

## **Alcona County Road Commission September 27, 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, September 27, 2023, at 301 N. Lake Street Lincoln, Michigan with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Chairman Ted Somers, Member Al Scully, Managing Director Jesse Campbell, Superintendent Michael Escareno, Clerk Renee LaVergne, and Board Clerk Lori Grush. Guest(s) included Donna Scully, Millen Township resident.

### **AGENDA ADOPTION**

Moved by Commissioner Scully, Somers to accept the September 27, 2023, meeting agenda as presented. Motion Carries

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT**

Superintendent Escareno shared with the board that our fog seal projects for the year have been completed. Currently working on the last road gravel project for the year. Escareno is happy for all that was accomplished this year.

*4:02pm Dan O'Connor, Superintendent-Alcona Community Schools, joined the meeting*

They've been doing some ditching and had a culvert replacement on McNeill Road and also doing some durapatching throughout the county.

*4:03pm Larry King, Gustin Township resident, joined the meeting*

We are hauling material to various locations in the county. We'll be working with a contractor on some limestone placement in different townships and have hauled RAP into some locations in Mitchell Township. Commissioner Somers shared that they received a very nice compliment on Bush Lane at the Township meeting.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Commissioner Somers, Scully to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2023, meeting as presented. Motion Carries

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS & OPEN ACCOUNTS**

Moved by Commissioner Somers, Scully to approve payment of open accounts from September 13, 2023, in the amount of \$171,944.55.

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

Moved by Commissioner Somers, Scully to approve payment of open accounts from September 27, 2023, in the amount of \$123,952.10.

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

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A copy of the CRASIF – Low Injury Award Letter and the CRASIF – “Goose Egg” Award Letter was given to the board. Manager Campbell explained only 3 or 4 other Road Commissions had zero Workers' Compensation claims in the past 12 months to receive the “Goose Egg” award. Commissioners Scully and Somers congratulated the crew.

Manager Campbell provided the board with the ACT 152 – Road Commission Fact Sheet for their information as there is current legislation for changes.

### **BUSINESS**

Guest – Alcona Community Schools Regarding Bond Proposal

Mr. Dan O'Connor, addressed the board regarding the bond proposal that will be voted on in November. He provided all in attendance with two handouts listing the projects that would be

funded if the bond proposal passed and the 2.2 mills tax impact for voters if it passed. Mr. O'Connor went on to talk about the information provided and common questions he has received.

*Chair Somers asked the board if it would be okay to allow for public comment before the managers report. There was no opposition.*

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Larry King addressed the board to thank the Road Commission for the completion of Tait Road. He wanted to say thank you and compliment all of the individuals involved in the project. Also, acknowledged he is involved in the local cub scouts and the school has been very good about helping them recruit. The local pack will be doing a presentation during the trunk or treat.

Mr. King asked if the road will be re-evaluated in the spring due after snow removal.

Manager Campbell said yes.

*Larry King left the meeting at 4:27pm*

### **MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Manager Campbell stated that there are some budgets items he'd like to have on the agenda for the next meeting such as equipment purchases, staffing and office improvements. He would also like discussion on our match program with the Townships.

We did finish about 140 miles of liquid brush control. We have a list of spot gravels, quite a few miles, that are still to be done this year.

The Hubert Road bridge over the Thunder Bay has dropped it's weight allowance again. He had applied for funding but it did not get approved. The bridge bundle program is done due to lack of funding. We've been working on some of the roads that have problems in the spring and summer such as Cruzen Road and Bush Lane. The brush is bad in several areas throughout the county. We're supposed to wait until next summer to cut the treated areas, but we can't do that. Campbell plans to have the tractors hit areas not treated and then hit the treated areas after January 1st. We have contacted the pavement markings company and they have had some trouble getting the paint. Hopefully,

in the next week or two they will be here in the county. The Spruce Road and F-41 projects are almost complete. A couple set backs in the projects but nothing too bad.

Commissioner Scully asked the cost to replace the two bridges. Campbell stated it was estimated \$4.2 million for Black River and only \$2-2.5 million for Hubert Road. It depends on the type of structure. There are other bridges that will also fall into critical rating in the next several years and there are an additional 4 bridges that could be added into our network.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

None

### **ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at the call of the Chairman at 4:37pm until the next regular meeting which will be held on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 4:00pm

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Theodore Somers, Chairman

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Lori Grush, Administrative Assistant