

Board of Road Commissioners Meeting
Board Room
August 23, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Oceana County Board of Road Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Myers in the Board Room at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, August 23, 2017.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Members present: Myers, Forbes, Carr, Blohm, Gowell. Absent: None.

Staff present: Timmer and Griffin.

Visitors: Dale Stevenson, Weare Township Supervisor; Robert Wade, Colfax Township Supervisor; Bill Wagner, Grant Township Clerk; Andrew Sebolt, Oceana County Commissioner; Gale Eitniew, Newfield Township resident; Bow Wagner, representing Walkerville Thrives; Roy Wilson, Lt. Point Sable resident; John McKinnon, Tom & Emily Best, and Jane Hotchkiss, Benona & Claybanks Township residents; Vince Miskosky, Plant Manager of Arbre Farms.

TOTAL: 12 residents.

CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION

Bow Wagner, Walkerville Thrives representative, thanked the Board and Mark Timmer for the responsiveness to road work requests in and around the Walkerville area.

John McKinnon, Benona Township resident, presented the Board with a "Petition to Repair and Resurface Stony Lake Road" from US-31 to Scenic Drive (~5 miles). Discussion included grant funding to repair the road as well as forming an equal partnership (Claybanks/Benona/Road Commission) to fund the project. Mr. Timmer explained that our monthly MTF checks from the State of Michigan only allow us to maintain the roads we have, not to resurface them. Staff will be meeting in early September to begin planning 2018 road projects. **The Petitions are on file in the Benona Township file in the vault.** Chairman Myers thanked Mr. McKinnon for his presentation.

Vince Miskosky, Arbre Farms Plant Manager, asked if the two (2) road locations he had spoken to Mark Timmer about had been assessed for upgrades/repair (176th North of Walkerville and Jackson Road). Mark said he had looked at both sites and will be speaking with a contractor to obtain a cost for wedging in 2018. Mr. Miskosky would like to be informed of any Township meetings coming up so Arbre Farms can be involved.

Motion by Forbes and approved by Gowell to approve the following Agenda items for discussion.

1. Specialty signs.

Roll call vote: Forbes – yes; Gowell – yes; Blohm – yes; Carr – yes; Myers – yes.

Motion carried.

Motion by Forbes and supported by Gowell to approve the Minutes of the August 9, 2017 Regular Board Meeting as presented.

Roll call vote: Forbes – yes; Gowell – yes; Blohm – yes; Carr – yes; Myers – yes.

Motion carried.

The Revenues & Expenditures Report and the Cash Flow Statement were given to the Board Members to review.

Motion by Carr and supported by Gowell to approve the following Vouchers as presented.

Voucher No. 71994 (Accounts Payable)	\$439,205.23
Voucher No. 71995 (Payroll)	<u>\$ 64,428.42</u>
	\$503,633.65

Roll call vote: Carr – yes; Gowell – yes; Forbes – yes; Blohm – yes; Myers – yes.
Motion carried.

Mark Timmer presented the Board with a proposed new “Sign Policy Resolution” that he recommended for adoption. He explained that in 2011 the Federal Government mandated that a “Sign Retro-reflectivity Policy” be adopted by road agencies; he plans to upgrade all the signage in each Township, which would create a useful/necessary road sign inventory. He went on to talk about “specialty signs” that have been put up in past years, at Township request, that should be discontinued or even removed.

RESOLUTION NO. 1 – ADOPT UPDATED ROAD SIGN POLICY

Motion by Carr and supported by Gowell to adopt the following updated “Oceana County Road Commission Sign Policy.”

Whereas, the Oceana County Road Commission owns and maintains a large inventory of traffic signs necessary for the regulation, warning and guidance of traffic, and

Whereas the construction, installation and maintenance of traffic signs is governed by the Michigan Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MMUTCD), and

Whereas the Federal Government requires road agencies to adopt a retro-reflectivity policy for construction, installation, maintenance, and upgrading of signs to meet minimum retro-reflectivity standards.

