

Board of Road Commissioners Meeting  
County Services Building  
September 10, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Oceana County Board of Road Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Myers at the County Services Building at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, September 10, 2025.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Members present: Myers, Gowell, Heykoop, LaFever.

Absent: Koch.

Staff present: Timmer, Holmes, Terryn, Curtis.

Visitors: Dave Leonard, Colfax Township Supervisor; Lee Hyslop, Crystal Township Supervisor; Rob Draper, Golden Township Supervisor; Tim Beggs, Oceana County Commissioner Liaison; Savanna LaFever, Hart City resident; Keith Cadle, Otto Township resident; Stephanie Hughes, Golden Township resident; Tim and Dawn VanBruggen, Newfield Township residents; Steve and Lois Tamulis, Colfax Township residents, Ralph Oomen, Crystal Township resident, and Tom Evans, Silver Sands Hotel and Resort.

**TOTAL: 13 visitors.**

## **AGENDA**

Motion by Gowell and supported by LaFever to approve the amended Agenda items for discussion.

1. Closed Session – Privileged Written Legal Opinion OCRC's Legal Counsel
2. 2024 Financial Statement Presentation By Maner-Costerisan
3. Trailside Circle Road Certification
4. Lease-To-Own Etnyre 12' – 24' Chip Spreader

Roll call vote: Gowell – yes; LaFever – yes; Heykoop – yes; Myers – yes.

Absent: Koch.

Motion carried.

## **CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION**

Lee Hyslop asked if the Road Commission could possibly work as a “team” on Jackson Road in Crystal Township, and also said he has heard good feedback on Madison Road.

Keith Cadle addressed an issue with property he purchased five (5) years ago on Kent Road at 128<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Otto Township (on-going issue with neighbor doing tree trimming as well as several utility boxes).

Tim VanBruggen would like to talk with Managing Director, Mark Timmer to discuss a road located by Newell Lake in Newfield Township.

Steve Tamulis is looking for information from the Road Commission on Adams Road-Section 8-Colfax Township where it dead ends. Just needs confirmation that this road does not go through.

Ralph Oomen looking to have repairs-maintenance done on Jackson Road (between 126<sup>th</sup> Avenue/136<sup>th</sup> Avenue) in Crystal Township.

Tom Evans with Silver Sands Hotel and Resort addressed an issue with a Right-of-Way (ROW) encroachment letter he received from the Road Commission and signs being removed by the Road Commission.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Gowell and supported by Heykoop to approve the Minutes of the August 27, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

Roll call vote: Gowell – yes; Heykoop – yes; LaFever – yes; Myers – yes.  
Motion carried.

Absent: Koch.

## **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

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

Motion by Heykoop and supported by LaFever to approve the following Vouchers as presented.

Voucher No. 72441 (Accounts Payable)	\$ 597,017.71
Voucher No. 72442 (Payroll)	<u>\$ 110,541.00</u>
	\$ 707,558.71

Roll call vote: Heykoop – yes; LaFever – yes; Gowell – yes; Myers – yes.  
Motion carried.

Absent: Koch.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 1 – ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Heykoop and supported by LaFever to enter into CLOSED SESSION at 10:14 AM under MCL 15.268(1)(h) to consider a privileged written legal opinion prepared by the Oceana County Road Commission's legal counsel.

Roll call vote: Heykoop – yes; LaFever – yes; Gowell – yes; Myers – yes.  
Motion carried.

Absent: Koch.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2 – RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION TO REGULAR SESSION**

Motion by Heykoop and supported by LaFever to return from CLOSED SESSION and go back into the Regular Board Meeting at 10:33 AM.

Roll call vote: Heykoop – yes; LaFever – yes; Gowell – yes; Myers – yes.  
Motion carried.

Absent: Koch.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 3 – CHRISTOPHER BAKER FOIA APPEAL**

Motion by Heykoop and supported by Gowell to deny Christopher Baker's FOIA Appeal conditioned upon Petitioner's rights to subsequently appeal a final determination.

