

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
ALPENA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION**

November 7, 2017

The Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Alpena met in regular session on the above date. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Fred Sterns, at 3:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Fred Sterns, Tom Heise and Tom Spaulding.  
Absent: None.

Staff present: Larry Orcutt, Managing Director; Julia Patterson, Finance Director/Board Secretary; Curt Gonyea, Superintendent; and James Mazrum, Road Commission Attorney.

Others Present: Nathan Skibbe, Alpena Township Supervisor; Jerry Leschinger, Ossineke Township Trustee.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**AGENDA**

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by Heise, to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTES**

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by Heise, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 17, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no communications.

**CITIZENS APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD**

**Keith Alexander, 3015 Harbor Drive,** appeared before the Board regarding the poor condition of Hamilton Road. Mr. Alexander stated that the road is not maintained according to the standards stated by the guidelines.

**Chairman Fred Sterns** replied that the road had received improvements for the past two years with participation from Alpena Township.

**Kathy Crawford, 6955 Hamilton Road,** commented that she is the only full time resident on that road and agrees with Commissioner Sterns that improvements were made, such as ditch cleaning two years ago, but there have not been any improvements since the summer of 2016.

**Pat Gallagher, 205 Fletcher Street,** stated that the road needs more than gravel. He is requesting, that since improvements are limited with the natural beauty designation, that the road be in the same condition as it was in the 1970's.

**Lois Hall, 2553 Hobbs Drive,** commented that they take great pride in the road by picking the garbage and getting a dumpster to try to keep their property clean. Mrs. Hall stated that

years ago she wanted to get a group together to help pay for gravel but was told she wasn't allowed. Mr. Orcutt stated that there is a process to follow and would help the group get started.

**Keith Alexander, 3015 Harbor Drive,** questioned what would happen if they were to abolish the Natural Beauty Designation and Mr. Orcutt replied that it wouldn't change much since it still comes down to money for improvements.

**Managing Director Larry Orcutt** explained that natural beauty road designation is to be maintained in a "rustic way". Improvements of \$5,000 were spent on that road two years in a row removing trees and minor maintenance. The challenge is the amount of money that is spent when there are also 150 local roads in Alpena Township that need improvement or maintenance.

**Keith Alexander, 3015 Harbor Drive,** asked if there were grants available from the DEQ or DNR to help pay for some of the improvements.

**Managing Director Larry Orcutt** responded that he is not aware of any grants from those two groups. He suggested a special assessment from the property owners or participation from the township.

**Len Werda, 1114 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue,** expressed his appreciation for the work that the Road Commission has done in previous years but concerned about where his property tax dollars are going.

**Road Commission Attorney Jim Mazrum** replied that the Road Commission does not receive any of the property tax dollars that the residents pay annually. Mr. Mazrum also explained that the Road Commission is not allowed by Act 51 Law to pay 100% of improvements on a local road and need participation from the Township or others.

**Keith Alexander, 3015 Harbor Drive,** asked how the Road Commission decides on which roads to improve and if a traffic study could be done to see the amount of traffic on Hamilton Road.

**Managing Director Larry Orcutt** replied that whether its 25 or 50 vehicles per day, there isn't 400 vehicles like Wolf Creek Road, which is planned for a future resurfacing project. The amount of vehicles traveled per day has a bigger impact whether the road will get improvements.

**Terry Pugh, 925 Merchant Street,** commented that he was happy to meet a grader near the road today.

**Pat Gallagher, 205 W. Fletcher Street,** inquired as to how to eliminate the Natural Beauty designation.

**Kathy Crawford, 6955 Hamilton Road,** replied that it is a very lengthy process since she has been tried it previously.

**Managing Director Larry Orcutt** explained to the audience that the Road Commission and Alpena Township work together on selecting road projects to be considered for improvement. We both have limited funds on what can be improved each year. Mr. Orcutt addressed the issue of property owners paying for gravel

informing them that if they can get gravel and funds to help the offset the costs, it will be taken under consideration.

### MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORT

Managing Director Larry Orcutt presented a brief update on the following:

- Finishing the projects for this year and working on next year's projects.
- Carr/Posen Road reconstruction project is complete with the exception of pavement markings. Material quantities are being finalized and the project is expecting to be \$7K to \$10K less than budgeted amount.
- Indian Reserve Road, South of Werth Road, holding off until approval by the Rural Task Force meeting on Friday before sending it into MDOT for a possible April letting.
- Bridge design still in progress for the Werth Road Bridge.
- Planning on attending the Rural Task Force meeting on Friday, November 10, 2017.
- Working on budget items for 2018.

### COUNTY ROAD REPORT

The Superintendent presented the County Road Report for the period October 9, 2017 through October 29, 2017.

