

JANUARY 21, 2009

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 January 21, 2009.

Present: Commissioners Dale Linton, Robert Brundage and Donald McCracken; Randy Stearns, Managing Director; Mark Christensen, Superintendent and Karen Swan, Finance Director-Clerk.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the minutes of January 7, 2009 as presented. Motion carried.

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

Darin Buffington came before the Board to discuss the Board's policy regarding mailbox replacement. Mr. Buffington stated he thinks the Board's mailbox replacement policy is a good policy; but he doesn't think the \$25 reimbursement should apply to him. The policy provides a standard metal mailbox or reimburses up to \$25 towards the cost of a new mailbox; however, Mr. Buffington feels he should be reimbursed the full cost of a new Rubbermaid-type mailbox, which costs about \$50 when new and that is what he wants from the Road Commission. Mr. Buffington stated his mailbox was about 6 years old and he thinks the road commission's truck hit his mailbox early on Monday morning when plowing the shoulder and that since it hadn't snowed that morning the driver should not have been plowing the shoulder. Mark Christensen explained that it had snowed over the weekend and as a cost-saving measure shoulders usually are not plowed on weekend overtime but are done on regular time during the week. Commissioner Brundage stated residents have a right to put up an expensive mailbox if they wish to; however, the Road Commission has to draw a line somewhere and \$25 is a fair amount for a mailbox. The Board stated that it was adhering to its policy; Mr. Buffington stated he would take it to Small Claims Court.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the purchase of a new, 2008 Sterling truck chassis, at a cost of \$58,658.54, from Duthler Truck. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Manager's Report

- The new Engineering Technician will be starting on Monday, January 26th.
- The Mechanic's Helper position has been offered to one of the people we interviewed; pre-employment physical is scheduled for next week.

Superintendent's Report

- Started working on township estimates for 2009 local road projects.
- Doing well with salt so far; the really cold weather has helped reduce usage and cost.

Clerk's Report

- County commissioners approved increasing county commissioners' and road commissioners' wages by 2 percent for 2009.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to not increase Road Commissioners' wages in 2009. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve 1/21/09 bills totaling \$443,031.45 and Payroll #1 totaling \$78,855.55. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to enter executive session at 4:36 p.m. to discuss an EEO legal matter regarding an employee. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk