

Alcona County Road Commission March 24, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Alcona County was held electronically and was called to order by Chairman Theodore Somers at 4:00pm pm on Wednesday, March 24, 2021. Present: Chairman Ted Somers, Vice-Chairman Harry Harvey, Member Al Scully, Managing Director Jesse Campbell, Superintendent Mike Escareno, Clerk Renee LaVergne and Board Clerk Lori Grush.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Moved by Commissioner Somers, Scully to accept the March 24, 2021 meeting agenda as amended

Roll call vote: Scully – yes, Harvey – yes, Somers – yes

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Escareno shared that he's still had the brush tractors out working in Curtis and Caledonia Townships. They've been out cold patching throughout the county, tree clean up countywide, and gravel road blading if they weren't too muddy. We had some guard rail repair in Haynes Township at Poor Farm and Quick Roads. Today we did some snow wing removal and have been doing some beaver dam work, as they are getting pretty active again. Commissioner Harvey commented about the tall brush on West Fowler Road and if we could go in and brush it this year with the tractor.

Drew Milwrick joined the meeting at 4:03pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Commissioner Scully, Harvey to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2021 meeting as presented.

Roll call vote: Scully – yes, Harvey – yes, Somers – yes

FINANCIAL REPORTS & OPEN ACCOUNTS

Discussion took place on several of the expenses. Moved by Commissioner Scully, Harvey to approve payment of open accounts from March 24, 2021 in the amount of \$38,468.19

Roll call vote: Scully – yes, Harvey – yes, Somers – yes

CORRESPONDENCE

Anderson, Tackman & Co. CPA – Audit Scope Letter provided to commissioners. Manager Campbell explained that this just was to describe the scope of their work done during the audit process and what their role is. We receive it every year.

BUSINESS

Equipment Purchase

Manager Campbell shared that he was contacted by Grand Traverse Diesel that offered a new truck purchase at the same bid as our last one. They estimate that it could be two years before the truck is even built based on the fact that manufacturers are way behind. They will honor current price plus up to \$2,000 for an emissions requirement. The price of the last one was \$126,210 plus the \$2,000. It is not currently in the budget for this year. Discussion ensued about the timing of it's arrival, the need for the truck and potential changes in the economy over the next couple years.

Moved by Commissioner Somers, Harvey to authorize the managing director to order a new Tandem Axle Dump Truck on the current specs that have been provided.

Roll call vote: Scully – yes, Harvey – yes, Somers – yes

Weighmaster Review

Manager Campbell asked for feedback from the commissioners on their thoughts on keeping Seasonal Weight and Speed restrictions in place on Walker, Poor Farm, and Shaw Roads during MDOT's US23 detour period. The state police would then continue to patrol and enforce the restrictions during the detour. His concern is the affect on local businesses and farmers. There would be no additional cost as this possibility was already budgeted for. Discussion ensued. The commissioners did not enact any change.

Pension Benefit Savings Account

Manager Campbell that this was a follow up topic that we are being required to have our pension liability requirement set aside. A savings account would avoid the cost of developing a trust. Discussion followed about it could be a CD or annuity.

Moved by Commissioner Somers, Harvey to establish a Pension Funding Savings Account at Huron Community Bank or other institution for the restricted use to fund the actuarially determined total pension liability for employees in the amount of \$13,000 which meets the 40% pension liability requirement and allow the managing director to make the final decision on which type of account.

Roll call vote: Scully – yes, Harvey – yes, Somers – yes

Bridge Structure Resolution

Manager Campbell explained that a resolution is needed for applying for grants for repair, specifically the Cruzen Road Bridge over the south branch of the Pine River, Lakeshore Drive Bridge over the Black River, Hubbard Lake Road Bridge over Sucker Creek and the 4001 Bridge over the AuSable River. The grant applications will then be submitted to MDOT.

Moved by Commissioner Scully, Harvey to adopt Resolution 2021-02 which reads as follows:

RESOLUTION 2021-002 Bridge Funding Support

WHEREAS, The Alcona County Board of Road Commissioners fully supports the efforts to secure State and Federal Local Bridge Program Funds for replacement or preventative maintenance of the bridges in Alcona County

***WHEREAS**, the Alcona County Road Commission will participate in funding the local share of project costs; and*

***THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Alcona County Board of Road Commissioners approve the bridge replacement or preventative maintenance of any bridge structure in Alcona County, Michigan.*

Roll call vote: Scully – yes, Harvey – yes, Somers – yes

Closed Session: Union Discussion

Moved by Commissioner Scully, Somers to go into closed session for discussion on union negotiations at 4:46pm.

Roll call vote: Scully – yes, Harvey – yes, Somers – yes

Open meeting resumed at 5:25pm with Somers, Harvey, Scully, Campbell, and Grush in attendance.

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Manager Campbell shared that our next meeting will be open to the public, limited to 25 people, social distancing in place, masks will be required, no Zoom. The US 23 project road closure starts April 12th. We will be purchasing the asphalt millings, we're currently making room at the pit and we'll be getting the concrete and making 22A gravel. The Chip Spreader will be here end of April. Commissioner Scully asked when he would switch the crew to four ten hour days per week. Manager Campbell stated that as of right now we are not going on 4-10s. Maybe later in the year. He's looking at April 26th for the install of the Kimberlin Road over Kurtz Creek Culvert – waiting for a rattle snake variance. It will be the largest and longest, one piece culvert we have ever installed. The 4-10 shifts may start later in the summer after the seal coating jobs have started.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Harvey asked about the salt barn and the wash barn. Campbell stated the header has been ordered. And we're waiting for it to be made. The guys love the wash barn, we're still getting it situated. Going to order a cabinet and have a plumber run a second water gun on the other side.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair at 5:35pm until the next regular meeting which will be held on April 14, 2021 at 4:00pm

Theodore Somers, Chairman

Lori Grush, Administrative Assistant