

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ALPENA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION**

November 7, 2023

The Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Alpena met in regular session on the above date. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Gerald Lucas, at 3:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Lucas, MacArthur, and Spaulding.

Absent: None.

Staff present: Ryan Brege, Managing Director; John Bygden, Superintendent; Julia Patterson, Finance Director/Board Secretary.

Others Present: Dan Florip, Road Commission Attorney; Rebecca Rivard, County Engineer from Huron Engineering and Surveying; Bill LaHaie, Alpena County Commissioner.

AGENDA

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 3, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD/PUBLIC COMMENT

Terry Ayres appeared before the Board to inquire about the Open Meetings Act and how can the Board come to a consensus if two Commissioners cannot meet to discuss issues. Managing Director Ryan Brege responded that transparency is very important, and all issues should be discussed in the open Board room.

David and Ellen Dohn attended the meeting to express their concern with their estate sale signs and flags being removed by a Supervisor of the Road Commission. Managing Director Ryan Brege explained the rules of allowing signs in the Road Commission right-of-way.

Amy Matuszak, 11096 Beaver Lake Road, representing residents of Beaver Lake Road, appeared before the Board to ask what the best direction is to go to get the funds needed to help get Beaver Lake Road paved.

MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORT

Managing Director Ryan Brege reported the following:

- Long Rapids Road signing project plans are complete. Added extra stops signs to get closer to grant money award. The grant is 90/10 cost share. Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, to authorize Managing Director Ryan Brege to sign cover page of the MDOT signing project. Motion carried unanimously.
- Long Rapids Road Bridge survey is complete, and we are working on preliminary plans.
- Hamilton Road and Bagley Street are still in preliminary phase.
- Interviewed candidates for truck drivers and extended offers to three candidates and will send them for drug screening.
- Attended MTA meeting.
- Ossineke Township Supervisor Ken Lobert is questioning if the Road Commission would agree to go into a partnership with Ossineke Township to pave Indian Reserve Road, South to Ratz Road with the Road Commission paying 1/3 of the project and Ossineke Township paying 2/3 of the project cost. It is recommended that Mr. Lobert attend the next Road Commission meeting for further discussion.
- Met with an anonymous donor who is willing to pay 1/3 of the project cost to pave a portion of Lake Winyah Road, end of asphalt to the Charter Township line, with the Road Commission paying 1/3 of the project, and Charter Township of Alpena paying for the remaining 1/3 cost. Will continue to discuss this project with Charter Township of Alpena Supervisor Nathan Skibbe.

COUNTY ROAD REPORT

The Superintendent presented the Board with an update on the County Roads.

SEPTEMBER CASH REPORT

The Finance Director reviewed the September Cash Report for the month ended September 30, 2023.

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, that all reports become part of the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

QUOTATIONS

ROAD SIGNS

Two quotations were received on November 3, 2023, for furnishing various street signs.

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to award the purchase of signs from Dornbos Signs, Charlotte, MI who provided the low quote in the amount of \$3,743.16. Motion carried unanimously.

KEYLESS ENTRY QUOTE

One quote was solicited to replace current locks on three doors to increase employee safety. Moved by Spaulding, seconded by

MacArthur, to award the purchase to Frank's Key and Lock of Alpena for the quote of \$9,599.48. Motion carried unanimously.

LOBBY WINDOW REPLACEMENT QUOTE

A quote was received to replace the lobby entrance window by Total Security Solutions with a quote of \$3,122. Motion carried unanimously.

WEST DOOR REPLACEMENT QUOTE

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, to accept the quote from Overhead Door Company of Alpena, for the west entry door at a quote of \$2,920.00. Motion carried unanimously.

PURCHASES

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to approve the following purchases in the amount of \$561,749.46:

