

August 18, 2011

The regular meeting of the Board of Cass County Road Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Chairman Krempec and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was said in unison.

Board Members Present: Commissioner Fournier, Commissioner Poehlman, Commissioner Krempec, Commissioner Bowser, & Commissioner Celie,

CCRC Staff Present: Louie Csokasy, Joe Bellina, Rick Janssen and Grace Chester.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

County Commissioner Roseann Marchetti, Harry Shaffer, Phyllis Campbell, Richard Anderson (SJC) Kirk Cordill, Wayne Muha, Barbara Dempsey and Norma Lerner.

ADDITION: Drainage Issues (under new business)

APPROVE AGENDA

Poehlman moved to approve the agenda as amended. Celie seconded and the motion was carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PIER PERMIT: FOREST HALL ST

Kirk Cordill talked to the Board about his concerns about the impact of residing next to CCRC road access to Diamond Lake. After a long period of time, a pier permit was applied for and issued this year.

Mr. Cordill said having the public access this site greatly affected resident’s way of life especially those located adjacent to a site. In answer to a Board question, he said that noise or late hours were not a problem but that the “environment” of the residents was the issue.

Mr. Cordill asked the Board to consider no longer issuing pier permits at this location. Chairman Krempec thanked him for coming in and said there have been other similar issues with adjacent neighbors and pier permit holders. “The policy will be looked at but if the road goes to the lake, it is public.”

Diamond Lake Yacht Club: Harry Shaffer said that there have been discussions with Chief Engineer Bellina regarding signage and pavement markings.

Jones: Mrs. Campbell thanked the road commission for the patching done on Main St. She will continue to encourage the Newberg Township Board to select the road for paving.

APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING

Poehlman moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 21, 2011. Celie seconded and the motion was carried.

SPECIAL MEETINGS & MILEAGE

Fournier	7-26-11	Special Co Parks Meeting	4 hrs	32 miles
	8-08-11	SW Road Commission Council	4 hrs	32 miles
	8-11-11	Regular Co Parks Meeting	4 hrs	32 miles
Krempec	8-08-11	SW Road Commission Council	4 hrs	32 miles
Poehlman	8-08-11	SW Road Commission Council	4 hrs	12 miles
Celie	8-08-11	SW Road Commission Council	4 hrs	24 miles

PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE

Chair reviewed an article from the Cassopolis Vigilant about the CCRC roadside spraying program. Noted that Manager gave a presentation to the other road commissions at the last SW Road Commission Council meeting and he received many positive comments.

REPORTS

Neither a CCRC safety meeting nor NATS meeting was held this month.

COUNTY PARKS BOARD (8-11-11)

Budget: 2011 remains steady and the 2012 budget changed to reflect an additional \$5000 for seasonal help.

Hunting: Approved an increase in Lawless Hunting permit fees. Firearm: \$40. Bow: \$20. Small game: \$20 & waterfowl: \$10. Permits issued based on a lottery style system.

Point Park (Kelsey Lake): There was discussion on activating this LaGrange Township park active; however, there is an ownership question (county or township.)

Use: Fournier said the parks appear to be showing increased use with more weddings, increase in trash collection and increased number of vehicles.

Lawless Building: To date, no bid has been awarded.

Dodd Park: Arden Withers cleared the trees in the Dowagiac River at Dodd Park for the timber.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Celie reported the Committee met this morning and reviewed and approved payables. Commissioners were provided with a copy and one was posted.

Reviewed the cash forecast and at this point in time, the cash balance is about even with last years. Some concerns but the numbers for the road jobs are coming in favorably. Working on revised 2011 budget and proposed 2012 budget and cash forecast. Earlier expectations were for expenses to be \$800,000 more than revenue and current expectations are less than half of that and may be even better at year end. Bowser said the Manager and staff continue to face the financial challenge on a weekly basis and the new financial reports are beneficial to the budget process.

MANAGER'S UPDATE

Budget: Csokasy said a special meeting will need to be called toward the end of September for the FY 2012 budget hearing.

Teamsters: A preliminary draft of the contract has been submitted to the union membership for a preliminary vote. No date for the vote has been set.

Projects: Twelve state/fed projects have been completed totaling 11 miles of asphalt. Work will continue on the M205 project using a recycled tire product. When the paving season is over, approximately 70 miles of Cass County roads will have been upgraded.

Chip/Seal Projects: Contracted with crew from SJC and twenty miles of chip and seal projects were completed in Cass County. The work was praised as being very professional. Many complaints received last year about the application but only one so far this year.

Service Requests: Dominated by drainage and brush control requests. Due to needing so many workers for paving, requests are running slightly behind.

Budget: Completed first draft of proposed 2012 budget and cash flow analysis.

Cass Fair: Csokasy commended the Commissioners for their participation in running the road commission both during fair week. A large number of people stopped in and positive comments were received along with many questions on how the road commission operates and is funded.

Roadside Spraying: Roadside brush spraying is expected to start in District 3 next week. Many residents have exercised their right to opt out of the program. Csokasy said this is the second year for the spraying.

FINANCIALS

Insurance: A premium refund of \$131,000 was received from MCRC SIP which had a positive affect on the monthly financial status. The cash on hand as of August 1 increased \$420,000 from July.

