

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

May 2, 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; Curt Gonyea, Superintendent; Julia Patterson, Finance Director/Board Secretary.

Others Present: Dan Florip, Road Commission Attorney; County Engineer Rebecca Rivard and Mark Tolkacz of Huron Engineering and Surveying; Bill LaHaie and Burt Francisco, Alpena County Commissioners; Ken Lobert, Supervisor of Ossineke Township; and Eric Smith, Supervisor of Green Township.

**AGENDA**

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

**MINUTES**

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 4, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no communications.

**APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD/PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Kristy Schulze, CPA, SOMECPA's**, appeared before the Board to present a summary of the Annual Financial Report for the year ended December 31, 2022. Ms. Schulze noted there were no significant issues during the audit and that the Alpena County Road Commission is in sound financial condition.

**Jerry Kaschner**, 3621 Werth Road, appeared before the Board to discuss the water drainage on his property. Mr. Kaschner applied for a ditching permit in 2022 but it was denied by the Alpena County Road Commission. Commissioner MacArthur stated digging out the ditch will not change the direction of the water. Mr. Kaschner will FOIA the Road Commission requesting a list of the denied ditching permits.

**Mable and Mike Partyka**, 5703 Haken Road, appeared before the Board to question why there is not a stop sign on Haken Road/Villeneuve. They insist they must pull out onto the road to see oncoming traffic. Managing Director Ryan Brege responded that sign

placement is not going to change since a reason has not been identified to change it. Commissioner MacArthur responded that the Road Commission crew went to review it, but the trees are not in the right-of-way and the Road Commission cannot remove trees on private property.

**Andrew Cruise**, 8331 Misery Bay Road, attended the Board meeting to comment that Misery Bay Road needs a lot of work and not just gravel. Mr. Cruise inquired if it could be paved instead of just adding gravel. Managing Director Ryan Brege commented that local roads require fifty percent participation from an entity other than the Road Commission. Legally, the Road Commission by State law can only pay fifty percent of an improvement of a local road. Paving the road could cost approximately ½ million dollars.

**AJ MacArthur**, 1150 Salina Road, thanked the Road Commission for placing millings on Salina Road and stated how well it has held up to traffic. Mr. MacArthur would like to see more roads in the county done with this material.

**Adrian MacArthur**, 3391 Salina Road, appeared to inform the Board of his interest in improving James Road in Green Township. Mr. MacArthur also expressed his dissatisfaction with working for the Alpena County Road Commission. Mr. MacArthur stated he has quit bidding on the Alpena County's Road projects unless it was an MDOT project which gives him more protection.

**Tim Cramer**, 3555 M-32, attended the Board meeting to state he did not bid on the Road Commission Werth Road culvert replacement project because of the problems he ran into working on a culvert project on French Road for the Alcona Health Center in 2022. Commissioner Lucas responded that the Road Commission is very familiar with that project and how it was handled.

**Bruce Goodrich**, 3851 Werth Road, stated that he has not bid on any of the Road Commissions projects due to a poor working relationship with Managing Director Ryan Brege.

The Managing Directors response to these issues were addressed in the Report below.

#### **MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORT**

Managing Director Ryan Brege reported the following:

- No update on projects.
- Becky is still working on the GI plans for the Long Rapids Road signing project.
- Geronimo Road resident court case filings against the Road Commission were all dismissed by the Judge. The Road Commission case is still pending. Had a meeting scheduled with the resident this morning for a possible settlement but he failed to show up.
- Attended the Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting.
- Attended the MTA Meeting.
- EGLE still discussing regulating mineral well brine but not for this year.
- Working with Attorney Dan Florip as two residents have expressed interest in abandoning a portion of Graham Road in Long Rapids Township. Mr. Florip is researching the issue and will come back with the information.

- In response to the comments made by Bruce Goodrich, Adrian MacArthur, and Tim Cramer, it is the benefit to the safety of the traveling public to follow the rules, not to benefit the contractor. Goodrich Asphalt was the contractor for the Long Rapids Road traffic signal and bid a price to MDOT for a material that he could not provide. It is up to the engineer if they accept a lower price material. If that material is accepted, then a deduction is calculated by MDOT. Adrian MacArthur stated earlier why he prefers MDOT projects because MDOT has steps that must be taken. The steps must be followed and cannot be omitted. The Road Commission could end up paying for items if proper steps are not followed and could show up in an MDOT audit. The issue with Tim Cramer at the Alcona Health Center began when no permit was applied to do work in the right-of-way to install culverts. An updated permit policy was developed after this incident.