The Oceana County Road Commission hereby adopts the following sign policy:

The Oceana County Road Commission hereby adopts a policy to upgrade and maintain signs in an effort to meet minimum retro-reflectivity standards as established by current MMUTCD standards. The method used will be a combination of blanket replacement and expected sign life, with a portion of the signs in the county being upgraded each year in an effort to meet these standards. The method used may change as dictated by budgetary requirements and engineering judgement.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved: Signs that are to be installed, maintained, and upgraded shall be those that are required by the MMUTCD as set forth by minimum standards, and those that may be placed due to engineering judgement. Warning signs that are not required by the MMUTCD, are not effective at increasing safety and do not change driver behavior shall not be installed, and will be removed when upgrading, when damaged by accidents or wind, or as time and scheduling allows. Signs shall not be installed for political reasons. Street name signs, posts, and materials will be paid for by the Townships

requesting same and all labor shall be furnished by the Road Commission. Signs that are not required by standards, not installed due to engineering judgement, or not necessary for guidance shall not be installed in the road right-of-way.

Roll call vote: Carr – yes; Gowell – yes; Forbes – yes; Blohm – yes; Myers – yes.
Motion carried.

Monthly Committee Reports

Finance & Insurance Committees – Chairman Myers commented that there's nothing new to report. Four (4) Board members and Mark Timmer attended the Paul Bunyan Council Meeting in Cadillac on Thursday, August 17, 2017; Commissioner Forbes spoke with Ed Noyola of the County Road Association about creating an agricultural fund for rural areas, which he promptly dismissed as it would require opening up the Act 51 distribution, and could potentially cost Oceana County money instead of providing more funding.

Buildings & Grounds Committee – Commissioner Gowell stated that the Hart Salt Shed building replacement is still being planned. The furnace replacement/upgrade at the M-20 garage will be done yet this year.

Community Relations Committee – Mark Timmer is putting together a “Road Reception” this Fall. He is gathering quotes from various venues to host the dinner and suggested a Monday evening be chosen for the event so our legislators can attend.

Personnel Committee – Chairman Myers stated that two (2) employees are still off work with arbitration to begin in November.

Commissioner Carr was appointed as liaison to the County Planning Commission and said he had nothing to report.

Commissioner Blohm was appointed as liaison to the County Parks & Recreation Commission and said he had nothing to report other than the addition of a flag pole at the Black Lake County Park.

STAFF REPORTS

The State crew has been blacktop patching, doing roadside cleanup, replacing delineators, tree cutting, pulling berm and blending shoulders on M-20, as well as replacing culverts/seeding/top soil on Monroe Road (US-31 BR) in Pentwater. Mr. Timmer added that “the M-20 shoulder work looks very good; our men are doing a wonderful job.”

The Hart crew is finishing our “in kind” work on Lakeview Drive in Pentwater this week so Hallack Contracting can begin reconstruction work. Mowing/blading has been done in every Township as well as shoulder work after the paving jobs that were done. The chip seal/fog seal work has been finished for this year. Work is being done on 136th Avenue in Elbridge Township in preparation for wedding. The signs were replaced on Silver Dam Road in Golden Township, and that area is now open to traffic. Washouts on VanBuren Road, East of 72nd Avenue were repaired. Tyler Road has been overlaid East of 88th Avenue to West of 104th Avenue. The 140th Avenue Bridge in Elbridge Township is being repaired.

The M-20 crew has been blading roads in preparation for some second brinings. Work is being done on Baker Road, East and West of Oceana Drive in preparation for a crush/shape and paving. Brush cutting was done and signs were moved at the Stony Lake Road/Scenic Drive intersection to improve sight distance.

Mowing, pothole patching, and claying has been done as well as blading up roads for the U.S. Forest Service. Our men recently durapatched Fourth Street, Fifth Street, and Michigan Avenue for the Village of Shelby; Mr. Timmer was very pleased with their work.

The second payment was made to Hallack Contracting (\$92,955.00) for the Monroe Road Project. The skim coat was applied to Loop Road (from 160th Avenue to 192nd Avenue); the top coat will be applied after Labor Day. MDOT approved a salt shed budget for 2018. Andy Ilief, of MDOT, will be here to look over our M-20 salt shed for possible painting, as well as confirming replacement of our small salt shed in Hart.

Gale Eitniew, Newfield Township resident, thanked the M-20 crew and Foreman Jeff Balkema for the road repairs on 160th Avenue after the earlier rain this week.

Chairman Myers asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:48 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

SANDRA K. GRIFFIN
Clerk

WILLIAM MYERS
Chairman

SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

DATE