

The regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners was held on Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in their office located at 13300 Fifteen Mile Road, Marshall, Michigan.

PRESENT: Commissioner Scott Brown, Chairman
Commissioner Hugh Coward, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Eric Johnson, Member
Commissioner Eric Tobin, Member
Commissioner Christopher Vreeland, Member (entered at 5:37 p.m.)

ALSO PRESENT: Kevin Henning, Managing Director
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 Coward to approve the Claims Payable Listing ending April 8, 2011 for \$495,783.97. Roll call vote: Johnson-Yes; Tobin-Yes; Coward-Yes; Brown-Yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Coward and supported by Commissioner Johnson to approve the April 6, 2011 regular meeting minutes. Voice vote: Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Henning read the communications as follows:

- a) Received communication from Clarence Township requesting that 27 ½ Mile Road between U and W Drive North (a local road) be designated a "No Thru Truck Route over 10,000 pounds"
- b) Received the "Invitation for Bids" and the bid tabulation for Roadside Mowing of Freeways and M Roads for 2011-2012
- c) Received Resolution 2011-02 supporting the replacement of the Michigan Avenue Bridge (15P) over Rice Creek
- d) Received Resolution 2011-03 supporting the replacement of the Raymond Road Bridge (9P) over Conrail
- e) Received Resolution 2011-04 supporting the replacement of the 28 ½ Mile Road Bridge (23S) over the South Branch of the Kalamazoo River
- f) Received Resolution 2011-05 supporting the replacement of the V Drive South Bridge (45P) over Nottawa Creek
- g) Received Resolution 2011-06 supporting the replacement of the 25 ½ Mile Road Bridge (24P) over the South Branch of the Kalamazoo River

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Approve the 2010 Act 51 Financial Report: Mr. Henning noted that the 2010 Act 51 Financial Report included in the packet was incorrect and he provided the correct report. He explained that the only difference is on page 6, "Statement of Changes in Fund Balances", which is an auto fill page from software provided by the State. It was not pulling the most recently updated changes from page 5, "Statement of Expenditures" and the report included in the packet was off by \$18,000.

Motion made by Commissioner Tobin and supported by Commissioner Coward to approve the 2010 Act 51 Financial Report. Roll call vote: Tobin-Yes; Johnson-Yes; Coward-Yes; Vreeland-Yes; Brown-Yes. Motion carried.

Award the 2011-2012 Roadside Mowing of Freeways and M Roads: Mr. Henning noted that Dick's Landscaping is a new vendor to the Road Commission; however, in accordance with the bid document we have received and reviewed their insurance and worker's compensation, checked all references, and inspected their equipment. It was noted that Dick's Landscaping was the low bidder for 2011 and 2012. Mr. Henning commented that the State was anxious to move this along and has already completed the 426 form to send to their Ad Board in the hope that we would recommend the bid award to Dick's Landscaping. Commissioner Coward noted the disparity in cost between Dick's Landscaping and the other bidders and wanted to ensure that we had done our due diligence in checking out the business. Mr. Henning assured him that we had.

Motion made by Commissioner Vreeland and supported by Commissioner Tobin to award the 2011-2012 Roadside Mowing of Freeways and M Roads to Dick's Landscaping.

Commissioner Brown asked about the equipment, worker's compensation insurance, and how long they have been in business. Mr. Henning stated that they have adequate equipment to do the job within the designated time frame and have the appropriate worker's compensation insurance. The bid document does not ask how long a company has been in business. References given included Berrien and Barry County and when checked, we were told they did good work. Commissioner Brown commented that he is concerned that the level of service may not be as good as past providers, due to the large disparity in cost. Mr. Henning reminded Board members that we can cancel services immediately with cause, and within 30 days without cause.

Mr. Henning clarified that the price given was for both 2011 and 2012.

Roll call vote: Johnson-Yes; Tobin-Yes; Coward-Yes; Vreeland-Yes; Brown-No. Motion carried.

Resolutions supporting Bridge Replacements: Mr. Henning noted that Resolutions 2011-02 through 2011-06 are all for program funding applications for various bridge replacements.

Motion made by Commissioner Tobin and supported by Commissioner Vreeland to approve Resolution 2011-02 supporting the replacement of the Michigan Avenue Bridge (15P) over Rice Creek. Voice vote: Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Tobin and supported by Commissioner Vreeland to approve Resolution 2011-03 supporting the replacement of the Raymond Road Bridge (9P) over Conrail. Voice vote: Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Coward and supported by Commissioner Vreeland to approve Resolution 2011-04 supporting the replacement of the 28 ½ Mile Road Bridge (23S) over the South Branch of the Kalamazoo River. Voice vote: Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Tobin and supported by Commissioner Vreeland to approve Resolution 2011-05 supporting the replacement of the V Drive South Bridge (45P) over Nottawa Creek. Voice vote: Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Vreeland and supported by Commissioner Coward to approve Resolution 2011-06 supporting the replacement of the 25 ½ Mile Road Bridge (24P) over the South Branch of the Kalamazoo River. Voice vote: Motion carried.

Other: Mr. Henning informed the Board that the auditors will present the 2010 Audits for Parks, Public Works, and the Road Commission at the next Board meeting on May 4, 2011. He noted that the Act 51 Report and the audit will mirror each other.

Mr. Henning provided additional information and stated that as of December 31, 2010, we spent \$1,000,000 of our fund balance. He explained that we continue to be over budget on our local roads, as we continue to spend \$1,000,000 more than what we receive for local road maintenance. This will continue if we have to continue spending \$2.5 million patching local roads. Mr. Henning added that the reason our primary roads continue to decline is because year after year we have transferred primary road funds to our local roads.

We have requested five-year plans from our townships and have received them from some, but not all. Mr. Henning believes that CCRC may need to develop five-year plans for those townships that have not submitted one, and expects that they may include turning some of the worst roads back to gravel. We will be doing some core samples this year to show what these local roads are made of, and Mr. Henning stated that he is working on a gravel road list to share with the Board. Discussion continued

Website: Mr. Henning noted that Google statistics have been set up on our website and we will have monthly updates available on the number of hits, where they are coming from, etc.

Pothole Patching: Mr. Henning commented that he is pleased with our progress patching potholes. We have less than 20 open service requests in every township in the county. So far in 2011, we have spent 9,781 hours and \$616,000 patching potholes with cold patch and the Durapatchers. We are spending approximately \$64 per ton on cold mix that is a temporary patch and will be repatching all areas again when the asphalt plant opens.

Seasonal Weight Restriction Report: At the last meeting, Commissioner Vreeland requested information on permits issued when the frost laws were imposed. Mr. Henning provided a report prepared by our Permit Agent regarding the number of permits issued during the seasonal weight restriction period. He stated that we received \$13,689 in permit fees, and issued 64 agricultural permits, 15 permits to Enbridge, 8 to utility companies, and 12 emergency permits for a total of 99 permits. Commissioner Vreeland noted that Enbridge did not pay for permits and asked if this was because they would be paying to fix the roads impacted by their equipment due to the oil spill. Mr. Henning responded that this is the case.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Peter George, owner of the Kimball Pines Motel on Michigan Avenue, commented that he was supposed to receive a corner lot at the road near his motel and added that the roads are only 15' apart.

COMMISSIONERS TIME

Commissioner Vreeland encouraged Mr. George to address his comment with Mr. Henning.

Commissioner Johnson noted that he has been driving the roads and commented on their condition.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, May 4, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

There being no additional business before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

Submitted by:

Mary Jo Crumpton, Board Clerk

Scott A. Brown, Chairman