

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Iron County was held on Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. in the Road Commission office at 800 W. Franklin Street, Iron River, Michigan.

Present for the meeting were Chairman Carl Sholander, Vice Chairman Joe Sabol, Members Charles Battan, Dan Germic and Ernest Schmidt, Superintendent/Manager Doug Tomasoski, and Office Manager/Clerk Darlene Anderson. Attorney Mark Tousignant was absent.

Chairman Sholander led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Addition to the Agenda under NEW BUSINESS was Item B.—New truck.

It was motioned by Sabol, supported by Schmidt, to approve the revised agenda as presented.

Ayes: All
Nays: None
Motion carried.

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED To be approved were the minutes of the Audit and Regular meetings of July 17, 2012 and the Special meeting of July 25, 2012.

It was motioned by Battan, supported by Sabol, to approve the aforementioned minutes as submitted.

Ayes: All
Nays: None
Motion carried.

DISBURSEMENTS TO BE APPROVED The disbursements to be approved included Payrolls of \$76,287.67; Prepaid Claims of \$14,033.29; Accounts Payables of \$110,408.93; and Garage Bond payment of \$72,436.35, for a total of \$273,166.24.

It was motioned by Schmidt, supported by Sabol, to approve the Audit Committee Report dated August 14, 2012 covering the aforementioned disbursements.

Ayes: All
Nays: None
Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT Superintendent Tomasoski's monthly report included the following:

- New trucks—the Peterbilt truck chassis has been delivered to the dealer and the International truck chassis will also be delivered in the next few days.
- Wright Road—will be paved the week after Labor Day.
- East Brule Lake Road—paving has been completed.
- Premo Dam—work will begin after Labor Day.
- Additional brushing work on the trunk lines will be done.
- A request for a new road name on a stub off Wagner Lake Road has been received. Tomasoski will work with 911 and Stambaugh Township on the matter.

DELEGATIONS Agenda Item C—Road Millage, was moved up in the agenda due to the large number in attendance to discuss the issue.

Attorney Steve Polich addressed the board on behalf of Caspian and Gaastra cities. He said the cities

are requesting that the road commission enter into an agreement with them that would allow the cities and village to recoup 100% of the millage dollars generated in their respective cities. Polich said currently the municipalities are only receiving about 73% of the money generated by the millage because the funds are being distributed according to the state statute which distributes the funds differently to the road commission than to the municipalities. A lengthy discussion took place.

Superintendent Tomasoski explained that the amount the cities are asking for is approximately \$11,080, which would be distributed among them according to the state equalized value. Crystal Falls City Attorney Geoff Lawrence said his board had passed a resolution in 2011 asking for an agreement from the road commission.

County Treasurer Marcia Cornelia explained that the millage is being distributed according to the statute. She said the money is collected on taxable value but distributed on state equalized value which is creating the problem because the municipalities are not receiving the total monies they are collecting.

Crystal Falls City Manager Dorothea Olson and Iron River City Manager Perry Franzoi both stated that their residents were under the impression that all the money collected in their cities would come back to them to be used in their cities. Commissioner Schmidt said the townships are paying 100% for their road jobs and it is not fair to them to give the cities more money. Polich argued that the townships have the choice whether to do a road project or not because they have no road authority, whereas the cities don't have that option; they have more responsibility for their street systems. Crystal Falls Township Supervisor Tom Lesandrini said it would be a shame to jeopardize the whole millage for \$11,000.

Commissioner Schmidt asked the cities if they are asking to be reimbursed for the past three years of the current millage. Polich said no, the agreement would only apply to the new millage.

Commissioner Sholander asked Superintendent Tomasoski for his recommendation. Tomasoski said if the millage doesn't pass no one gets anything, so he was recommending the board enter into an agreement with the municipalities.

It was motioned by Sabol, supported by Schmidt, to enter into an agreement with the cities and villages that 100% of the taxes collected by them be distributed to them for the 2013-2016 millages.

Ayes: Germic, Battan, Sabol, Schmidt

Nays: Sholander

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS There were no committee reports.