Commissioner MacArthur questioned Mr. Brege if a contract was signed by the engineering company for Long Rapids Road Bridge. Mr. Brege responded that no contract will be signed. There is no need for a contract as everything is laid out in the RFQ. Professional contractors do not sign contracts because they are only liable for errors and omissions.

**COUNTY ROAD REPORT**

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

**MARCH FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Finance Director presented the Cash/Cash Equivalents Financial Report for the month ended March 31, 2023.

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

**BIDS**

**TRUCK HOIST REPLACEMENT BID**

There were no sealed bids received for the truck hoist replacement. An email was received from Kessler Equipment Company with a quote. The Board chose not to accept the email quote and will have the staff send out a new bid package.

**CULVERT INVENTORY QUOTES**

Two quotes were received for culvert inventory:

Cadillac Culvert, Inc. . . . .	\$17,743.90
Jensen Bridge & Supply . . . . .	\$20,648.80

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, to accept the lowest quote submitted by Cadillac Culvert, Inc., for a quote of \$17,743.90 Motion carried unanimously.

**GARAGE, SHOP, AND OFFICE ROOF REPLACEMENT**

Three sealed bids were received for the garage, shop, and office roof replacement:

	Kawkawlin Roofing Co.	TRC Roofing Co.	Great Lakes Roofing Co.
Garage Roof	\$94,810.00	\$ 108,008.00	\$ 145,000.00
Shop Roof	\$32,600.00	\$ 35,223.00	\$ 41,000.00
Office Roof	\$52,590.00	\$ 63,129.00	\$ 89,000.00
	\$180,000.00	\$ 206,360.00	\$ 275,000.00

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to accept the lowest bid of \$180,000 submitted by Kawkawlin Roofing Co. of Kawkawlin, Michigan. Motion carried unanimously.

**PURCHASES**

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to approve the following purchases in the amount of \$ 73,697.91:

**9D. PURCHASES**

Item	PO/Inv.	Date	Description	Amount
1	T01428	4/18/23	AIS, 420 bits @ \$5.50 per bit and 3 grader boards at \$495.00/board.	\$3,495.00
2	202304-B0011	4/30/23	Bit-Mat Products of Michigan, Inc., 3,500 gallons AE-90 at \$2.45 per gallon plus \$150.00 freight.	\$8,725.00
3	77	4/17/23	Blarney Castle Oil Co., 8,503 gallons diesel fuel at \$2.825 per gallon.	\$24,020.98
4	78	4/27/23	Crystal Flash, 3,600 gallons nolead gas at \$2.4046 per gallon.	\$6,251.96
5	4212023	4/21/23	Larry's Auto Collision, deer damage repair on Pickup #001.	\$4,178.77
6	1500015916	4/3/23	Pomp's Tire, Four (4) 175C25CL3 tires @ \$1,040.00 per tire for Equipment #115.	\$4,160.00
7	c46085-001	4/5/23	Ritter Tech, various hose fittings for inventory stock.	\$3,017.79
8	81083	4/1/23	Schulze, Oswald, Miller & Edwards PC, progress billing for auditing services for 2022 year-end.	\$9,000.00
9	2785071	4/20/23	Specification Stone Products, 248.69 tons of 29A at \$12.30 per ton for county sealing projects.	\$3,058.89
10	2786662	4/25/23	Specification Stone Products, 350.48 tons of 29A at \$12.30 per ton for county sealing projects.	\$4,310.91
11	669992	4/20/23	Team Elmer's, 507.82 tons of 23A road gravel at \$6.85 per ton for county roads.	\$3,478.61
<b>TOTAL PURCHASES</b>				<b>\$73,697.91</b>

Motion carried unanimously.

**CONTRACT PAYMENTS**

There were no contract payments.

**APRIL BILLS**

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to approve the April 2023 bills in the amount of \$502,662.46. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

Commissioner Spaulding thanked Road Superintendent Curt Gonyea for the crew getting the roads back in great shape.

**HERRON ROAD**

At the April 4, 2023, Board meeting, the Board was presented with different scenarios as the best option to repair the crack in Herron Road with the Board deciding to remove the existing asphalt and leave that section as a gravel surface to monitor before the final paving. There were concerns with maintaining the gravel surface section, the proper signage, or bringing gravel in to make it level with the rest of the road. Adrian MacArthur of MacArthur Construction offered to remove the asphalt section at his own expense if the Road Commission would supply the trucks to haul it away. After a lengthy discussion, it was in the best interest of the Road Commission to hold a special meeting allowing Managing Director Ryan Brege to further research this option.

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. to finalize the repair option. Motion carried unanimously.