Roll call vote: Heykoop – yes; Gowell – yes; LaFever – yes; Myers – yes.  
Motion carried.

Absent: Koch.

Jordan Smith, CPA with our auditing firm Maner-Costerisan provided an overview on our 2024 ACT 51 Financial Statements. He reported the fund balance decreased \$533,196.00 and the Net position increased \$7,467,439.00 during 2024. OPEB is fully funded. The result of the audit was a clean unmodified opinion which means that the company's Financial Statements are presented fairly and comply with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). This is the highest rating possible.

Chairman Myers spoke briefly regarding Trailside Circle Road Certification in Grant Township. This was adopted by Resolution in 2001 but never certified. It is his suggestion that Trailside Circle be placed on the ACT 51 Certification maps.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 4 – TRAILSIDE CIRCLE ROAD CERTIFICATION**

Motion by LaFever and supported by Gowell to certify Trailside Circle on the ACT 51 Certification maps.

Roll call vote: LaFever – yes; Gowell – yes; Myers – yes.

Absent: Koch.

**\*\*Commissioner Heykoop abstained from voting\*\***

Motion carried.

The Oceana County Road Commission has a professional well run chip seal and fog seal program where OCRC chip seals and fog seals approximately 70-80 miles per year in county with its own crews and equipment, and chip seals/fog seals for neighboring counties and cities and villages within Oceana County. In the last several years we purchased two large capacity tar distributors that allow us to chip seal 24' wide in one direction. Our current chip spreader only adjusts up to 20'. It is the recommendation of the Managing Director and Shop Foreman that we lease to own a new Etnyre 12'/24' 4WD Chip Spreader so we can chip seal in one direction. Etnyre is the only company that manufactures a Chip Spreader that adjusts to 24'.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 5 – LEASE TO OWN ETNYRE CHIP SPREADER**

Motion by Heykoop and supported by LaFever that we lease to own an Etnyre 4WD Chip Spreader with 12'/24' Variable Spread Hopper for \$459,940.00 with one (1) Advanced Payment of \$90,620.20 due on delivery, and five (5) Annual Payments of \$90,620.20 with a Buyout of \$1.00 at the end of the lease term. (Note: There is no penalty for early payoff).

Roll call vote: Heykoop – yes; LaFever – yes; Gowell – yes; Myers – yes.

Absent: Koch.

Motion carried.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **State**

Not working on State currently.

### **M20 and Hart Garages**

Patched various roads, graded gravel roads, repairing roads, mowed in county North Townships, brushing with loader brush attachment, finished slag upgrade on Harrison Road in Golden Township, and Baker Road in Newfield Township, finished placing gravel on Wren Road in Benona Township, gravel upgrade on Wilke Road in Claybanks Township, working on timber sales road for Forest Service, durapatched 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Crystal Township, and finished fog sealing.

### **Engineering**

Worked on Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program Grant, meetings and plan review for M20 Tunnel 75% plans out for review by MDOT, Madison Road paving project, working on removing ROW Encroachments, and sign upgrade (Safety Grant) to start next week.

### **HR**

Hired full time Truck Driver/Road Worker.

### **Traffic Services**

Supervised Sign Crew/County Work/State Work, worked on asset management, sign repairs, Road Soft, permits, traffic control for chip seal/fog seal, long line paint striping, and special markings.

### **General**

Reviewed bills and finances with Assistant Manager-Clerk and Finance Director. Finance Director worked on several FOIA requests. Guardrail is being installed on Madison Road today, then contractor will do slope restoration and pavement markings planned for Friday. Accounting Assistant, Assistant Manager-Clerk, Highway Engineer, and Managing Director worked on Rural and Tribal Assistance Grant, and Accounting Assistant completed and submitted this to State, Assistant Manager-Clerk worked on Title 6, Manager attended MCRCSIP meeting.

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,

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**LORI L. HOLMES**  
**Finance/HR Director**

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**WILLIAM MYERS**  
**Chairman**

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**SEPTEMBER 24, 2025**  
**DATE**