

Van Buren County Board of Road Commissioners

October 5, 2017

Regular Meeting - Administrative Office, Lawrence, Michigan

BE IT REMEMBERED: That on the 5th day of October, 2017 at 7:00 PM, E.D.T., the Board of County Road Commissioners for the County of Van Buren met in regular session in the offices in Lawrence, Michigan.

PRESENT: Road Commissioners Askew, Boze, Kinney, Ray, and Svilpe
Engineer-Manager Lawrence B. Hummel, P.E.
Board Secretary-Finance Director Linnea Rader
Highway Engineer Barry Anttila

GUESTS: Attorney Kelly Page
County Commissioner Freestone
John Vargo
Jack Goss
Angela Hazzard, Paw Paw Township
Fran Sanders, Paw Paw Township
Linda L. Jordan, Paw Paw Township

Chairman Askew called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

No additions/deletions to the Agenda.

Motion by Boze, seconded by Svilpe to approve the Agenda.

AYES: 5
NAYS: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Moved by Kinney and seconded by Ray to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2017 meeting as presented by Board Secretary Rader.

AYES: 5
NAYS: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

The Chairman opened the meeting to public comment. Jack Goss, a resident of Bangor Township, questioned the status of CR376 in Bangor Township. Staff answered that the Board has approved the base paving work to be done in 2018. He is concerned with when this will happen and about a “dip” in the road just past 60.50th Street. Staff will review prior to paving work being accomplished.

Linda Jordan, Paw Paw Township Clerk, spoke on behalf of herself and Angela Hazzard, Paw Paw Township Treasurer, and Fran Sanders, Paw Paw Township Trustee with regard to their concern over the loss of Brian Cornish as a staff member. He was their “go to” person. Questions on who they now call in his absence. Staff answered that Rader and Anttila are handling issues presently and until the new Operations Supervisor is hired. Staff also referred them to the letter sent to all Townships regarding the process moving forward, which is to call the Lawrence Office to allow for the most efficient handling of questions, concerns, etc.

Board Secretary-Finance Director Rader provided a review of the operating budgets and operating fund. The MTF check was received early and up approximately 31% over last year. Barry and Linnea have been much more involved in the operations. Closing out-standing projects. 989 tons of HMA placed on the system in the last two weeks. Crews are “feeling good” that they are making progress and will be ready for winter. Fog seal is completed and the bills are in the voucher tonight. MDOT billing for CR687 North of Hartford is included. All billings are in for dust control. Brush Spray program is also completed.

Moved by Boze, seconded by Svilpe and to approve the following Road Commission Vouchers:

Voucher #1993	\$98,124.29
Voucher #1994	\$269.13
Voucher #1995	\$719,682.08

AYES: 5
NAYS: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Engineer-Manager Hummel updated the Board on the award of Cold Patching Mix to all bidders with Lakeland Asphalt as primary supplier, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission.

Blue Star Highway Lighting Plan was presented to the Board by Hummel on behalf of the City of South Haven. The Board moved to not move forward with involvement on this project. Motion by Ray, seconded by Boze.

AYES: 5
NAYS: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Kinney, seconded by Svilpe to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION 2017-24
IMPOSING 80/20 HEALTH CARE RULE

WHEREAS: Public Act 152 of 2011 sets a “hard cap” limiting the amount public employers can contribute towards the cost of employees’ health care benefits; and,

WHEREAS: By a majority vote of its governing body, a local government can opt to comply with an alternate 80/20 provision in the law and cap its costs at 80%; and,

WHEREAS: By a two-thirds vote taken annually, a local government can exempt itself entirely from the law for the next year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of County Road Commissioners of Van Buren County, by a majority vote, hereby opts to comply with the alternate 80/20 provision in the law and cap the Road Commission’s costs at 80%, and its employees’ costs at 20% for the year 2018.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED: That the above alternate provision shall apply to all Road Commission employees.

AYES: 5
NAYS: 0
RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

Motion by Ray, seconded by Boze to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION 2017-25 APPROVING AGREEMENT FOR JURISDICTIONAL
TRANSFER OF PORTION OF PHOENIX ROAD AND TO TRANSFER THE
JURISDICTION OF A PORTION OF PHOENIX ROAD

WHEREAS: Section 2 of the Transfer of Jurisdiction over Highways Act, 1969 PA 296, MCL 247.852 et seq., as amended, authorizes the transfer of jurisdiction of a highway from a county board of road commissioners to a city by mutual agreement of the two parties; and,

WHEREAS: The Board of County Road Commissioners of Van Buren County desires to transfer a portion of Phoenix Road from approximately 75' West of 73rd Street East to 71½ Street from the jurisdiction of the Van Buren County Road Commission to the jurisdiction of the City of South Haven in accordance with the Agreement for Jurisdictional Transfer of Portion of Phoenix Road and all attached exhibits, maps and drawings; and,

WHEREAS: The City of South Haven desires to accept jurisdiction of the aforementioned portion of Phoenix Road from the jurisdiction of the Van Buren County Road Commission in accordance with the Agreement for Jurisdictional Transfer of Portion of Phoenix Road.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Agreement for Jurisdictional Transfer of a Portion of Phoenix Road is approved in the form attached, or in a form with minor modifications acceptable to the Engineer-Manager and the Road Commission's attorney.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Engineer-Manager is authorized and directed to sign the Agreement for Jurisdictional Transfer of Portion of Phoenix Road on behalf of the Van Buren County Road Commission, and any and all additional paperwork necessary to finalize the jurisdictional transfer, and to submit any documentation to the proper agencies.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions and parts of resolutions are, to the extent of any conflict with this resolution, rescinded.

AYES: 5
NAYS: 0
RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

Discussion of Road Commissioners' compensation by Commissioner Askew lead to discussion among the Board. Staff was directed to proceed with requesting that the County Commission increase the Board's compensation. Motion by Ray, seconded by Boze.

AYES: 5
NAYS: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan Policy update was provided by Finance Director Rader. She provided a brief definition/explanation of what the Title VI Plan is all about, and how the Road Commission administers the Plan. All filings for the Plan are up to date, and all for new staff members have been trained.

Road Commissioner's Township Meeting Attendance Report

From September 20th to present:

Askew: No meetings.

Boze: No meetings.

Kinney: KATS Policy Committee Meeting. No other meetings.

Ray: No meetings.

Svilpe: Antwerp Township, supervisor wants to meet. He and Commissioner Ray will be attending a meeting on October 23rd. Alma Township questioned when sealcoat would occur. Road Commission has completed since that meeting. Porter Township had questions regarding road end issue status.

Highway Engineer Barry Anttila reported on the following:

- CR687 North of Hartford; all major work completed. Walk-through scheduled this next week.
- Blue Star Highway, trenching and widening completed. Found another "sink hole" along the Northbound lane and will be repaired next Monday and Tuesday.
- CR376, CR352 and CR380, will be re-shaping and chloriding next week with Great Lakes Chloride.
- CR653, top course paving, still to be completed.
- Van Kal, wedging completed last week. Shoulders started today.
- Antwerp Township overlays, submitted their requests for 2018 paving.
- Pavement Marking contractor hopefully to begin next week.

Engineer-Manager Update(s):

- Van Buren County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting on November 6th at 6:00 PM at the Van Buren Conference Center.
- Staffing update.

Legal issues update by Attorney Page.

A motion was made by Ray and seconded by Svilpe to adjourn the Call of the Chair at 8:04 PM.

AYES: 5
NAYS: 0
MOTION CARRIED.

Secretary

Chairman