

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Newaygo County was called to order by Vice-Chairman Harmon at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at the road commission offices.

Commissioners present: Douglas Harmon and Lee Fetterley

Staff present: Derek Wawsczyk, Manager and Kerry Hewitt, Clerk

Motion by Commissioner Fetterley and supported by Commissioner Harmon to approve the minutes of the regular meeting for April 15, 2026. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

April 24, 2026:

Vendor checks # 66623 - # 66642 and ACH Vendor checks elect. # 15277 - # 15303 in the amount of \$216,431.04 and Payroll checks # 60535 - # 60547 in the amount of \$119,995.79 All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: none

Kerry presented the board with an updated cash flow, MTF comparison spreadsheet, and an updated spreadsheet for township projects.

Kerry informed the board that the next Paul Bunyan meeting is Thursday, May 21, 2026. We are the host county for all of 2026.

Kerry informed the board that she appeared in court on Monday regarding Adams west of Centerline. Kerry reported that she did not have to testify this time, and that the judge established the fact that Adams is a county road extending along the ¼ line from Centerline to Gordon, and that the public right-of-way shall not be blocked.

Kerry provided the board with a flood update, and a rough estimate of expenditures to date.

Commissioner Harmon reported that he attended the last county board meeting. The county board inquired about dead trees and how the road commission handles them. Derek mentioned we look at each concern, determine if it is in the right-of-way, and a potential road hazard. Derek noted that each year our line item for trees has increased substantially.

Derek provided an update from the settlement conference on the Ford Redding case. Mr. Redding requested a missing survey stake be reestablished. Derek had Newaygo County Engineering & Survey go onsite, and they were able to find all the established pins. Derek will go back for another settlement conference on May 18th.

Derek reported on a summons we received for a road abandonment in the plat of Shady Beach, near the corner of Bingham Ave. and 12th St. We did not see any issues with the road abandonment. Henn

mentioned the fact that it was a turnback route, an old state trunkline. MDOT may need to be named in the court documents. Henn is currently reviewing documents we emailed him.

Derek informed the board that Mike attended the DSTR on the 40th St. RR crossing east of M-37. MDOT did not show to the meeting so there is not too much to report at this time.

Derek informed the board that we have 6 applicants for summer help. Discussion took place regarding the hourly rate for summer help. Motion by Commissioner Fetterley and supported by Commissioner Harmon to increase the starting hourly rate for summer help to \$15 per hour and provide a 50-cent increase for every year they return. All ayes. Motion carried.

Derek informed the board that he has received a letter regarding open houses in Garfield and Sheridan Townships for the proposed solar projects. There is a meeting on Tuesday, May 19th at Camp Newaygo and one on Wednesday, May 20th at the Sheridan Township Hall.

Derek provided more details to the board on the flooding event. Derek applauded our staff for working diligently to fix the major washouts and culvert failures. There are only two locations still closed. Green Ave. between 20th and 24th is still closed due to water over the road. The farm fields on both sides are fully saturated, and the water has no place to go. Lee Ave. south of Lake Dr. has a failed culvert with sewer lines and other utilities effected. We are waiting for materials.

Derek provided a construction update.

Derek mentioned that some of the townships are scheduled to be brined next week. Kerry mentioned she will reach out to the townships and remind them of the brining cost-share reimbursement of \$5,000.

Commissioner Fetterley asked if berm pulling is planned. Derek mentioned that we always have a list of berm locations, and when we have any free time Mark's crew will perform berm removal. Derek indicated that during construction season it is difficult to find time to remove berm, and we are still down a grader that is being worked on.

Public Comment: none

Commissioner discussion items:

Commissioner Harmon mentioned the Hazardous Waste Collection is Saturday, May 16th. Volunteers are needed.

With no objections, Vice Chairman Harmon adjourned the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Douglas Harmon, Vice-Chairman

Kerry Hewitt, Clerk