

The regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners was held on Wednesday, November 16, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in their office located at 13300 Fifteen Mile Road, Marshall, Michigan.

PRESENT: Commissioner Scott Brown, Chairman
Commissioner Eric Tobin, Member
Commissioner Christopher Vreeland, Member

ABSENT: Commissioner Hugh Coward, Vice Chairman - excused
Commissioner Eric Johnson, Member - excused

ALSO PRESENT: Kevin Henning, Managing Director
Mary Jo Crumpton, Clerk
General Public

Chairman Scott Brown called the regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Tobin and supported by Commissioner Vreeland to approve the Claims Payable Listing ending November 10, 2011 for \$606,575.01. Roll call vote: Vreeland-Yes; Tobin-Yes; Brown-Yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Tobin and supported by Commissioner Vreeland to approve the November 2, 2011 regular meeting minutes. Voice vote: Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mrs. Crumpton read the communications as follows:

- a) Received the notice changing the regular meeting date from December 7th to December 14th
- b) Received the Public Hearing Notice for December 14, 2011
- c) Received a Petition for Absolute Abandonment and Discontinuance of a portion of N Drive South in Section 8 of Homer Township
- d) Received State of Michigan Traffic Control Order NO. S 13-24-11
- e) Received Resolution #2011-15: "Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention"

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Henning referenced item c) under Communications and Resolutions and informed the Board that we would not be asking for action on the Petition for Absolute Abandonment and Discontinuance of a portion of N Drive South in Section 8 or Homer Township. It was recently determined that CCRC did not acquire this property when the road shifted.

Approve Resolution 2011-14 regarding MDOT Contract #2011-0327 under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), for the purchase of one "clean diesel" burning double axle dump truck with box and blade: Mr. Henning noted that the Board received Resolution 2011-14 at their last meeting and requested Board approval to utilize Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding for the purchase of a plow truck.

Motion made by Commissioner Tobin and supported by Commissioner Vreeland to approve Resolution 2011-14 Approve Resolution 2011-14 regarding MDOT Contract #2011-0327 under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), for the purchase of one "clean diesel" burning double axle dump truck with box and blade.

Commissioner Vreeland asked what CCRC's cost would be. Mr. Henning responded that CCRC's portion is 20% of the total cost which would be approximately \$40,000 and added that this has been included in the 2012 Budget.

Roll call vote: Tobin-Yes; Vreeland-Yes; Brown-Yes. Motion carried.

Approve the State of Michigan Traffic Control Order No. S 13-24-11: Mr. Henning stated that at the request of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, a speed study was conducted on 1 ½ Mile Road, a local road in Athens Township that runs through tribal property. The results supported a change in the speed limit from prima facie (55 MPH) to a speed limit of 45 MPH. After much communication between all parties involved over the past two years, the Michigan State Police Department issued Traffic Control Order No. S 13-24-11. Mr. Henning requested Board approval of the Traffic Control Order.

Motion made by Commissioner Tobin and supported by Commissioner Vreeland to approve State of Michigan Traffic Control Order No. S 13-24-11. Roll call vote: Vreeland-Yes; Tobin-Yes; Brown-Yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Vreeland commented that speed limit reductions can be a lengthy process and if the Michigan State Police warrants the change, it is a reasonable request.

Approve Resolution #2011-15: "Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention": Mr. Henning stated that each year BCATS asks the Board for their assistance in promoting the national public awareness campaign of the impaired driving problem. The campaign seeks to promote safer and healthier behaviors regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs this holiday season and throughout the entire year. He requested Board approval of Resolution #2011-15.

Motion made by Commissioner Vreeland and supported by Commissioner Tobin to approve Resolution #2011-15" "Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention". Voice vote: Motion carried.

Winter Maintenance: Mr. Henning noted that we made it through our first snow event where some areas in the county picked up 3" of snow. Our equipment is ready for winter, our salt barns are full, and snow routes are finalized. There are 3 routes out of Albion, 11 out of Battle Creek, and 17 out of Marshall. Shared routes include roads in Athens, Burlington, Tekonsha, Clarendon, and Homer where the day crew will maintain the primary roads and the night crew will maintain the local roads. Our priority for snowplowing remains the same as past years: State trunklines, primary roads, major local roads, local roads, and streets/subdivisions. Mr. Henning stated that we have hired 5 seasonal employees for winter maintenance who have been added to our night crew.

CCRC Live: Mr. Henning provided a demonstration of "CCRC Live", an online application that lets citizens see where and what road commission crews are working on. He noted that this is one method we are using to be more transparent to the public.

This new service, "CCRC Live", is an interactive map that uses GPS coordinates to display the location of our crews, whether they're plowing snow, patching potholes or even working on road signs. In addition to viewing the current location, you'll also be able to see where each crew has been for the previous eight hours. Mr. Henning noted that educators and business owners should be able to use the service to help decide whether to remain open, open late or close for the day during inclement weather by seeing what streets have or have not been plowed.

Mr. Henning demonstrated how to view the application by clicking on the "CCRC Live" link located in the top right corner of each page. To view locations of our crews, simply select a township from the menu. Next, select the radius in which you wish to view crew locations. Then, select which type of vehicle you are curious about, such as patching or plowing.

The map will plot the current location of each vehicle in the group, along with a 'breadcrumb' trail showing the location each truck has been over the last eight hours. Citizens also have the option of viewing current locations only by clicking the "current positions" button.

Mr. Henning informed the Board that he would be presenting "CCRC Live" at the School Superintendents' meeting on Friday, at the Township Supervisors meeting next week, and with the media. Discussion continued.

2012 Budget: Mr. Henning noted that the Public Hearing on the 2012 Budget will be held during the December 14th Board meeting. He noted that his PowerPoint presentation for the public hearing will be a more simplified version and asked Commissioners to let him know if they had specific information they would like included.

2012 Fee Schedule: Mr. Henning stated that there will be a cost increase of 2% to the Fee Schedule for 2012 as a result of the 2% wage increase for employees per the union contract.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Joe Bramble, Convis Township resident, commented that the Convis Township Board was honored to have County Commissioners attend their Board meeting last Tuesday night. He added that while he may not always agree with the Road Commissioners, he believes they are doing the best that they can do.

A Bedford Township resident commented that roads are not being repaired, only patched, and patching does not solve the road problems. Commissioner Brown explained the Local Road program and the fact that by law, the Road Commission can only pay up to 50% for local road improvements beyond general maintenance such as patching. Discussion took place on raising the other 50% and Commissioner Vreeland noted that some townships have passed road millages to fund road improvements.

COMMISSIONER TIME

Commissioner Vreeland commented that he has received positive feedback on the opinion piece he wrote for publication in the Battle Creek Enquirer. He added that he is working on a follow-up letter.

Commissioner Vreeland stated that he would try to attend the Emergency Management meeting tomorrow that was scheduled as a follow up to the May 29th storm. He noted that he has repeatedly asked for a copy of the Emergency Response Plan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

There being no additional business before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Submitted by:

Mary Jo Crumpton, Board Clerk

Scott A. Brown, Chairman