

Board of Road Commissioners Meeting  
County Services Building  
April 13, 2022

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, April 13, 2022.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

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

Staff present: Timmer, Griffin, Holmes, Terryn.

Visitors: Lynne Cavazos, Pentwater Township Supervisor; Dave Leonard, Colfax Township Supervisor; Larry Doran, Weare Township Supervisor; Joan David, Newfield Township Supervisor; Roger Schmidt, Grant Township Supervisor; Garry McKeen, Parks and Recreation Commission; Tim Beggs, County Commissioner Liaison; Eric Herrygers, Elbridge Township resident; Kyle Oomen, Crystal Township resident; and Derek Oomen, Crystal Township resident. **TOTAL: 10 visitors**

### **CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION**

Joan David, Newfield Township Supervisor had several questions about gravel roads and citizen concerns. Chairman Myers recommended Joan call or meet with Managing Director, Mark Timmer.

Larry Doran, Weare Township Supervisor thanked the Road Commission for keeping up with the roads after frost laws came off.

Dave Leonard, Colfax Township Supervisor wanted to let the Board know that he gives a "BIG THANKS" to Mark Timmer for coming to the Colfax Township meeting last week on his own time (had a full house). Mark spoke about the "proposed" Ruth Drive / Water Wonderland road improvements and answered many questions from the local residents in attendance. Mr. Leonard added, "Mark closed the deal with the crowd and went above and beyond."

Garry McKeen thanked Chairman Myers and his wife for helping out at Black Lake in Colfax Township.

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

1. Public Hearing @ 10:15 AM / Petition to Abandon Minke Road, East of 144<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in Section 35 of Crystal Township
2. Emulsion Bids
3. USFS / Forest Road Cooperative Agreement (Mark Timmer to sign on behalf of the Board)
4. Pavement Marking Bids
5. Stony Lake Road Tree Trimming
6. Water Road Fencing in Right-of-Way

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

Motion carried.

Motion by Forbes and supported by Gowell to approve the Minutes of the March 23, 2022 Regular Board Meeting.

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

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

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

Voucher No. 72239 (Accounts Payable 3-30)	\$205,083.34
Voucher No. 72240 (Payroll 3-30)	\$ 75,194.82
Voucher No. 72241 (Accounts Payable 4-13)	\$317,541.12
Voucher No. 72242 (Payroll 4-13)	<u>\$ 77,255.18</u>
	\$675,074.46

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

Oceana County Road Commission piggy-backed with Kent County Road Commission and Newaygo County Road Commission on emulsion and fog seal bids for 2022.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 1 – EMULSION BIDS**

Motion by Forbes and supported by Gowell to accept all bids and authorize Managing Director, Mark Timmer to utilize emulsion bids in the best interest of the Road Commission and Townships.

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

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2 – SIGN ROAD PROJECT AGREEMENT – USDA, FOREST SERVICE, HURON-MANISTEE NATIONAL FORESTS**

Motion by Gowell and supported by Forbes to have Managing Director, Mark Timmer sign the U.S. Forest Service / Forest Road Cooperative Agreement #22-RO-11090400-026. This agreement is effective through February 20, 2024 and shall not exceed \$15,000.00.

Roll call vote: Gowell – yes; Forbes – yes; Blohm – yes; Spitler – yes; Myers – yes.  
Motion Carried.

The following bids were opened for pavement marking for 2022. The contract award is for a 1-year contract with the option of renewing for a possible two (2) more years upon agreement of both parties.

<b><u>Vendor</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
MPM	\$143,393.85
PK Contracting	\$149,923.34

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3 – PAVEMENT MARKING BIDS**

Motion by Forbes and supported by Gowell to accept all bids for Pavement Marking for 2022.

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

Motion carried.

Commissioner Blohm inquired about the tree trimming being done on Stony Lake Road (some tree limbs hanging over the road). Mark Timmer advised that he will take a look at this but the tree trimming in this area has not yet been completed.

Commissioner Blohm also asked about Water Road fencing in the Right-of-Way located in Grant Township (fencing goes up to the road). Mark Timmer commented “if this fencing is outside the Right-of-Way no permit would be needed but; if the fencing is in our 33’ Right-of-Way a permit would be needed.”

**At 10:15 AM Chairman Myers opened the Public Hearing regarding the request by Chris Kasul to abandon Minke Road, East of 144<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in Section 35 of Crystal Township.**

The Board members were all given copies of the abandonment paperwork, proof of payment of the \$500.00 abandonment fee, written documents for/against the abandonment, and paperwork from Crystal Township supporting the abandonment.

The Chairman explained the protocol for the Public Hearing to all in attendance and asked for statements from the Petitioner, Chris Kasul, who was not in attendance.

Mark Timmer read several letters aloud that were in favor and had no issues with the proposed abandonment. The letters were from Ron Smith, Crystal Township Zoning Administrator; Jacob Lubera, District Ranger with the Forest Service; Barney McFarren, abutting property owner South of Minke Road; and Debra Herrera, Crystal Township Supervisor.

Chairman Myers then asked for opposing comments.

Chairman Myers mentioned he had received calls from Craig Cooper as well as an individual named Bromley who were both opposed to closing this road.

Eric Herrygers, Elbridge Township resident commented that a lot of people use this road to snowmobile and is totally against closing this road or any county road.

Kyle Oomen stated his Dad, Uncle, and himself have used this road for years and are totally opposed to closing the road.

Larry Doran, Weare Township Supervisor also commented he is opposed to closing the road.

Chairman Myers asked if there were any other comments. There being none the Public Hearing was closed at 10:26 AM.

Chairman Myers then asked the Board for their comments. Commissioner Spitler stated that he does not like closing any roads (you cannot get them back) and has not heard any good reasons why this portion of the road should be closed. Commissioner Blohm commented this road has been used by him his whole life and sees no reason to close this portion of the road. Vice-Chairman Gowell stated it is a narrow 2-track and will see what happens. Commissioner Forbes did not see any evidence to close this portion of the road. Chairman Myers mentioned that trash or too much traffic is not a good reason to close this portion of the road.

**RESOLUTION NO. 4 – ABANDONEMNT OF MINKE ROAD, EAST OF 144<sup>th</sup> AVENUE,  
IN SECTION 35 OF CRYSTAL TOWNSHIP**

Motion by Forbes and supported by Blohm to deny the Abandonment request from Chris Kasul to close Minke Road, East of 144<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in Section 35 of Crystal Township.

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

Motion carried.

**Request for abandonment is denied.**

**STAFF REPORTS**

The State crew has been doing snow and ice removal as well as patching.

The M-20 crew and Hart crew have patched various roads with the hot box, brush and tree removal, snow and ice removal, and graded gravel roads. Mark drove several of the gravel roads and they appear to be in “good shape” and Mark also commented he is very proud of the employees and the effort they have put in.

Traffic Services has worked on asset management, Miss Digs, sign installation and repair, Road Soft, permits, and supervised the sign crew with State and County work.

Mark Timmer reviewed bills and finances with the Finance /HR Director and Clerk, worked on road estimates, lifted Seasonal Weight and Speed Restrictions on April 6, 2022, and attended the Washington Road Bridge pre-construction meeting with the Contractor (Miller Development) and the Engineer (Scott Civil Engineering). Work to begin on this project around May 1, 2022.

Chairman Myers asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:39 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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**WILLIAM MYERS**  
Chairman

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**APRIL 27, 2022**

**DATE**