

Alcona County Road Commission November 22, 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 2:00pm on Wednesday, November 22, 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 Mike Escareno, Clerk Renee LaVergne, and Board Clerk Lori Grush. Guest present included Bob Leonard.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Moved by Commissioner Harvey, Scully to accept the November 22, 2023, meeting agenda as presented. Motion Carries

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Escareno shared that we had been a little short-handed on the 14th and 15th but were still able to get some things accomplished. We still have the use of the MDOT excavator. It is here until the 27th. The guys were able to get out and put up some snow fence and delineators to mark their curb and gutter areas. We've also had a beaver issue off of Aspen Alley by Body Road. The crew did a great job of constructing some fencing there.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Commissioner Scully, Harvey to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. Motion Carries

FINANCIAL REPORTS & OPEN ACCOUNTS

Moved by Commissioner Harvey, Scully to approve payment of open accounts from November 22, 2023, in the amount of \$635,118.79.

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

Clerk La Vergne left the meeting at 2:07pm

CORRESPONDENCE

None

BUSINESS

Guest Robert Leonard RE: Culvert Replacement on Dean Road

Mr. Leonard asked when we can get the culvert replaced on Dean Road. Commissioner Somers addressed Mr. Leonard stating that a new culvert for that location was not in the current plan. Somers explained that the portion of Dean Road is a seasonal road and the issues he is describing are not road issues. Mr. Leonard expressed his frustration in having been requesting this for 2 years and nothing has been done. Mr. Leonard stated again that there had been a culvert there and it needs to be replaced. Manager Campbell added that the underground culvert had deteriorated and was not functional. Campbell agreed that the culvert should be replaced but it's a seasonal road and we are behind on our ditching projects. Campbell went on to describe options for the Road Commission could include abandoning the road and removing it from our certification or replacing the culvert and doing proper ditching and shooting the grade. Discussion continued about an adjoining property owner filling in their field and the resulting issues.

The Road Commission had been out and did some ditching. Mr. Leonard says he still has water standing on his property, out 180 feet. The improvements made were good but have been at his expense, he feels.

Chair Somers stated no decision could be made on it today and asked Mr. Leonard to allow the time needed to address it properly. Commissioner Harvey would like to meet with Mr. Leonard at the location. Commissioner Scully commented that there are things we can't do because the state wouldn't allow it. Discussion continued on possible resolutions, cost, and township contribution.

Manager Campbell will work up a cost estimate and speak to the township to see if they would support the cost share required to do the work. He reminded everyone that there is no maintenance allowed on seasonal roads November 1st thru April 1st.

Mr. Leonard left the meeting at 2:35pm

Sale Of Surplus Equipment

Manager Campbell explained that there will be several pieces of used equipment to sell in 2024.

Moved by Commissioner Scully, Harvey to authorize the managing director to advertise the sale of surplus equipment as needed throughout the year of 2024.

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

Moved by Commissioner Scully, Harvey to recess the meeting at 2:37pm until 3:15 for the reading of the tandem truck bid tally. Motion Carries

Moved by Commissioner Harvey, Scully to resume the public meeting at 3:15pm. Motion Carries

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.

Bid Tally for Tandem Trucks

Manager Campbell read the two tandem truck bids received. The first one was from Zaremba for \$146,282 and did not meet all the specs. The second was from Stoops for \$178,000 and did meet the specs. Discussion followed.

Motion by Commissioner Harvey, Scully to accept both tandem truck bids and leave the purchase decision up to the managing director.

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

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Manager Campbell shared that the three bridges and one culvert with Huron Pines look like they are all accepted for the DEQ permitting. We are now waiting for the 30-day public hearing period, but it looks like they will be approved. All are in the Black River Water Shed. Campbell received notice today that the railroad grant he applied for, for the improvement at Point Road has been approved through MDOT. Also, the office plans are on track for early 2024 bidding, we finished up the pavement markings, and we will be purchasing some tools for the used shop truck we bought last year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Scully asked if there is anything in place for theft within our buildings.

Manager Campbell addressed the question and discussion followed.

Commissioner Somers asked if there was any update on the culverts at north end of Hubbard Lake. Manager Campbell explained there is a Bridge meeting on the 29th. He'll have more information after that. Campbell did state that the load limit was reduced again this year.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at the call of the Chairman at 3:30pm until the next regular meeting which will be held on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 3:00pm

Theodore Somers, Chairman

Lori Grush, Administrative Assistant