9D. PURCHASES

| Item | PO/Inv. | Date | Description | Amount |
|------------------------|------------|----------|---|---------------------|
| 1 | W 20383 | 10/11/23 | Alpena Diesel Service, Inc., replaced fuel injectors and changed engine oil and filter for Bucket truck #048. | \$4,210.65 |
| 2 | P.O. 106 | 10/26/23 | Corrigan Oil Company, 12,001 gallons diesel fuel-winterized at \$3.0381 per gallon. | \$36,461.19 |
| 3 | P.O. 102 | 10/12/23 | Forward Energy, 2,800 gallons nolead gas at \$2.349 per gal | \$6,577.20 |
| 4 | 00149139-1 | 11/7/23 | MERS, voluntary contribution to Defined Benefit Plan. | \$200,000.00 |
| 5 | 867464 | 9/30/23 | Team Elmer's, crushing 20,737 tons gravel at \$3.55 per ton at Weiss Pit and 40,535 tons gravel at \$3.25 per ton at Rayburn Pit. | \$205,355.10 |
| 6 | 867585 | 10/6/23 | Team Elmer's, 605.28 tons of 23A at \$13.20 per ton for tailgate spread on gravel roads. | \$7,989.70 |
| 7 | 699766 | 10/25/23 | Team Elmer's, 751.10 tons of 23A at \$6.85 per ton for county gravel roads. | \$5,145.06 |
| 8 | 699882 | 10/26/23 | Team Elmer's, 388.26 tons of 23A at \$6.85 per ton for county gravel roads. | \$2,659.60 |
| 9 | BJ0002487 | 11/3/23 | Truck & Trailer Specialties, Inc. equipment package for tandem truck less labor (ordered in March, 2022) | \$93,350.96 |
| TOTAL PURCHASES | | | | \$561,749.46 |

Motion carried unanimously.

CONTRACT PAYMENTS

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, to approve the following contract payments in the amount of \$174,386.71:

| | | | | |
|---|------|----------|--|-------------|
| 1 | 5822 | 10/5/23 | Huron Engineering and Surveying, Inc., Density testing services for Spruce Rd project and Werth Road culvert projects. | \$11,160.50 |
| 2 | 5895 | 10/17/23 | Kawkawlin Roofing Company, Progress Billing #1 for the building roof replacement. | \$90,000.00 |
| 3 | 3763 | 10/26/23 | M & M Pavement Marking, Inc., pavement markings for County Roads. | \$57,867.42 |

| | | | | |
|---|----------|---------|---|---------------------|
| 4 | 10042023 | 10/4/23 | Michigan Department of Transportation, Contract payment | |
| | | | #2 for Spruce Road Reconstruction. | \$15,358.79 |
| | | | TOTAL CONTRACT PAYMENTS | \$174,386.71 |

Motion carried unanimously

OCTOBER BILLS

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to approve the October 2023 bills in the amount of \$1,102,691.69. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner MacArthur commented that he is disappointed in the condition of Beaver Lake Road and the Road Commission needs to improve it in the spring. Managing Director Ryan Brege responded that he has spoken with Superintendent Dave Kowalski at Presque Isle County Road Commission. Mr. Kowalski had added an enzyme to the dust control treatment on one of their county's roads and it has held up well for dust. Mr. Brege would like to try this treatment on Beaver Lake Road in 2024.

SUPPLEMENTAL WEIGHMASTER SERVICE

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to contract with Michigan State Police (MSP) for supplemental enforcement for the road systems during weight restriction season for a maximum of ten hours per week at approximately \$88.62 per hour. Motion carried unanimously.

ACT 51 MILEAGE CHANGE

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to add 1,050 feet of Wall Avenue to the Alpena County Road Commission's Act 51 Mileage Certification. Motion carried unanimously.

FEDERAL AID PROJECT PROPOSALS

Managing Director Ryan Brege updated the Board with the updated target allocations from the Region 9 Rural Task Force meeting held on October 27th. Projects are listed through 2026.

A budget workshop to discuss the 2024 Budget will be held on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Alpena County Road Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. in the lower level of the Alpena County Road Commission.

It was moved by Spaulding and seconded by MacArthur to go into closed session for the following purposes:

(a) To discuss trial or settlement strategy related to pending litigation involving (1) Geronimo Road (2) Turnbull Mill Road; and (3) Bussey Road (MCL15.268 (1) (a));

(b) To conduct a strategy session connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement with Steelworks Local 139 (MCL 15.268 (1) (c)) and

(c) At the request of Managing Director Ryan Brege, for the commission to conduct his periodic personnel evaluation (MCL 15.268 (1) (a)).

Roll call vote:
MacArthur: Yes
Lucas: Yes
Spaulding: Yes

Motion carried unanimously at 4:45 p.m.

The room was cleared, and the closed session began at 4:48 p.m.

Present for closed session: Ryan Brege, Managing Director.

Others present for closed session: Dan Florip, Road Commission Attorney.

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously at 6:02 p.m.

Open session resumed at 6:02 p.m.

Present for open session: Commissioners Lucas, MacArthur, and Spaulding.

Absent: None.

Staff present for resumption of open session: Ryan Brege, Managing Director.

Others present for resumption of open session: Dan Florip, Road Commission Attorney.

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, to increase Ryan Brege's salary as Managing Director by 6%, to \$91,160 per year, effective November 1, 2023. Motion carried over MacArthur's opposition.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Gerald Lucas, Chairman

Julia G. Patterson,
Board Secretary