

Board of Road Commissioners Meeting
Board Room
September 26, 2018

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, September 26, 2018.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

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

Staff present: Timmer, Griffin, Merten.

Visitors: John Hendrixon, Shelby Township Supervisor; Chuck Smith, Pentwater Township Supervisor; Bill Wagner, Grant Township Clerk; Dean Gustafson and Andrew Sebolt, Oceana County Commissioners; Roy Wilson, Lt. Point Sable resident; Larry Mumper, Colfax Township resident; Bow Wagner, Walkerville Thrives; and Claudia Ressel-Hoden, Pentwater Township resident. **TOTAL: 9 visitors.**

CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION

Comments from the audience pertaining to potholes, heavy truck traffic, and bumpy roads were noted and will be passed on to the appropriate Foreman.

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

1. CLOSED SESSION – Managing Director’s contract renewal;
2. Managing Director’s contract;
3. Proposed Pentwater-Hart multi-use trail.

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 September 12, 2018 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 Blohm to approve the following Vouchers as presented.

Voucher No. <u>72050</u>	Accounts Payable	\$181,343.97
Voucher No. <u>72051</u>	Payroll	<u>\$ 63,164.97</u>
		\$244,508.94

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

Motion carried.

At the September 12, 2018 Regular Board Meeting the Board was presented with a DRAFT copy of Mark Timmer's updated employment contract to review.

RESOLUTION NO. 1 – CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Gowell and supported by Forbes to enter into CLOSED SESSION to discuss Managing Director Mark Timmer's proposed employment contract.

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

Motion carried.

The Board entered into CLOSED SESSION at 10:08 AM.

The Board returned to REGULAR SESSION at 10:17 AM.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 – MANAGING DIRECTOR'S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

Motion by Forbes and supported by Gowell to approve Managing Director Mark Timmer's 5-year employment contract as presented.

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

Motion carried.

Mark had met with the Personnel Committee (Chairman Myers and Commissioner Gowell) and Road Commission attorney Ed McNeely to discuss his proposed contract. He requested that his evaluation be discussed privately by the Board at today's meeting; he also chose not to be present during the discussion. Chairman Myers thanked Mark for accepting his new contract and he also thanked the Board for their comments and suggestions.

A proposed "multi-use trail" has been the topic of discussion for some time by various County entities and a group of dedicated residents in and around the Pentwater area. At the August 22, 2018 Regular Board Meeting, Mark introduced Claudia Ressel-Hodan, John Wilson, and David Bluhm, residents of Pentwater Township and representatives of the Pentwater-Hart Trail Committee. A detailed handout was given to the Board as well as the history of the project from its origin in the Fall of 2015. On Friday, June 29, 2018 Senator Goeff Hansen kicked off a bicycle event in Pentwater by announcing he had secured \$1.4 million dollars in State funds for the creation of the trail. All property owners along the route (currently signed as US-35 Bike Route) were notified by the Committee and made aware of a public meeting held on September 19, 2018 at the Hart City Hall Community Room. The meeting was well attended by several people who spoke out in favor of the trail. Mark Timmer explained that the Committee needs Board approval of the project in order to start spending money to begin the trail.

Questions from the Board began with maintenance/repair of the trail; utilities that may need to be moved, residents opposed to the trail being on their property, changing the desired trail route, allowing snowmobiles to use the trail, the thickness of asphalt, and adequate funding being received (grants/donations) to see this project to fruition. Considerable discussion ensued. Mark explained that the Road Commission will not maintain the trail, and utility companies would be asked to move their equipment/underground lines if necessary. County Commissioner Dean Gustafson, Pentwater Township Supervisor Chuck Smith, and

Benona Township resident Roy Wilson spoke briefly on their support of the “multi-use trail” project. Ms. Ressel-Hoden thanked the Board for their time.

Chairman Myers addressed the Board. He stated “we are here for one reason; our job is to decide whether we will give them use of the shoulders or not; they cannot proceed without our approval.”

RESOLUTION NO. 3 – PROPOSED PENTWATER-HART MULTI-USE TRAIL

Motion by Forbes and supported by Gowell to accept the proposed Pentwater-Hart Trail (beginning in the City of Hart, down Tyler Road to 72nd Avenue, North on 72nd Avenue to Harrison Road, West on Harrison Road to 68th Avenue, 68th Avenue to VanBuren Road, VanBuren Road to Wayne Road, Wayne Road to Longbridge Road, Longbridge Road to Monroe Road, Monroe Road (BR US-31) to Sixth Street, through the Village of Pentwater, and North to the Pentwater Community Park/trailhead = a distance of nine (9) miles). The Road Commission will not perform maintenance of the trail, except when it is designated as our responsibility by the Managing Director.

Roll call vote: Forbes – yes; Gowell – yes; Blohm – yes; Carr – no; Myers – yes.

Motion carried.

Monthly Committee Reports

Chairman Myers announced that further Committee Reports will be done quarterly. If pertinent information should need to be brought before any Committee, it can be reported by the appropriate Committee member(s) and acted on at that time.

Personnel Committee – Chairman Myers announced that Mark Timmer has a new employment contract.

Insurance Committee – nothing to report.

Finance Committee – nothing to report.

Buildings & Grounds Committee – nothing to report.

Community Relations Committee – nothing to report.

Weighmaster Liaison – Commissioner Gowell will be meeting with the Sheriff after today’s meeting.

Parks & Recreation Commission Liaison – Commissioner Blohm reported that the County Park campgrounds will be closing this week.

STAFF REPORTS

Mark thanked the Board for his new contract and said “I’m looking forward to what we can get done in the next five (5) years.”

He gladly reported that Rieth-Riley paved the top course on Fillmore Road (from the Newaygo County line to West of 200th Avenue) and both courses on Jackson Road (from 112th to the West; this work is being

done with “left over” Monroe Road funds). These two (2) paving jobs were done by Rieth-Riley supervisors running equipment, as Local 324 (Operating Engineers Union) are on lockout. Putting the final course on 132nd Avenue, between M-20 and Pierce Road is still “up in the air.” The MDOT expressway project (between Shelby and Hart) and the MDOT Gillon Drain project (culvert replacement project on M-20 near 144th Avenue) have come to a halt due to the Operating Engineers lockout.

South County Foreman Jeff Balkema attended the MPSI meeting last week; Mark attended the Manager’s meeting in Cadillac. Mark also explained that he is very happy with our new bridge inspector(s) from Scott Civil Engineering. They will be doing the required scour reporting as well as compiling necessary cross-section reports for each of the fifty-six (56) bridges in Oceana County.

The work force is still cleaning up tree debris and fixing washouts from the recent high winds and rain. The two (2) remaining Summer Help are diligently working on durapatching Oceana Drive, North of Lever Road. Mowing, shoulder work, road side cleanup, pot hole patching, and sign work are still being done.

Traffic Services men are working on culvert inventory, signs, a curve and speed advisory study, and laying out the bike path on 56th Avenue in Mears. The county-wide Federal Aid striping project is now completed; roads that had surface changes (paving/chip sealing) will be striped next week along with any special markings that need to be done.

There was no further business to come before the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 10:51AM.

Respectfully submitted,

SANDRA K. GRIFFIN
Clerk

WILLIAM MYERS
Chairman

OCTOBER 10, 2018
DATE