

Alcona County Road Commission June 8, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Alcona County was called to order by Chairman Ted Somers at 6:00pm on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at 301 N Lake Street Lincoln, Michigan. Present: Chairman Ted Somers, Vice-Chair Harry Harvey, Member Al Scully, Managing Director Jesse Campbell, Superintendent Mike Escareno, Clerk Renee LaVergne and Board Clerk Lori Grush. Guests present were Carolyn Brummund, William Smith and Bill Thompson, County Commissioner liaison

AGENDA ADOPTION

Moved by Commissioner Somers, Harvey to accept the June 8, 2022 meeting agenda with addition of Building Security in business and move of Hubert Road over the Thunder Bay River – Structure 13 – Restrictions from Business to Correspondence. Motion Carries

PUBLIC COMMENT

County Commissioner Bill Thompson shared that the county has been working on the Opioid Settlement and how to use the funds. The county will receive \$12,000 each year for the next 18 years and it can be spent on prevention, treatment and recovery.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Escareno shared that the township projects had started with Wissmiller and Poor Farm, they put the final grade on Poor Farm today. The crack sealer has been out and finished Hubbard Lake and will be taking it on to Glennie. Drivers were able to do some gravel blading yesterday after the rains. The crews started on the Loyer Road recycled asphalt project. The seal coat equipment is ready to go. Mowing will begin in the next week or so. He has some training scheduled for the 13th. Commissioner Somers stated that he had no additional information on the safety kit that he had previously spoke about. Commissioner Harvey spoke of maintenance issues on Sunny Lake Road and on roads around North Lake and Vaughn Lake in Glennie.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Commissioner Scully, Harvey to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2022 meeting as presented. Motion Carries

FINANCIAL REPORTS & OPEN ACCOUNTS

Moved by Commissioner Harvey, Scully to approve payment of open accounts from June 8, 2022 in the amount of \$158,137.04

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- The 2022 CRASIF Dividend Distribution Letter provided to the commissioners. Manager Campbell shared that we received cashable check for just over \$9,000 and then just over \$9,000 that will be applied to our 2021-2022 renewal.
- Manager Campbell shared that he had received tentative approval on a grant he applied for to replace Bridge Structure #18, Lakeshore Drive over the Black River.
- The board also was given correspondence regarding Bridge Structure #13, Hubert Road over the Thunder Bay River. Due to MDOT inspection is requiring that the load limits be reduced to a 16-ton maximum weight. The location will have new signs installed.

BUSINESS

Pine River Culvert Replacement vs Repair

Manager Campbell addressed the questions the board had on the contract for repair.

Moved by Commissioner Harvey, Scully to authorize the managing director to proceed with the Pine River Bridge Culvert repair in the amount of \$30,000 plus possible surcharges

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

Motion Carries

Engineering Reimbursements

Manager Campbell answered the questions the board had regarding the statements submitted for reimbursement.

Moved by Commissioner Scully, Harvey to approve the Michigan Department of Transportation Engineering Reimbursement for \$10,000.

Motion Carries

Commissioner Wages

The board continued their discussion regarding their annual salary and per diems. Manager Campbell explained the legal time frame for increases and how it corresponds with elections. It would require a request submitted to the County Commissioners in writing. Brummund and Thompson shared their procedures at the County level for per diems and their understanding of the legal process of altering salaries of an elected official. Scully, Harvey and Somers agreed to draft a letter to the Alcona County Board of Commissioners for review at the next meeting.

Administrative Wages

Manager Campbell stated that now would be a good time to do an equalization with other comparable counties. He would like to gather more information for the board for the next meeting. Board agreed.

Building Security – Discussion

Commissioner Somers stated that he had asked for this to be on the agenda. With the recent events in the schools, he wanted conversation on what, if anything, we could do to improve the security here, in the office as well as out in the garage. Manager Campbell explained he had a company come out several years ago to give an assessment and several changes were made at that time. The entry system at the courthouse was discussed. Somers just asked that we bring any suggestions for improvements to the board.

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Manager Campbell began with the Township excess funding for road projects that had been discussed at past meetings. He suggested that instead of going to each township, he would use the funds to concentrate on some of the problem areas that we receive calls on. He will prioritize them and have the crews get started. Commissioner Scully asked if it would be fairly split amongst the townships. Campbell stated it is very difficult to spend the same in each township for various reasons. One option would be taking over all of the primary roads on seal coats for asset management. Due to the uncertainty of our MTF Fund and gas funding, that would be his recommendation. Maybe look at it again next year. Campbell has yet to meet with Mitchell & Harrisville Townships for agreements. The Pine River bridge deck has been started. Their progress is right on track. Friday Campbell will be meeting with Millen and Hawes Township supervisors, the contractor for the Barton City mill, and the owner of mill to talk about making Sanborn Road an all-season. It was supposed to be built to all season standards but was not. Campbell shared that the Causley Pit was going to be used for storing the RAP from M65. He had a verbal agreement since January but spoke with the new owner who doesn't want us there so the millings will be stored at Buggs instead. MDOT contractor

will be hauling all the way to Hubbard Lake tomorrow to avoid driving on the fresh surface. Campbell did inform the board that the equipment salvage sales brought in \$23,000.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Brummund commented to keep in mind when we are distributing the excess funding to keep in mind the townships that have a road millage. That their voters approved the road millage should be recognized.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at the call of the Chair at 7:13pm until the next regular meeting which will be held on June 22, 2022 at 4:00pm

Theodore Somers, Chairman

Lori Grush, Administrative Assistant