OLD BUSINESS

FORTUNE LAKE DREDGING Wilma Kallies addressed the board on behalf of some of the Fortune Lake property owners, and as a member of the lake association. She said the property owners are aware that Walter Tuchowski has circulated a petition asking the road commission to dredge under the bridge on First Fortune Lake. She said many of the property owners oppose this dredging and have circulated their own petition against it. She said the residents in attendance want the board to know there is another side to the issue before a decision is made.

Crystal Falls Township Supervisor Tom Lesandrini said the lake level was ordered lowered by a court order and that dredging would have an effect on that, also. He said the Township's opinion is that it is not their issue.

Superintendent Tomasoski said there is nothing required of the road commission concerning this matter.

He said the road commission cannot apply for DNR money and has no obligation other than providing a Letter on No Objection.

No action was taken and Commissioner Sholander thanked the resident for attending the meeting.

GRAVEL CONTRIBUTION POLICY Discussion took place on the proposed gravel contribution policy. Commissioner Schmidt said there is a dollar amount in the policy and he wanted to know what happens in the future if the board wants to contribute more towards the cost of gravel. Commissioner Sholander said the policy would have to be amended. Commissioner Germic said he feels the board made a mistake by agreeing to share in the cost of crushing gravel with Bates Township before having a policy in place but there's nothing they can do about it now.

It was motioned by Sabol, supported by Battan, to approve the Gravel Contribution Policy as presented.

Ayes: Germic, Sabol, Schmidt, Battan, Sholander

Nays: None

Motion carried.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF IRON

SUBJECT: GRAVEL PROCESSING

POLICY STATEMENT:

Effective this date, it shall be the policy of the Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Iron (Road Commission), that should a Township located within the County of Iron wish to participate in the production cost for gravel to maintain a county road or roads within Iron County, the Road Commission may match the cost of processing the material up to a 50% share with a maximum participation of \$32,000.

Any financial participation by the Road Commission must be included in the Road Commission annual budget through the budget hearing process in the prior year, before any participation agreement is approved or executed.

The timing and location of crushing, and timing and location of placement of the processed material shall be at the sole discretion of the road commission.

A deposit of 50% of the estimated total Township cost of the processing shall be submitted by the Township to the Road Commission prior to the start of production.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW HIRES Superintendent Tomasoski said interviews were recently conducted to fill a heavy equipment operator position in the Crystal Falls garage. He said the original plan had been to hire one operator in the spring and one in the fall. But because it is now so late in the year Tomasoski said he is recommending the board hire two operators for the Crystal Falls garage.

It was motioned by Schmidt, supported by Battan, to approve hiring two heavy equipment operators for the Crystal Falls garage.

Ayes: All

Nays: Nays

Motion carried.

NEW TRUCK Discussion took place concerning the engine in the new International truck on order from Schultz Equipment. Master Mechanic Dean Stolberg told the board that because International has refused to comply with the new emission standards we will be getting an outdated engine when we get

the new truck. Stolberg said International has been paying fines rather than change their engine design. Commissioner Sholander suggested contracting attorney Tousignant to see if we can stop the purchase of the truck. The other commissioners were in agreement with Sholander.

It was motioned by Sabol, supported by Germic, that if it is determined that the new International truck engine does not meet the bid specifications, the purchase order is to be cancelled without penalty.

Ayes: All
Nays: None
Motion carried.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT Absent—no report.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS Commissioner Sabol said he thinks it was a good idea to give the municipalities an agreement regarding the millage or we could have lost the entire millage.

Commissioner Sabol said he is upset that a retiree is still working on a part-time basis.

Commissioner Schmidt said he is also glad the board settled the millage matter with the cities.

Commissioner Sholander reminded the board members that the municipalities opposed the original road millage ad he cautioned them about giving money away.

At 10:20 a.m. with no further business to come before the board, it was motioned by Schmidt, supported by Battan, to adjourn the regular meeting.

Ayes: All
Nays: None
Motion carried.

Chair

Darlene Anderson, Clerk