

Alcona County Road Commission July 12, 2023, 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 4:00pm on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 301 N. Lake Street Lincoln, Michigan with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Chairman Ted Somers, Vice Chairman Harry Harvey, Member Al Scully, Managing Director Jesse Campbell, Superintendent Michael Escareno, Clerk Renee LaVergne, and Board Clerk Lori Grush. Guest(s) present included Duane Dillard, Dave Fialkowski, and Kim Wallis-Burke with Huron Engineering.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Moved by Commissioner Harvey, Scully to accept the July 12, 2023, meeting agenda with addition of Seal Coats over Gravel Discussion and scheduling a date to accept the policies.

Motion Carries

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Fialkowski addressed the board about the top coating on West Lake Street in Hawes Township. Stating that the road has been widened by another 6-8 inches after the most recent project: 15ft over the past ten years. He's looking for a resolution to stop it from being widened any further. What can be done? Chair Somers stated that it would be looked into and added to a future meeting agenda for discussion if needed.

Duane Dillard, from behind Springport Inn, reminded the board that he came to a meeting last year to request signage on US23 and Springport Road to alert campers that there is not access to the state park via S. Lake Huron Shore Road. Manager Campbell stated that MDOT was there yesterday measuring for the US23 signage. The sign on Springport is through the township and Manager Campbell will continue to follow up with them. Mr. Dillard also addressed the board again regarding the steep ditches at his property on US23. He still would like to fill them in. Campbell stated that the question was also sent to MDOT as that is not our jurisdiction.

Mr. Fialkowski asked the board about signage that could be placed at the south end of Hubbard Lake to deter Dollar General Trucks. Campbell stated that that type of signage is traffic regulatory and is not allowed without state police approval.

Mr. Fialkowski left the meeting at 4:13

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

Superintendent Escareno shared that we've been able to finish up the recycled asphalt material project on Proconier Road. A few things to still to do but the material is placed. Otherwise, in between projects they've been busy with blading and durapatching and we'll have washouts from the rain to tend to tomorrow. Did seal coats today and pretty much finished up seal coat in Mikado and will move on to Greenbush next.

Commissioner Scully inquired about Stout Road south of M72 and when it will be fog sealed. Escareno said once we are caught up on seal coating, we'll roll back to fog seal but there is no date determined yet.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Commissioner Harvey, Scully to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2023, meeting as presented.

Motion Carries

FINANCIAL REPORTS & OPEN ACCOUNTS

Moved by Commissioner Harvey, Scully to approve payment of open accounts from July 12, 2023, in the amount of \$83,367.70

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

Motion Carries

CORRESPONDENCE

None

BUSINESS

Ground Water Contamination – Huron Eng., guest Kim Wallis-Burke

Kim Wallis Burke with Huron Engineering provided the board handouts with laboratory results on the testing of the ground water here in Lincoln on Road Commission Property and a blank copy of a Notice of Aesthetic Impact Packet. She went on to explain the contamination data. There are 3 wells that are still failing the Aesthetic Criteria. They had been improving but had slid back down a couple years ago. Five wells have remained clean. She told the board there are two options. 1 – Continue the testing every six months, as is, until the numbers reach the point where it can be closed out or, 2 – File a Notice of Aesthetic Impact which would be attached to the property title. This would leave the contamination in the soil Ms. Wallis Burke answered questions posed by the board including possible origins of contamination, costs associated with both options, future expectations, etc. Campbell recommends maintaining monitoring for the next 3-5 years then revisit it. The goal would be to have the numbers continue to improve and be able to have closure with any notations on the title.

Moved by Scully, Harvey, to continue the ground water testing for contamination on Alcona County Road Commission property.

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

Motion Carries

Solar Lease

Manager Campbell stated there was no interest from Consumers to do a direct lease on the property in Caledonia Township that had contacted us been for a solar lease . Campbell is asking if the board is or is not interested in pursuing a solar lease for that property. Chair Somers mentioned the items that he felt were a negative in the contract. Discussion followed. Moved by Scully, Harvey, to deny any solar leases on Road Commission property.

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

Motion Carries

Seal Coats over Gravel Discussion

Manager Campbell shared with the board that we are the only road commission that is still supplying this. He believes we are going to have more requests for this and he's asking the board how they want to proceed with this. The process is not compliant with MDOT and there are roads that are becoming a problem because the townships are not budgeting for the upkeep of the seal coats that they have. Discussion among the board and manager ensued and included conversation about the proposed road agreements with Curtis Township.

Schedule Date to Adopt Policies

Moved by Commissioner Harvey, Scully to change the time of the next meeting to 3pm on July 26th, so that time will be given to the adoption of the new and revised policies.

Motion Carries

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Manager Campbell shared that Mike Russo is working on the plans for the building addition. Campbell meets with Huron Pines on August 9th regarding a grant they are receiving for structure improvements on a dual jurisdiction road we have with the forest service. On July 18th he'll do a drive around with Huron Engineering to discuss next year's planning and review last years and this year's projects and some complaint areas. At the next meeting, we'll

need to discuss cancelling the Aug 9 meeting. The East Central Council meeting is on August 17th. That is the meeting that our Representatives and Senators have been invited to at Bucks in West Branch. The Low boy we ordered 1 ½ year ago has been moved to the 4th quarter of 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Harvey said he's talked to others about the signs that have been requested on US 23 regarding the campground. He suggested writing a letter to the editor of the newspaper. Harvey also asked about the construction on US23. Campbell said they are a little behind and the asphalt millings we receive will be about half of what we had thought.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at the call of the Chairman at 5:08pm until the next regular meeting which will be held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 3:00pm

Theodore Somers, Chairman

Lori Grush, Administrative Assistant