane, Gustafson Road, the N. Lake/S. Lake/Bird Lane Loop and No. 36 road was discussed. Ditching & tree/brush removal may help in some locations. It was also stated that Elmer's Lane has several bad spots, and that Cedar Lane needed to be brushed out to make it easier for plowing.

Road Maintenance – Mr. Kiser expressed concerns regarding ice on the road from the county line to G18, also Tarr's Hill and the hills near the cemetery are covered in ice. Kiser stated that these routes are traveled by the school buses and were a safety concern. Moilanen will have these areas sanded.

Mr. Kiser complimented the current snow plow route driver stating that he was doing an excellent job keeping the township plowed.

Faithorn Township officials left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

GOURLEY TOWNSHIP (7:32 p.m.) Supervisor Stephen Wery, Clerk Cindy Berger, Treasurer Stephanie Walechka and Trustees Joe Bellmore and Jesse Wery were present for Gourley Township.

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Road Commission 2009 Projects – Moilanen presented a handout listing the projects that the road commission has planned for the upcoming year. A possible change to the painting of pavement markings on local roads, due to limited funding, was discussed.

Township account - Moilanen acknowledged the township's zero balance and expressed the Boards' appreciation, noting their prompt payments. Moilanen then talked about the 4% funds appropriated to the townships and reviewed the townships balances. Since the current 4% Set-aside program is ending, Moilanen asked the township to submit any suggestions they may have for a replacement program for local roads construction.

Gourley Township projects were discussed as follows:

- CR 557 is listed as a project for a future year

Steve Wery stated that the road near the Dale Strahl and Russell Berger residences may need ditching.

Cindy Berger asked if 34.5 Road was being monitored for cracks. Moilanen answered that it was.

Joe Bellmore stated that the road off of 551 east to the Ray farm had never been plowed or sanded in the past, but was being done this year and asked why. Moilanen stated that there was a new driver on that route and he would be made aware of this.

Gourley Township officials left the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

There being no further business, Anderson declared the meeting adjourned. 7:55 p.m.

Road Commission Clerk

Chair