OPERATIONS

Production: Current level stands at 41,000 tons of asphalt produced and laid. Since the first of August, federal

asphalt projects done are Marcellus Highway (3 contracts), Decatur Rd., O'Keefe Rd., Middle Crossing, Indian Lake Rd., Robinson, Calvin Center, Redfield (2 contracts) and Beebe Rd. Four local road paving projects were completed in Marcellus and Pokagon Townships. This year's requirement of 36A has been completed and 5,000 ton of 20AA.

Service: Continue to work on service requests concentrating on brush. Two drainage projects are scheduled for Old Mill and Loveridge Road.

ENGINEER'S UPDATE

The department has been working on the Paser road rating program this week.

Drainage Issues: Working on two long standing drainage issues on Lenore St. and Spencer Drive.

Medical Care Facility: CCRC provided a quote for paving the entrance area to the facility which would begin in October.

Projects: Submitted projects to MDOT for payment and working on the designs for Wilbur Hill and Redfield scheduled for next year.

M205: Bellina updated the Board on work schedule.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION (Barron Lake Rd.)

Chairman presented the following resolution;

WHEREAS...the Board of County Road Commissioners for the County of Cass, Michigan desires their Chairman, Leroy Krempec, to sign a negotiated contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for the following:

MDOT Contract Number 11-5480

Control Section	EDDF 14555
Job Number	113103
Project:	EBSL 1114(025)
Federal Item No.	EE 0465
CFDA No.	20.205 (Highway Research Planning & Construction)

Single course chip seal work along Barron Lake Road from Cook Street to Pokagon Highway; and all together with necessary related work.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED...that Chairman Krempec is hereby authorized to sign the negotiated contract and Clerk Grace Chester is authorized to attest by also signing the negotiated contract.

MOTION

Poehlman moved to approve the resolution and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign. Celie seconded and the motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

REVIEW SALARIED RETIREES' POLICY

The policy approved last year by Board action, set stipend amounts of \$3,000 (single) and \$6,000 (married) for salaried retirees over 65 in lieu of road commission providing Medicare supplemental insurance coverage.

Krempec read the existing policy which said the Board would review the policy on an annual basis and the amount could be increased, decreased, remain the same or be discontinued entirely.

There was additional discussion on the cost of this program, changing the specified dates listed in policy, new and pending legislature pertaining to governmental insurance benefits. The Board consensus was to table the decision until the finalized cost information can be obtained.

MEETING: Frugal 5, Monday, August 29, 2011, Barry County. 10:00 AM. All Commissioners and Manager Csokasy are planning to attend.

AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES (Wightman & Associates)

Chairman Krempec reviewed the contract data for the design of Sink Road Bridge & Canoe Ramp Reconstruction Project involving the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Pokagon Township, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, CCRC and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The total estimated cost is \$90,000 for design engineering.

Per Chief Engineer Bellina, the CCRC has been asked to act as the lead agency.

MOTION

Poehlman moved to approve the agreement with Wightman & Associates and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign. Celie seconded and the motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote.

DRAINAGE

Commissioner Fournier began a discussion on drainage issues focusing on public expectations of the road commission compared to the day to day reality. He said that on a daily basis the road commission is asked to fix drainage problems not caused by the road but by work done by the resident (landscaping or construction) which changes the slope of the land causing water to accumulate. Manager Csokasy said our focus should be on roads and an inordinate amount of time is spent on issues that are not road related. "The water just can't be moved to solve one person's problem resulting in a problem for someone else."

Csokasy recommended this matter to Engineering Committee (Fournier & Bellina) for their recommendations.

Other Drainage issues: Mr. Muha discussed a drainage issue at the end of Meade St. and Lakeview and wanted CCRC to dig out and repair the pipe, saying it keeps plugging up. Manager Csokasy said he previously discussed this matter with Muha and they have agreed to disagree on the situation. Muha will schedule an appointment with Manager Csokasy to discuss in more detail his list of other drainage concerns..

SET FY 2012 BUDGET HEARING DATE

The 2012 budget hearing was set for Monday, September 26, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

PERMITS

Driveway

11-01-04-1377	Crooked Creek	Calvin	Enbridge Energy
11-19-19-1382	W Peninsula Dr	Porter	Decicco/Hoffman
11-14-36-1383	Goff Lk	Volinia	Eggleston
11-06-14-1387	Kessington	Mason	Gunn/Hoffman
11-06-07-1388	Christiana Lk Rd	Mason	Schaap

Utility

11-11-17-1374	Sink Rd	Pokagon	Semco
11-02-24-1378	Conrad	Howard	Midwest Energy
11-10-32-1384	Cara Ave	Penn	Semco
11-10-32-1385	Decatur Rd	Penn	Semco
11-11-32-1390	Thomson	Pokagon	AT&T

ROW

11-04-36-1375	Forest Hall-ROW	LaGrange	Salela Const
---------------	-----------------	----------	--------------

OTHER/COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Fournier: He worked at the fair multiple days both at the Parks booth and in the road commission area and said there was good response from the public.

Proposed Meeting: SJC Road Commissioner Anderson was present and there was discussion on representatives from both Boards meeting to talk about the Joint Operating Agreement and Committee organization.

ADJOURNMENT

Bowser moved to adjourn at 10:45 a.m. Fournier seconded and the motion was carried.

CHAIRMAN _____ CLERK _____