

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, June 26, 2024, at the road commission offices.

Commissioners present: William Gonyon, Douglas Harmon, and Lee Fetterley
Staff present: Derek Wawczyk, Manager and Kerry Hewitt, Clerk
Others present: Stu Sanders, Newaygo County Register of Deeds

Motion by Commissioner Fetterley and supported by Commissioner Harmon to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on June 12, 2024. 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:

June 20, 2024

Vendor checks # 65354 - # 65380 and ACH Vendor checks elect. # 13664 - # 13704 in the amount of \$347,047.25 and Payroll checks # 59766 - # 59781 in the amount of \$130,089.34.

Kerry presented the board with an updated cash flow and an updated township project spreadsheet.

Kerry mentioned paying off our transportation bond loan early. The current payoff amount is \$834,767.50 and we have \$318,832.37 in the Transportation Bond Michigan Class account. Discussion took place. Motion by Commissioner Harmon and supported by Commissioner Fetterley to allow the Clerk to move forward with paying off the transportation bond loan if permitted. All ayes. Motion carried.

Kerry informed the board that she met with Paradigm last week to discuss health insurance coverage and rates that they provide, and she will be meeting with Newaygo Insurance in a couple of weeks.

Kerry reported that we received our MDOT Salt contract for 2024/2025 season and the price per ton decreased from \$69.07 to \$67.34.

Kerry presented the board with a resolution specifying authorized officials to sign MDOT Contract No. 24-5220. Motion by Commissioner Harmon and supported by Commissioner Fetterley to approve resolution NCRC-06-001-24. A resolution specifying authorized officials to sign MDOT Contract No. 24-5220, Job No. 220748CON for the single course chip seal, fog seal, and pavement markings along various locations within Newaygo County. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Stu Sanders thanked the Newaygo County Road Commission for taking such good care of the roads within the county, especially in Lincoln Township. He is happy with the way the dolomite roads hold up.

Derek reported that when Kelly attended the Hardy Dam stakeholder's meeting he discussed with Kim Balke, Conservative Resource Alliance, the bridge failure on Elm Ave. north of 13 Mile Rd. Their organization could be another revenue source. Derek reported that we contacted Krenn Bridge and received an estimate for a 22' long x 24' wide timber bridge for \$115,575. Mike submitted the EGLE permit for removal of the existing structure, but we are still waiting to hear back from EGLE as far as what can go back in that location.

Derek reported that the tire collection day was a success. We have one more trailer to load and then they will all be removed from the shop. Discussion took place on the tire collection and what we can do to improve the collection process next year.

Derek reported that Fahrner Asphalt was low bid on the June 12th fed aid chip seal bid. We will send over the resolution we just approved so they can move forward with officially awarding the bid and then they will schedule a pre-con meeting.

Derek informed the board that we received an application for abandonment on a parcel we own near Bills Lake. Derek has had several conversations with the homeowner, over several years. Derek suggested sending all the information and correspondence to Bill Henn's office. The board had no objections.

Derek informed the board that DTE is running the natural gas line near our Newaygo facility.

Derek reported that we have a couple drainage issues we are repairing for MDOT. One is in Fremont in front of the Harrington Inn and another one is in Hesperia.

Derek informed the board that the roadside mowing will be wrapped up by the end of next week. Derek mentioned that this round of mowing did not go as smoothly as before, but he has been in contact with Jablonski, so they can rectify the issues.

Derek informed the board that Fleis and Vandenbrink started our annual bridge inspections.

Derek provided a construction update.

Derek reported that Kelly and Mike met on Beech Ave. with the homeowners and Mike presented a plan to navigate the water. They will be meeting with Brooke, with Consumers Energy on-site to discuss the guardrail section and erosion issues.

Derek reported that the bathroom at the High Rollaway Roadside Park is scheduled to be delivered on July 2nd.

Derek reported that he has a meeting with Nick at the Parks Department regarding the installation of bird watching signs in the road right-of-way for several designated bird watching locations within the county.

Derek reported that he recently received correspondence from CRA on Utah's mileage-based user fees, where drivers are charged based on the miles driven versus fuel consumed. CRA is exploring options for the lack of revenue being distributed into the MTF from less gas being consumed from more fuel efficient and electronic vehicles.

Derek just received notification from CRA to approve proposed changes to their by-laws. Derek will look at it and report back at our next meeting.

Derek reported that Foreman, Mark Silverthorn has been in that position for over 2-years, and he would like to request his wage be increased to match the other foreman. Discussion on wages took place. Motion by Commissioner Harmon and supported by Commissioner Fetterley to increase Mark's wage to match the foreman wage and provide a 4% increase to all of management, effective June 1, 2024. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: none

Commissioner discussion items:

Commission Harmon informed the board that there are 18 spots in Newaygo County designated as official bird watching locations. Commissioner Harmon mentioned the Parks Committee is moving forward with the transfer of Pettibone Park to Lilley Township.

With no objections, Chairman Gonyon adjourned the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

William Gonyon, Chairman

Kerry Hewitt, Clerk