

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Newaygo County was called to order by Chairman Gonyon at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at the road commission offices.

Commissioners present: William Gonyon, Douglas Harmon, and Lee Fetterley
Staff present: Derek Wawsczyk, Manager; and Kerry Hewitt, Clerk
Others present: Gary Timmer, UAW
Present for the public hearing: Ken Kiper, Tamberly Vegter, and L.R. Cole

Set board meeting day(s) and time:

Motion by Commissioner Harmon and supported by Commissioner Fetterley to set the 2024 Board Meetings to the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month starting at 8:00 a.m. except for February, which will have one meeting date on the 14th. The meetings for November and December will be set later. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Fetterley supported by Commissioner Harmon to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on December 13, 2023. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Harmon and supported by Commissioner Fetterley to approve the following vendor checks, ach vendor payments, and payroll checks:

December 22, 2023:

Vendor checks # 65053 - # 65077 and ACH Vendor checks # elect. 13199 - # 13238 in the amount of \$518,407.60 and Payroll checks # 59536 - # 59551 in the amount of \$110,002.61.

January 5, 2024:

Vendor checks # 65078 - # 65092 and ACH Vendor checks # elect. 13239 - # 13273 in the amount of \$229,059.53 and Payroll checks # 59552 - # 59567 in the amount of \$151,604.16.

All ayes. Motion carried.

January 19, 2024:

Vendor checks # 65093 - # 65116 and ACH Vendor checks # elect. 13274 - # 13311 in the amount of \$154,772.39 and Payroll checks # 59552 - # 59567 in the amount of \$151,604.16.

All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: none

Public Hearing: Upcoming Construction Projects

Summer Ave. north of 40th St. (grub, grade, and gravel)
Cronk Dr. east of Felch Ave. (grub, grade, dolomite)

Derek described each project and answered questions from those in attendance.

Bid Opening: Three (3) model year “new” 4 x 4 extended cab ¾ ton pickups with 8’ box

BID COMPANY	Price per truck	Total	Model Year	Delivery Date
Deur Speet ** no power seats, styled steel rims, and 32-gallon tank (or \$350 for 50-gallon tank)	\$47,845.00	\$143,535.00	2024	3-5 months
Sparta Chevrolet	\$48,998.00	\$146,994.00	2024	4-6 months
Fremont Ford	\$51,750.00	\$155,250.00	2024	best guess 16-18 weeks
Lafontaine Cadillac GMC of Highland	\$52,895.00	\$158,685.00	2024	March-April 2024
Bob Maxey Ford	\$54,250.00	\$162,750.00	2024	90-120 Days ARO
Freedom Chevy - crew cab LT Model	\$58,751.00	\$176,253.00	2024	2-6 months
Freedom Chevy - crew cab WT Model	\$54,462.00	\$163,386.00	2024	2-6 months

Bids will be reviewed by management.

Kerry presented the board with an updated cash flow, budget reports through December, fuel savings for 2023, MVHF Comparison spreadsheet, 2024 construction project spreadsheet, and energy savings for 2023 with the use of solar panels.

Kerry informed the board that the FY21 State Trunkline audit is complete. After adjustments we owe MDOT \$73,617. There were some fuel keys that were not set up properly causing diesel fuel to be charged to construction pickups instead of being spread over the fleet. In addition, since we did not spend 40-60% of our total seasonal labor on the trunkline they adjusted the overhead rate.

Kerry reported that the next Paul Bunyan meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 15th.

Kerry informed the board that registration is open for the 2024 Highway Conference and Road Show held in Lansing on March 19th – 21st. Kerry informed the board that she submitted two Impress Awards for NCRC, an operation award for the solar panel project and a collaboration award for the ADA section of the Dragon Trail.

Kerry informed the board that we received a \$37,612 refund from CRASIF for the 2022-2023 payroll audit.

Kerry presented the board with an agreed value resolution pertaining to Site # 1, Building’s 4 and 5; whereas, MCRC SIP had a 2022 appraised value at \$420,000 for building 4 and \$390,000 for building 5. At Derek’s request, they are lowering the values to \$300,000 and

\$250,000 respectively. Motion by Commissioner Harmon and supported by Commissioner Fetterley to authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the presented resolutions lowering the insured values on Buildings 4 and 5, Site 1. All ayes. Motion carried.

Derek reported that the new brush hog should be delivered this week.

