

The regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners was held on Wednesday, June 1, 2011 at 5:36 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 Tobin, Member
Commissioner Christopher Vreeland, Member – entered at 5:49 p.m.

ABSENT: Commissioner Eric Johnson, Member - excused

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

Chairman Scott Brown called the regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners to order at 5:36 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 May 25, 2011 for \$315,285.06. Roll call vote: Tobin-Yes; Coward-Yes; Brown-Yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Coward and supported by Commissioner Tobin to approve the May 13, 2011 special meeting minutes. Voice vote: Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Coward and supported by Commissioner Tobin to approve the May 25, 2011 regular meeting minutes. Voice vote: Motion carried.

SUPERVISORS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

County Commissioner Julie Camp requested that the minutes reflect that prior to the regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners on May 25, 2011 several residents of 6 Mile Road were present to discuss their concerns with the condition of the road.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mrs. Crumpton read the communications as follows:

- a) Received correspondence from Erin Cummings, Permit Agent, regarding Shafer Redi Mix, Inc. – Bond #24897922
- b) Received correspondence from Lorene Frisbie regarding vehicle damage
- c) Received correspondence from Dana Haller regarding 6 Mile Road
- d) Received a recommendation from Kevin Henning regarding the Honeywell Energy project

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Approve Traffic Control Order 11-060-01 for a "No Thru Trucks over 10,000 pounds" route: Mr. Henning noted that back in April, the Board received correspondence from Clarence Township regarding a "No Thru Trucks" issuance. In the interim, we requested a formal resolution from the Clarence Township Board which we have received. Mr. Henning requested Board approval of Traffic Control Order 11-060-01 for a "No Thru Trucks over 10,000 pounds" route on 27 ½ Mile Road between U Drive North and W Drive North in Clarence Township.

Motion made by Commissioner Tobin and supported by Commissioner Coward to approve Traffic Control Order 11-060-01. Voice vote: Motion carried.

Approve voting delegates to the Michigan County Road Commission Self-Insurance Pool (MCRCSIP): Mr. Henning noted that MCRCSIP's Annual Meeting is coming up. Jill Forshey handles all the liability insurance needs and property reconciliations for CCRC and based on this year's agenda, Mr. Henning would like to send Jill to the conference. He requested Board approval to allow Jill Forshey to serve as our voting

delegate for the meeting scheduled on July 21, 2011 and in her absence, Mary Jo Crumpton would serve as the alternate voting delegate.

Motion made by Commissioner Tobin and supported by Commissioner Coward to approve Jill Forshey as voting and Mary Jo Crumpton as alternate voting delegates for the MCRCSIP Annual Meeting. Voice vote: Motion carried.

Recommendation regarding the Honeywell Energy project: Chairman Brown clarified that Mr. Henning's recommendation is for information and no approval is needed.

As a follow up to the presentation given by Honeywell representatives at the last meeting, Mr. Henning noted that it is his recommendation to contact Honeywell and decline moving forward at this time. He explained that out of the \$65,000 in annual savings that they showed we could receive through upgrades, \$43,000 of that is replacement costs that we currently are not budgeting. Mr. Henning added that he realizes that mechanical and lighting replacements and upgrades will be necessary at some point, but at this time due to funding constraints, we need to be on a pay as we go basis. It is not the time to undertake a nearly million dollar project to upgrade for energy efficiency.

Commissioner Coward stated that he understands the outlay of funds, but he asked if it would be worthwhile to have Honeywell complete the engineering study. Mr. Henning responded that the study could cost us approximately \$9,000. Commissioner Coward commented that from their presentation, it appears that there are fairly inexpensive items that we could do on our own over time to increase energy efficiency. Mr. Henning agreed that it was beneficial to tour the facility with Honeywell representatives to determine inefficiencies.

Commissioner Tobin commented that the Athens School Board used Honeywell for an energy audit for the schools.

Approve funding for the 2011 Local Road Program: Mr. Henning noted that the 2011 Local Road Program project list has changed over time and he is asking for Board guidance and approval. When the Board approved the 2011 Budget, \$400,000 was earmarked for match for the local road system. Mr. Henning added that we have had a good year garnering local support for the road system and townships have submitted resolutions totaling \$498,093. Therefore, he is asking for Board approval of the additional funding needed for match for the 2011 local road program, including the resolutions submitted for regravelling. The total investment in our local road system would be \$548,643.

Mr. Henning added that he will be providing the Board with a budget revision in June for approval in July, as there have been several non-budgeted items this year (e.g., increase in winter maintenance costs due to ice storm, recent storm, and personnel issues). Although primary roads need to be the mainstay of the road system, we have almost twice as many miles of local roads than primary, local roads are deteriorating, and we have townships willing to invest almost \$500,000 in our local road system. Mr. Henning added that we may have to cut back on our primary road sealcoating program this year. He is recommending the transfer of an additional \$150,000 from the primary to the local road system to provide match funding for the local road program.

Motion made by Commissioner Tobin and supported by Commissioner Coward to approve the allocation of \$548,643 in matching funds for the 2011 Local Road Program.

Commissioner Coward asked for clarification on the additional funding requested. Mr. Henning stated that the total funding of \$548,643 includes township requests for one free mile of regravelling. He noted that our gravel road policy calls for one free mile of gravel, per township, per year and some townships provided a formal request for regravelling through a

resolution. If we decide that a road needs gravel, we do one mile per township. If a township requests a specific one mile stretch, we ask for a resolution from their township board.

