

MAY 5, 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 May 5, 2010.

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

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the minutes of April 21, 2010. Motion carried.

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

Bill and Bridget Stehouwer came before the Board to request a permit to remove and replace an existing concrete sidewalk, which is partially located in the unimproved right-of-way for Thelma Drive east of Strait Tow Boulevard at Crystal Lake. Mr. and Mrs. Stehouwer purchased the house last year and found that a portion of the old sidewalk, which they wish to reconstruct, is in the right-of-way and there is not enough room between the house and the property line to move the sidewalk completely inside the property line. Pat McShosh, a neighbor of the Stehouwers, stated that the neighborhood is in favor of allowing the sidewalk and she would like to see a permanent solution for the Stehouwers and others in the plat when it comes to lot lines and encroachments. Mr. and Mrs. Stehouwer were advised that if they wanted a permanent solution they would have to go through Circuit Court to request that the plat be amended to give them a narrow strip of land along the north edge of the right-of-way. This would still leave a more-than-adequate public right-of-way to access the lake.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve a permit allowing Bill and Bridget Stehouwer to replace the existing concrete sidewalk and allow a portion of the new sidewalk to be constructed in the unimproved public right-of-way for Thelma Drive located east of Strait Tow Boulevard. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve Permit No. 10-022 to the Silver Beach Association allowing the temporary installation of a public dock at the end of the unimproved public right-of-way for Thelma Drive located east of Strait Tow Boulevard. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve the following township contracts. Motion carried.

Douglass Township

- Machine wedge and seal Keeney Drive north of Waterwheel Rd (.3 mile) - \$7,277.
- Machine wedge and seal Fritz Road and Clifford Court west of Hillman Road (.7 mile) - \$15,994.

Fairplain Township

- Salt stabilize Grow Road/Station Road from County Farm Rd to south Grow Rd (.75 mile) - \$1,540.
- Salt stabilize Jenks Road from Carlsen Road west to pavement (1 mile) - \$2,011.
- Salt stabilize Russell Road from County Farm Road to M57 (1.5 miles) - \$3,016.

Ferris Township

- Three applications of chloride at 1,000 gpm on local gravel roads - \$16,611.

Montcalm Township

- Three applications of chloride at 1,650 gpm on local gravel roads - \$15,594.

Richland Township

- One application of chloride at 1,650 gpm on local gravel roads - \$6,751.
- Two applications of chloride at 1,000 gpm on local gravel roads - \$8,183.
- Ditch cleanout on Fleck Rd east of Douglas Rd and Edgar Rd west of Douglas Rd - \$10,000.
- Over-band crack-seal local roads in township as directed by Township Supervisor along with Road Commission's Superintendent - \$20,000.
- Machine wedge bad areas only on Waldron Rd from Tamarack Rd to Schmeid Rd - \$11,033.
- Machine wedge Tamarack Road from Pine Grove Road east to new pavement (1.5 miles) - \$8,601.

Reviewed proposed adjustments to the 2010 Cash Budget as presented by the Finance Director-Clerk. The net result of various adjustments to Receipts and Expenditures equals a cash budget decrease of \$27,454.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to approve budget adjustments, as presented, to the 2010 Cash Budget. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

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Manager's Report

- Attended road-funding rally in Lansing yesterday. Met with Representative Huckleberry and tried to meet with Senator Cropsey but he was unavailable; will meet with him on Monday to discuss road funding.
- The culvert crew is installing culverts on Crystal Road between Stanton Road and McBride Road in advance of the upcoming Federal Aid project.
- The bridge on Derby Road south of Stations Road has been reopened with a 15-ton weight limit.
- With all of the additional work on US131, Mark and I have discussed hiring two or three summer help and have them work on the trunklines as much as possible.

Moved by McCracken, seconded by Brundage, to hire three seasonal employees at a rate \$9.00 per hour with no benefits. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

Superintendent's Report

- The crews have completed 24 miles of salt stabilization in the last week and a half. We pushed to get these done while chloride was available before dust control starts.
- Dust control chloride starts next week in the townships—three townships next week, then nine townships with the remaining eight townships completed by Memorial Day—as long as the weather cooperates.
- Joint repairs on US131 start Monday morning. Our crew along with a crew from Kent County Road Commission and MDOT will be working together to repair 100 joints on the northbound and southbound lanes between M46 and Cannonsville Road. If everything goes well, we hope to complete the project in three weeks. The joints will be repaired with asphalt instead of concrete because asphalt is less expensive. MDOT does not want to spend more than needed because they plan a resurfacing project in this area in about two or three years, but the current joints are in need of a temporary fix until the resurfacing project can be done.

Engineer's Report

Carol Smith, P.E.

- The final plans for the bridge on Grow Road over Dickerson Creek have been submitted to MDOT; we hope to have a fall letting.
- As Randy reported, the bridge on Derby Road has been reopened with a 15-ton weight limit; the abutments are the reason for the weight limit.
- Regarding the over-band crack-seal project using stimulus funds, because the bid price came in so high over the estimate, I spoke with Susan Richardson at MDOT to get permission to downsize the project to fit the funding, which means we would only be able to do three miles instead of ten miles.
- I have been working with Don Cooper to make sure the proposed bridge on Kendaville Road east of Federal Road will be big enough. I will be getting numbers to the Drain Commission next week.
- Bridge applications for the Local Bridge Program will be submitted by the end of the week.
- Prep work on the Crystal Road project has started.
- We will be submitting the Fitzner Road-Sidney Road safety project next week.
- The next items to work on will be North County Line Road by the high school and the safety projects for Peck Road at Sidney Road and Sidney Road by the college.

Clerk's Report

- Good news—May MTF is up \$37,142 or 8.8% compared to May 2009. Year-to-date MTF is down \$78,296 or 2.3% compared to last year.
- Spoke with Jack Schmitz of Burnham & Flower last week about the outlook for Blue Cross rates, which will be effective September 1st. He said he is seeing rate increases of anywhere from 15 to 29 percent. BCBS is raising rates to try and direct groups into plans with even higher deductibles and co-pays, which means less money out of their pockets. As soon as he receives the new rates from BCBS he will contact me.

Moved by Brundage, seconded by McCracken, to approve the 5/5/10 bills totaling \$111,730.93 and Payroll #9 totaling \$83,288.98. Motion carried. Roll call: Yes-McCracken, Brundage, Linton.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk