

Alcona County Road Commission October 10, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Alcona County was called to order by Chairman Alfred Scully at 4:00pm on Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 301 North Lake Street, Lincoln, Michigan. Present: Chairman Alfred Scully, Vice-chairman Harry Harvey, Member Theodore Somers, Managing Director Jesse Campbell, Superintendent Michael Escareno, Foreman Jim Quick, Account Clerk Renee LaVergne, and Administrative Assistant Helen-Ann Cordes. Guests Present: Kaitlin Ryan of The Alpena News, employee Drew Milwrick, and employee Jason Petty.

Agenda Adjustment:

Legislation Discussion Senate Bill 396

Superintendent's Operations Report:

Finished gravel project on Cedar and Birch Street last week. We have more pit run gravel projects to complete, we are waiting on the weather. Other projects we have completed recently include ditching in Caledonia Township, and a culvert replacement on Somers Road. We have been working on trees due to the wind, shoulder gravel in various areas throughout the county, and blading continues. We are working on durapatching throughout the county, we have about 2,500 gallons to use. The new culvert for Brodie Road came today, and we will start that project tomorrow. We expect Brodie Road to be completely closed for three to four days for installing the new culvert.

Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Somers, Harvey, to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2018, meeting as presented. Motion carries.

Financial Reports and Open Accounts:

Jason Petty joined meeting at 4:10pm.

Moved by Commissioner Harvey, Somers, to approve payment of open accounts on October 10, 2018 in the amount of \$165,430.07. Roll call vote: Harvey – aye, Scully – aye, Somers – aye. Motion carries.

Correspondence & Items of Information

There is a CRA East Central Council Meeting on October 18, 2018 in Roscommon.

Jim Quick joined meeting at 4:14pm.

The board meeting on November 14, 2018 has been cancelled.

Business

Employee Retirement:

Jim Quick discussed future retirement options with the board, and was asked to submit his letter of retirement in writing.

Jim Quick left meeting at 4:21pm.

Legislation Discussion Senate Bill 396:

Moved by Commissioner Harvey, Somers, to adopt Resolution 2018-01 which reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 2018-01
SENATE BILL 396 RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Roads are the backbone to the social, cultural and economic stability of Alcona County; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018 allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (aka "frost laws") to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and

WHEREAS, It is a fact in Alcona County and throughout the northern states that roads become soft in the spring and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading on soft roads, is fool hardiness that defies common sense and a law allowing such nonsense is poor public policy; and

WHEREAS, SB-396 (S-5) also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of SB-396 WILL result in damage to the public road system; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of SB-396 WILL negatively impact the traveling public accessing the road system, resulting in burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs to maintain the public road system; and

WHEREAS, the provisions in SB-396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system WILL negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of Alcona County residents and the traveling public; and

WHEREAS, the Alcona County Road Commission works closely with the logging industry to keep the economic vitality of the County moving, by continuously monitoring road conditions and permitting the logging industry to move equipment and material on roads when the roads can structurally support such loading without negatively impacting the road system and the traveling public;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alcona County Board of Road Commissioners hereby STRONGLY opposes SB-396; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the chairperson of both the house and senate transportation committees and to the offices of Representative Sue Allor and Senator James Stamas.

Roll call vote: Harvey – aye, Scully – aye, Somers – aye. Resolution is hereby adopted.

Managing Directors Report:

Campbell provided an update on the wash facility design from DeVere, and projects the road commission is working on finishing before winter. With the PASER road rating complete, Campbell is now working on compiling a priority list for the Federal Transportation Project Hearing on October 23, 2018.

Public Comment:

The board commented in favor on having the list of projects that the road commission is working on posted in the conference room, as it informs staff and the public of current projects.

Meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair at 4:48pm until the next regular meeting on October 23, 2018.

Al Scully, Chairman

Helen-Ann Cordes, Administrative Assistant