

JULY 7, 2010

The Board of County Road Commissioners for Montcalm County held a regular meeting at its office located in Stanton, Michigan at 3:00 p.m. on July 7, 2010.

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

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the minutes of June 23, 2010. Motion carried.

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

Superintendent's Report

- Discussed the ORV ordinance recently approved by the Board of County Commissioners. We need to have some input regarding primary road usage in the very near future. I spoke with Chris Hyzer and we need to formulate a map indicating the restricted roads to put on our website and the county's website. By law, the Road Commission can close up to 30 percent of the primary roads to ORV traffic and each township can close up to 30 percent of their local roads. The Road Commission needs to devise some criteria to base our decision on.
- The joint repairs on US131 are done. Our crew, which was made up of employees from all three garages, worked hard and did a great job.
- Chip-sealing started this morning; we had two miles on Neff Road done before noon and the crew did a nice job—it looks really good. All of the seal-coat projects will be fog-sealed too. I plan to run the crew unless I need to be someplace else.
- Recently met with MDOT to discuss their proposed detours when they rebuild US131 between Cannonsville and M46 in 2012. They proposed using Cannonsville Road as an alternate detour; I voiced my concern about putting heavy traffic on that road and we discussed MDOT putting an overlay on the road. There will be more discussions before everything is finalized. We also discussed detours while they do a bridge project on M57 in Carson City and our concerns about some of the roads they are proposing to use for a detour—especially Boyer Road by the correctional facility.

Clerk's Report

- July MTF is down but only a fraction—July 2010 is down \$2,834 or -0.68 percent compared to July 2009. Year-to-date MTF is down \$89,850 or -2.1 percent.
- Cash flow is looking better than it was at this time last year because of year-to-date savings due mainly to a reduced work force and related costs and reduced fuel costs, salt usage, and equipment repair costs. Last year we started struggling with cash flow in mid-spring at the beginning of the construction season and it lasted until December, but I think this year will be better and cash flow shouldn't tighten up until August or September and then start getting better in late October or early November, which is normal.

Commissioners' Comments

- Discussed several personnel issues including the Howard City foreman's position and the need to fill the Chipper Operator's position. The Board asked the Finance Director to try and work the Chipper Operator's position into the 2011 budget along with a newer, used and much-needed bucket truck to go along with the Chipper Operator.
- Discussed the diesel pickup trucks and whether or not we should sell them or keep one or two for pulling patch trailers. Need to look at costs to keep them repaired and running versus selling them and taking the money to purchase one or two good used pickup trucks.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the 7/7/10 bills totaling \$191,198.21 and Payroll #13 totaling \$74,528.31. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk