

JANUARY 5, 2005

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 5, 2005.

Present: Commissioners Dale Linton, Robert Brundage and Donald McCracken; Randy Stearns, Managing Director; Jack Johnson, Superintendent; Bob Buckowing, County Highway Engineer; and Karen Swan, Finance Director-Clerk.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the minutes of December 15, 2004 as presented. Motion carried.

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

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to appoint Dale Linton as Chairman of the Board for 2005. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes – McCracken, Brundage. Abstain – Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Linton, to appoint Robert Brundage as Vice-Chairman of the Board for 2005. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes – McCracken, Linton. Abstain – Brundage.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to appoint Karen Swan as Finance Director and Clerk of the Board for 2005. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes – McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to appoint Randy Stearns as Managing Director for 2005. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes – McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to appoint Robert Buckowing as County Highway Engineer for 2005. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes – McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to hold 2005's regular board meetings at 3:00 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes – McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to set a public hearing at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 19, 2005 to review the following: 1) the sale of Federal Aid funds to the Michigan Department of Transportation; 2) proposed 2005 primary road projects; and 3) operation of snowmobiles within county road right-of-way. Motion carried.

The Finance Director reviewed the year-ending September 30, 2004 Annual Financial Report.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the FY2004 Annual Financial Report and the transfer of \$900,901.10 from the Primary Road Fund to cover a deficit in the Local Road Fund and an inter-fund adjustment of \$546,631.88 from the County Road Commission Fund Balance to the Primary Road Fund Balance to cover the resulting deficit in the Primary Road Fund Balance. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes – McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, approve the Performance Resolution for Governmental Bodies for a permit from the Michigan Department of Transportation, for work performed by the Road Commission or its contractors within state trunkline right-of-way within Montcalm County. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes – McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to authorize Karen Swan, Finance Director-Clerk, to sign the Withdrawal/Surrender Request from AIG SunAmerica for retiree Earl Hadley. Motion carried.

#### Clerk's Report

- We received a petition to abandon the right-of-way for an unimproved portion of West County Line Road (Montcalm Avenue) from South County Line Road (Bricker Road) north approximately 0.25 mile. The road is on a section line and a county line—before we go through the abandonment procedure is the Board even interested in going forward with this? The Board suggested that Kent County Road Commission be contacted to see if they have any concerns in this regard. Further discussion tabled until the January 19<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

#### Manager's Report

- Four new pickup trucks are in; lights are being installed and boxes are being spray-coated; the fifth pickup truck is in transit.

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- After our presentation at the December MTA meeting, Larry Ek, Sidney Township Trustee, approached me and suggested we try a Styrofoam® lift on Derby Road south of Sidney Road and the railroad tracks where the pavement failed after the Federal Aid project was completed. After the pavement failed, the Drain Commission cleaned the county drain out to relieve backpressure hoping it might relieve the problem and we also tried repairing the area with the installation of fabric, which was supervised by the fabric vendor; shortly thereafter the pavement failed again. Ever since then there has been a dip at this location. This would be worth taking a look at.
- Anti-icing is working out quite well; we try to get over all of the state trunklines and county primary roads. John Joyce said MDOT is very pleased with the anti-icing and with the winter maintenance on state trunklines in Montcalm County in comparison to some of the other counties. They are also pleased with the reduction of salt usage on state trunklines.

Engineer's Report

- We are working on estimates for 2005 local road projects.
- Bob requested approval to take an AutoCAD class at Montcalm Community College; the Board approved.

Commissioners' Comments

- What is the status on the Crystal Enhancement Project? Per Bob Buckowing, a small amount is being held in reserve until the project is finalized in the spring.
- One of the commissioners stated they will be out of town for some time but will be available by phone and would return early if needed.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to allow the Board of County Road Commissioners to conduct the Board's business at a regular board meeting convened at the Road Commission's office in Stanton via telephone conference call in the instance that a board member is absent or out of town. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes – McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the 1/5/05 bills totaling \$159,606.72 and Payroll #1 totaling \$82,634.57. 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