Commissioner Brown asked if we have received resolutions from all township boards that are participating in the local road program on all the roads requested. Mr. Henning replied that we have received resolutions from all with the following exceptions: 1) Bedford Township has stated they have \$10,000 available; and 2) Eckford Township has stated that they have \$10,000 that they want to spend on skip paving on D Drive South. Mr. Henning added that work will not commence in these townships until we receive a township board resolution. We received the Marshall Township Board resolution this afternoon.

Commissioner Brown noted that the Leroy Township Board has submitted their local road program resolution for 4 Mile Road and D Drive South, even though several Leroy Township residents attended our last meeting to express their concerns with the condition of 6 Mile Road. He wants to ensure that residents understand that their township boards determine what roads will be included in the local road program.

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

Road Bond: Mr. Henning referred to the communication provided to the Board regarding a bond that was pulled allowing a concrete company to operate during the frost law season above weight restrictions. They did not want to reduce by 35%, so they chose to bond the road. Prior to authorizing the bond, we took pictures of the road. Once frost law restrictions were removed, we reassessed the road and took more pictures. All pictures have been provided to the Board. Our Permit Agent, Inspector, and Engineer agree that the road had been damaged during the frost law season, February 16 - April 6, 2011 and the assumption is that the concrete hauler utilized their bond to haul concrete over the weight restriction limit and damaged the road. The question is how much damage they caused. In speaking with the township, this is the same road the township wants to spend money on this year. Mr. Henning is asking for guidance from the Board on whether we should cash the bond to utilize with the township and CCRC match to do a substantial improvement to the road, or not cash the bond since we cannot really identify his damage vs. regular damage. Discussion continued on discontinuing special permits during frost law season.

Storm Damage: Mr. Henning reported that he has been assessing damage from the May 29th storm and crews have been working 24 hours each day since Sunday night. He was just notified this afternoon to participate in an emergency response discussion with Unified Command. Yesterday, Unified Command submitted a declaration to the State and it was declared a disaster area. The criteria for the declaration was based on "impassable roads, widespread, and beyond the capability of local government to take care of" and the assistance is to open the roads. Once the roads are open, the declaration and assistance is done. Mr. Henning stated that all county roads are open with the exception of a couple of roads in Convis and in Lee that have wires in the trees. Debris clean up was not part of the original declaration and early estimates put our clean up costs in excess of \$3,000,000. At this time, we have no commitment from the State to cover debris clean up costs and Mr. Henning commented that we cannot budget on a "maybe". He added that we didn't need the State's assistance to clear the roads – we need their assistance to remove the debris. Unified Command is meeting tomorrow morning to discuss a debris management plan.

Mr. Henning noted there are hundreds of thousands of yards of debris. He would like to use the Compost Center for debris disposal and asked the Board if he could offer it to the City of Battle Creek as well. Commissioner Brown believes this is part of being a team player and promoting collaborative efforts between governments. Commissioner Vreeland agreed that there is room for disposal at the Compost Center. It was noted that disposal at the Compost Center needs to be organized with staging areas for tops, stumps, etc. Discussion took place on how drainage systems will be affected by tree debris in our ditch lines.

It was the consensus of the Board to use the Community Compost Center on Division Drive for debris disposal by government agencies, residents, and volunteers working on behalf of landowners. Disposal by private companies or businesses is prohibited.

SUPERVISOR AND PUBLIC OFFICIAL COMMENTS

County Commissioner Camp thanked Mr. Henning and the Board for the information on the storm damage and will try to accurately convey the information to others. She thanked Mr. Henning for the comprehensive information that he provided to the 6 Mile Road residents prior to the Road Commission meeting on May 25, 2011. Commissioner Camp commented that the Durapatcher did a good job on 6 Mile Road between Athens and Burlington.

CITIZEN TIME

Phyllis Rice, Newton Township resident, asked what can be done to stop roads being returned to gravel. It was suggested that she contact her township, as well as State legislators. She also commented that crews are not always filling all the potholes on the road.

Joe Bramble, Convis Township resident, reported potholes on Old 27 north of L Drive North in the southbound lane.

Tom Garnett, Calhoun County Trailways Alliance, provided an update on the trailway project. He noted that the agreement is being reviewed and a meeting has been scheduled with MDOT and the DNR to review the funding, engineering, and construction schedule. Mr. Garnett reported that a website has been developed to provide information on the trailway project.

COMMISSIONER TIME

Commissioner Coward referred to the communications regarding vehicle damage due to potholes. He stated that patching is a priority and he would like to see more temporary/seasonal employees hired for patching, especially when hot mix becomes available for more permanent patching. Mr. Henning stated that we kept two winter seasonal workers on indefinitely and while we would love to have more seasonal employees, it is strictly a monetary issue.

Commissioner Tobin asked if the Durapatchers were running 24/7. Mr. Henning replied that they are being run 20 hours per day, by both the day and night crew. He thanked Mr. Henning for the prompt response in resolving the water over the road issue in Leroy Township.

Commissioner Brown commended Mr. Henning for his work with the townships and the 2011 local road program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

There being no additional business before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

Submitted by:

Mary Jo Crumpton, Board Clerk

Scott A. Brown, Chairman