

FEBRUARY 6, 2008

The Board of County Road Commissioners for Montcalm County held a meeting at its office located in Stanton, Michigan at 3:00 p.m. on February 6, 2008.

Present: Commissioners Dale Linton, Robert Brundage and Donald McCracken; Randy Stearns, Managing Director; Mark Christensen, Superintendent; Carol Smith of LS Engineering, County Highway Engineer; Thomas Mayan, Consulting Engineer, and Karen Swan, Finance Director-Clerk.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the minutes of January 16, 2008 as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve Annual Application and Permit for Miscellaneous Operations within State Trunkline Right-of-Way. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, that the Board of County Road Commissioners of Montcalm County hereby approves Contract No. 08-5018, which is an amendment to Contract No. 07-5256, for the non-motorized pathway work along the Fred Meijer Heartland Trail from Coral Road northerly to Forest Road and along Forest Road to Sheldon Street; and Dale Linton, Chairman, and Karen Swan, Finance Director-Clerk, are hereby authorized to sign said contract. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, that the Board of County Road Commissioners of Montcalm County hereby approves the Governmental Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement between the Montcalm County Road Commission and Caterpillar Financial Services Corporation to extend lease-purchase payments for an additional two-year period on Caterpillar Motor Grader S/N APM00441 (#97) and Caterpillar Motor Grader S/N APM00442 (#98); and Karen Swan, Finance Director-Clerk, is hereby authorized to sign said contract. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve adjustments totaling \$237,061 to the 2008 Cash Budget as presented. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

#### Manager's Report

- Pre-purchased 35,000 gallons of diesel fuel from Petersen Oil at a cost of \$2.89 per gallon.
- Received a letter from Eaton Corporation stating the problems we have been having are electrical and not inside the transmission, which confirms what we thought. A week after the representative from Eaton was here, truck #42 went down, but again it was electrical. Duthler Truck is looking into the difficulties we have had to see if there is something they can do about the electrical problems.
- Have been discussing weight restrictions with Kent County; possibility that they may go on next week. The weather this winter has been wreaking havoc on the paved roads and they are showing a lot of stress. It will probably be a nasty and expensive spring breakup.
- Received a phone call regarding the intersection of Bale Road and Tamarack Road; some of the area residents want a three-way stop at the intersection. MSP Sergeant Roesler made an on-site review, and he feels a three-way stop is not warranted.
- Bloomer Township has adopted an ordinance regarding truck traffic on local roads. They have requested that we install signs limiting truck traffic on Blackmer Road south of Boyer Road.

#### Superintendent's Report

- Will be speaking at the MTA meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup> and will have a question and answer period regarding road issues.
- Recently attended DEQ soil erosion and sedimentation control course; still have final test to take.
- Missed the last board meeting but reviewed the minutes. Regarding the Chapter Chair's comment that a union officer should accompany OSHA officials when inspections are made—there is nothing that states a union officer must accompany an OSHA official when doing inspections—it just has to be a union member who is available at the time.
- January has been a long month and our people have worked very hard to keep the roads open—hopefully the public appreciates their hard work.
- In order to conserve salt, we have gone to using a sand-salt mixture—no straight salt unless absolutely necessary.

#### Engineers' Report

##### Carol Smith

- The Sloan Road Bridge project will be in the March letting; it has been advertised.
- Federal Road over Rice Creek—MDOT is reviewing the TS&L; do not anticipate any problems.
- Have several DEQ permits in process.
- Discussed safety projects and available state and federal funds for these types of projects. If we are able to obtain any funds, discussed pros and cons of contract work versus force account work.

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Tom Mayan

- Discussed changes to Local Bridge Program. Applications have to be submitted every year. LS Engineering will look to see which five bridges are in the most need. Deadline for applications is June 9<sup>th</sup>. Would be helpful to have letters of support from schools, businesses, etc.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to reschedule the March 5<sup>th</sup> board meeting to 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, due to the Annual Highway Conference being held in Grand Rapids on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the 2/6/08 bills totaling \$331,845.39 and Payroll # 3 totaling \$95,046.09. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

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Chairman

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Clerk