Derek reported that he and Mike attended a meeting with Dale Twing and Marty from the Muskegon River Watershed to discuss Wheeler Drain. Derek indicated for the Hardy Dam mitigation they wanted to replace the culverts on Walnut Ave. north of 112th St. with a timber bridge. Derek said the culverts were perfectly fine and was not in favor of spending any monies on removing the culverts. Derek also presented them with an estimate for what the timber bridge would cost.

Derek informed the board that he plans to attend the Paul Bunyan Manager's luncheon on the 22nd.

Derek reported that he was going to meet with Chris Wren to discuss the GIS mapping possibilities yesterday, but Chris cancelled the meeting the morning of.

Derek reported that he has been contacted by Frost Solutions to provide input for their best practices manual. They inquired on how we use them and asked to provide feedback. He has also given referrals to other entities like the City of Big Rapids.

Derek informed the board that he recently attended the small urban transportation committee meeting held at the City of Fremont and was appointed Vice-Chair. The city is now out of our rural task force due to redistricting. They will have another meeting in April to appropriate the 2025 and 2026 funds.

Derek reported that he has drafted the annual letter to the townships. We will focus our cost-share on reseal and overlay projects, and on a case-by-case basis as we have in the past.

Derek informed the board that Michigan Cat has picked up our 950 loader and delivered a 938 loaner until our new one arrives this spring.

Derek informed the board that with the good weather we were having this winter, we were able to get all the grubbing done on 84th St. project. for Brooks Township.

Discussion took place on our 2025 Fed Aid, which will be used along with 2026's for the Hardy Dam project. MDOT will not be purchasing 2025, and Oakland County does not have a need for it. Wayne with Kent County said they would buy it for 75 cents on the dollar. Derek wants to be financially prepared when the Hardy Dam project gets the green light. The board agreed. Motion by Commissioner Harmon and supported by Commissioner Fetterley to sell our 2025 Federal Aid to Kent County Road Commission for 75 cents on the dollar. All ayes. Motion carried.

Derek provided an update on our 2024 Fed Aid chip seal project. Wayne with Kent County has a job #, and Darren provided them with a map of our county to prepare them for putting the bid package together. We are aiming for a March bid letting.

Derek reported that we received the recertification of the fuel facility after the requested updates were made.

Derek presented the board with an agreement from Clean Fuels National for the inside cleaning of our fuel tanks twice a year for the next three years, at the same price of \$7,644.13. We have been utilizing Clean Fuels National and are satisfied with their service. Motion by Commissioner Harmon and supported by Commissioner Fetterley to enter into said agreement with Clean Fuel National for the inside cleaning of our fuel tanks. All ayes. Motion carried.

Derek reported that he was recently contacted by Jeremy Geist with Trout Unlimited requesting a meeting to discuss the Bigelow Creek crossing at 40th St., along with the Woody Creek project on 17 Mile Rd.

Derek informed the board that Kelly received the bid spec. for the Vista Dr. project. We will be reviewing the bid documents and getting the structure out to bid along with the sheet piling requirements.

Derek reported that he has received a ballot from CRA for the appointment on the board of directors. Derek recommended voting for the only candidate on the ballot, Jerry Heim. The board had no objections.

Public Comment: Gary Timmer mentioned getting the letter of understanding signed for the updated bereavement policy. He also suggested we jointly work on the actuarial to get real numbers ahead of negotiations. He also informed the board that there is an upcoming conference in May, Muskegon Area Labor and Management, that he thinks would be beneficial for us to attend.

Public Hearing Closed at 9 a.m.

Commissioner discussion items:

Commissioner Harmon reported that the Parks Committee changed the fee structure for renting out the lodge and the pavilion at Sandy Beach, to include parking fees for event guests. He also reported that they are moving forward with the improvements at the 4-seasons boat landing at Hardy Dam that involves upgrading the boat launch and the parking lot to accommodate guests using the boat launch and the Dragon Trail.

Commissioner Harmon said he had someone inquire about the toilets at the High Rollaway roadside park. Derek informed him that MDOT had them removed completely and will be setting new ones in the spring. Commissioner Harmon also had someone inquire about the seasonal section of 64th St. off Fitzgerald Ave. Trucks delivering to an Amish residence got stuck and they inquired about adding gravel and grading it. Derek reported that we try to grade and gravel it a few times during the summer months, but they are more than welcome to obtain a permit to work in the right-of-way too.

Commissioner Gonyon inquired about Mr. Harrington's complaint regarding the new structure over Robinson Creek. Derek reported that we have had no issues maintaining or plowing the road this winter. There is an elevation change, but it is fine and at the height that EGLE required.

With no objections, Chairman Gonyon adjourned the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

William Gonyon, Chairman

Kerry Hewitt, Clerk