**ACT 51 FINANCIAL REPORT REVIEW**

Finance Director Julia Patterson reviewed the 2022 Act 51 Financial Report updating the Board on several line items.

**TOWNSHIP ROAD AGREEMENTS**

Moved by MacArthur , seconded by Spaulding, to approve the following Road Agreements:

	<u>Township Share</u>	<u>ACRC Share</u>	<u>Total Estimate</u>
<b><u>LONG RAPIDS TOWNSHIP:</u></b>			
<b><i>Surface Gravel:</i></b>			
Graham Rd @ Fitzpatrick Rd 0.75 mi.	\$ 11,827	\$ 11,827	\$ 23,654
Keating Rd. @ M-65 N. then S.1700 0.32 mi	\$ 5,078	\$ 5,078	\$ 10,156
Enger Rd @ Leer Rd. then W. 2600 .49 mi	\$ 7,765	\$ 7,765	\$ 15,530
Brach Rd @ Spens Rd then W. 2640 lft 0.50 mi	\$ 6,805	\$ 6,805	\$ 13,610
<b><u>TOTAL LONG RAPIDS TOWNSHIP:</u></b>	<b>\$ 31,475</b>	<b>\$ 31,475</b>	<b>\$ 62,950</b>
<b><u>MAPLE RIDGE TOWNSHIP:</u></b>			
<b><i>Surface Gravel:</i></b>			
Sitting Bull Rd @ Lake Winyah 0.30 mi	\$ 5,534	\$ 5,534	\$ 11,068
Cathro Rd. @ Maple Lane Rd then N. 1.00 mi	\$ 15,770	\$ 15,770	\$ 31,540
Mable Ave. @ Long Rapids Rd then S. 0.32 mi	\$ 3,834	\$ 3,834	\$ 7,668
Martin Rd. @ Long Rapids Rd then 2640'M .50 mi	\$ 7,885	\$ 7,885	\$ 15,770
<b><u>TOTAL MAPLE RIDGE TOWNSHIP:</u></b>	<b>\$ 33,023</b>	<b>\$ 19,992</b>	<b>\$ 39,984</b>
<b><u>SANBORN TOWNSHIP:</u></b>			
<b><i>Surface Gravel:</i></b>			
Sampson Rd. POB at Ossineke Rd 0.59 mi	\$ 7,715	\$ 7,715	\$ 15,430
Behning Rd. POB at Scott Road 1.00 mi	\$ 15,770	\$ 15,770	\$ 31,540

Lytle Rd. POB at Kitter Rd .50 mi	\$ 7,885	\$ 7,885	\$ 15,770
Piper Rd. POB at US-23 0.40 mi	\$ 5,750	\$ 5,750	\$ 11,500
Tolan Rd. POB at Wilds Rd 0.19mi	\$ 2,738	\$ 2,738	\$ 5,476

**Ditching:**

Wilds Rd. POB at Brousseau Rd. 0.34 mi	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 16,000
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**TOTAL SANBORN TOWNSHIP:** \$ 47,858 \$ 47,858 \$ 95,716

Township Share	ACRC Share	Total Estimate
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**WELLINGTON TOWNSHIP:**

**Surface Gravel:**

Truax Rd POB 2640' N. of Reider 0.56 mi	\$ 8,811	\$ 8,811	\$ 17,622
Woodruff Rd. POB at Truax Rd 0.57 mi	\$ 7,466	\$ 7,466	\$ 14,932

**TOTAL WELLINGTON TOWNSHIP:** \$ 16,277 \$ 16,277 \$ 32,554

Motion carried unanimously.

**TOWNSHIP DUST CONTROL AGREEMENT**

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, to approve the following Road Agreement for Dust Control:

Township	ACRC	Total
<u>Match</u>	<u>Match</u>	<u>Estimate</u>

**MAPLE RIDGE TOWNSHIP**

2023 Local Road Dust Control Program

35% Solution/Brine	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 16,500.00
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Motion carried unanimously.

**JAMES ROAD**

Nico Tucker of NEMCOG had indicated to Managing Director Ryan Brege that Adrian MacArthur applied for a special use permit to open a mining operation on James Road in Green Township. James Road is a one-lane road and will significantly change the use pattern of the road. Road Commission Attorney Dan Florip will draw up an agreement with Adrian MacArthur. Green Township would like Mr. MacArthur to be responsible for dust control. Mr. MacArthur would prefer to use millings as the surface material to handle the dust control problem. The agreement will be brought to the next regular meeting for approval.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next regular meeting of the Alpena County Road Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, 3:00 p.m. in the lower level of the Alpena County Road Commission building.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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Gerald Lucas, Chairman

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Julia G. Patterson,  
Board Secretary