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by Heise, to make the reports part of the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

### COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Spaulding commended the contractor and Road Commission crew for a great job on the Carr/Posen Road reconstruction project.

### PURCHASES

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by Heise, to approve the following purchases in the amount of \$49,727.82:

10A PURCHASES			
PO/Inv	Date	Description	Amount
N25340	10/26/17	AIS Construction Equipment, labor to repair heater and air Conditioner on Gradall #137.	\$901.95
T37816	10/25/17	AIS Construction Equipment, kit to rebuild boom on Gradall #137.	\$653.90
T38032	10/27/17	AIS Construction Equipment, boom rollers for Gradall #137	\$2,290.65
S54753	10/10/17	Alpena Diesel Service Inc., EGR Kit for Truck #091.	\$1,783.96
S54825	10/10/17	Alpena Diesel Service Inc., fuel pump for Truck #091.	\$796.48
S55060	10/31/17	Alpena Diesel Service Inc., brake kit for Truck #086.	\$1,041.75
21843	11/6/17	Alpena Oil Co., 2,800 gallons nolead gas at \$2.049/gallon.	\$5,737.20
618141	10/16/17	Besser Alpena, Misc. steel to build plow hitch for Truck #098.	\$1,275.00
618679	10/30/17	Besser Alpena, Miscellaneous steel to repair truck box for Truck #088.	\$1,030.00
58915	10/17/17	Cogitate Inc., quarterly software support.	\$1,481.38
6506049	10/26/17	Corrigan Oil Company, 9,999 gallons diesel fuel @ \$2.09214/gallon.	\$20,919.31
41521	10/18/17	D & B Heat Transfer Products, Inc., new radiator for Truck #084.	\$595.00
35667	10/23/17	Dornbos Sign, Inc., miscellaneous street signs.	\$1,548.85
251083	10/20/17	L & S Concrete Co., 6 yards @ \$111.25/ yd. concrete for	

		for truck garage.	\$667.50
251070	10/20/17	L & S Concrete Co., 4.5 yards @ \$111.25/ yd. plus minimum load charge of \$30.00 for concrete for truck garage.	\$530.63
55620	10/19/17	Overhead Door Co. of Alpena, labor to repair garage door in cold storage building.	\$1,360.00
55693	10/30/17	Overhead Door Co. of Alpena, labor to remove and repair west garage doors.	\$514.65
490748	10/27/17	Team Elmer's, 127.07 tons of 23A gravel @ \$4.60/ ton for stockpile.	\$584.52
80164N	10/23/17	Truck & Trailer Specialties of Boyne Falls, Inc., cylinder for spreader #307.	\$1,954.70
29353A	10/23/17	Truck & Trailer Specialties of Boyne Falls, Inc., shaft and seal kit for Truck #084.	\$502.69
103017	10/30/17	Wilbert Sandblasting, for sandblasting truck bed.	\$552.00
820	10/23/17	Zann Bros Construction Inc., labor to pour and finish concrete slabs for garage approach.	\$1,585.00
S108635	10/2/17	Zarembo Equipment Inc., new exhaust for Truck #091.	\$1,420.70
		<b>TOTAL PURCHASES</b>	<b>\$49,727.82</b>

Motion carried unanimously.

#### CONTRACT PAYMENTS

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by Heise, to approve the following contract payments of \$176,873.16:

1	Est. 3	11/20/17	Elmer's Crane and Dozer, Inc., progress payment #3 for Carr/Posen Road reconstruction.	\$174,485.16
2	alp-1702	7/20/17	Michigan Pavement Markings L.L.C., pavement markings for county roads.	\$2,388.00
			<b>TOTAL CONTRACT PAYMENTS</b>	<b>\$176,873.16</b>

Motion carried unanimously.

#### APPROVE OCTOBER BILLS

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by Heise, to approve October 2017 bills in the amount of \$754,241.86. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 2018 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by Heise, to have a 2018 Budget Workshop on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the budget. Motion carried unanimously.

#### NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting of the County of Alpena Road Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

#### BOARD RECESS

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:14 p.m. for recess to address the media.

#### BOARD RECONVENED

The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Sterns, Heise, and Spaulding  
Absent: None

Staff present: Larry Orcutt, Managing Director; Curt Gonyea, Superintendent; and James Mazrum, Road Commission Attorney.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by Heise, to go into closed session at 4:18 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the status of the union contract negotiations. Motion carried unanimously.

**OPEN SESSION**

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by Heise, to return to open session at 5:18 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Sterns, Heise, and Spaulding  
Absent: None

Staff present: Larry Orcutt, Managing Director; Curt Gonyea, Superintendent; and James Mazrum, Road Commission Attorney.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

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Frederick Sterns,  
Chairman

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Julia G. Patterson,  
Secretary