

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

September 3, 2024

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, Gerald Lucas, at 3:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Lucas, MacArthur, and Spaulding.
Absent: None.

Staff present: Ryan Brege, Managing Director; Julia Patterson, Finance Director/Board Secretary.

Others Present: Dan Florip Road Commission Attorney; Rebecca Rivard, County Engineer-Huron Engineering and Surveying; Bill LaHaie, Alpena County Commissioner; Nathan Skibbe, Charter Township of Alpena Supervisor; Nico Tucker, Transportation and Resource Planner of NEMCOG; Angela Dubie, General Manager of Thunder Bay Transportation.

AGENDA

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, to adopt the agenda after Managing Director Ryan Brege added an item under New Business: Discussion for truck for distributor tank. Motion carried unanimously.

PERMIT FEE REVISIONS

A public hearing was held at 3:00 p.m. to hear comments on the statewide increase of utility permit fees. Managing Director Ryan Brege explained that there is a ten percent increase on all permits other than those set by law. With no objections to the increased permit fees, it was moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to approve the CRA 2024 Statewide schedule of driveway, transportation and utility permit fees effective October 1, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

REGION 9 RURAL TASK FORCE PUBLIC MEETING

A second public hearing was held at 3:10 p.m. to hear input on improvement projects being considered for funding using the Federal Surface Transportation program during the period of 2027 through 2029.

Managing Director Ryan Brege explained that the selected projects will be submitted for consideration at the annual meeting of the Region 9 Rural Task Force. Nico Tucker, Transportation and Resource Planner of NEMCOG, attended the public hearing and reviewed the

funding allocations and eligibility of roads for use of the funds. Rural cities and villages and public transit are also eligible for use of these funds. Angela Dubie, Interim General Manager of Thunder Bay Transportation stated that Thunder Bay Transportation is requesting funds for \$17,900 for miscellaneous items but Ms. Dubie stated she could wait until the 2027 allocation.

The following proposed projects for utilization of Rural STP and State TEDF-D funds were presented by Mr. Brege:

- 2026-Wolf Creek Road-Nicholson Hill Road to Werth Road Crush and Shape: 5.54 miles.
- 2027-Werth Road-M-65 to Wegmeyer Road: 4 miles.
- 2028-Long Lake Road-Lacomb Road to North County Line: 4.5 miles.
- 2029-Long Lake Road-Lacomb Road to North County Line: 4.5 miles.

Several "illustrative projects," which are smaller in scope, were also proposed to utilize any additional funds if it appears all task force funds are not going to be used in the fiscal year.

Moved by Managing Director Ryan Brege, seconded by Angie Dubie of Thunder Bay Transportation, to approve the Alpena County task force projects presented at the public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further comments, the Chairman declared the public hearing closed at 3:14 p.m.

MINUTES

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 6, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

A letter dated August 1, 2024 from Michael Mead, MDOT Transportation Planner, notifying the Alpena County Road Commission that the Annual Act 51 Mileage Certification submittal has been processed.

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to make the communications a part of the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD/PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no Citizens appearing before the Board.

MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORT

Managing Director Ryan Brege reported the following:

- Long Rapids Road Signing Project's low bidder is Give 'Em a Brake Safety with a bid of \$83,247. Waiting on posts to begin the project.
- Long Rapids Road Bridge's survey is complete. Plan review in progress.
- Lake Winyah Road project- Spoke with the Financial Advisor at

Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan and was informed that the check was delivered to the Alpena County Treasurer's office and will then be given to the Road Commission for the donor's contribution for Lake Winyah Road.

- Attended MCRC SIP Managers' Strategy Session in Lansing on August 14th. Learned that MCRC SIP does not like gates and will defend the Road Commission if a situation arises, and a gate needs to be removed. They follow the Michigan Vehicle Code for blocking a public highway.
- Received new BCBS health insurance rates and did not fall under the hard cap but will not affect the employees since the Road Commission has opted out of PA152.

COUNTY ROAD REPORT

The Board was presented with an update on the County Roads.

JULY FINANCIAL REPORT

The Finance Director presented the Cash/Cash Equivalents Financial Report for the month ended July 31, 2024.

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, that all reports become part of the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

AUGUST BILLS

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to approve the August 2024 bills in the amount of \$ 811,383.69. Motion carried unanimously.

PURCHASES

Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur, to approve the following purchases in the amount of \$348,256.94:

11B. PURCHASES				
Item	PO/Inv.	Date	Description	Amount
1	CRA0008961	8/10/24	CRASIF, Second Qtr. Workers Compensation policy premium.	\$12,328.00
2	929466	8/19/24	Crystal Flash, 2,700 gallons nolead gasoline at \$ 2.485 per gallon.	\$6,710.91
3	188908	8/1/24	Dean Arbour Ford, replaced front brakes, upper and lower ball joints, and U-joint replacement on Equipment #024.	\$3,011.73
4	28425	8/27/24	McVeigh's Truck Springs, suspension for Truck #087.	\$3,613.27
5	179337	8/13/24	Michigan Paving & Materials Co., 32,629.36 gallons of CRS-2 M at \$2.42 per gallon plus 0.26 cents per gallon hauling rate.	\$87,446.68
6	179469	8/20/24	Michigan Paving & Materials Co., 9,611.03 gallons of CRS-2 M at \$2.42 per gallon plus 0.26 cents per gallon hauling rate and 19,249.15 gallons of CQSEA at \$1.964 per gallon for County roads sealcoat/fog seal.	\$63,576.20
7	179603	8/27/24	Michigan Paving & Materials Co., 2,610.33 gallons of CQSEA at \$2.4964 per gallon for County Roads fog seal.	\$6,516.53
8	551-641539	8/25/24	Michigan State Police, Frost law patrol for October-June mileage=\$1,248.79 and labor=\$5188.86.	\$6,437.55
9	VM316000163	7/29/24	Stoops Western Star of Michigan, new 2025 Western Star	

			Tandem 47X (PO Order # 65, February 2023)	\$150,000.00
10	872241	8/20/24	Team Elmer's, Hauling charge for 2,027.31 tons of 29A at \$4.25/ton to Hanson's for stockpile	\$8,616.07
TOTAL PURCHASES				\$348,256.94

Motion carried unanimously.

CONTRACT PAYMENTS

Moved by MacArthur, seconded by Spaulding, to approve the following contract payments in the amount of \$157,714.16:

11C. CONTRACT PAYMENTS

Item	PO/Inv	Date	Description	Amount
1	6544	8/16/24	Huron Engineering and Surveying, Inc., Density testing for Airport Road Wolf Creek Road review.	\$1,991.50
2	6545	8/16/24	Huron Engineering and Surveying, Inc., Survey and Design Engineering for Lake Winyah Rd - Maple Ridge Township	\$6,833.00
3	2163	8/21/24	Monchilov Sewer Service LLC., cementitious spray culvert lining on Nappers Road, West of Prevo.	\$64,500.00
4	244093-02	8/9/24	PK Contracting, pavement markings for County Roads.	\$79,134.66
5	7651	8/29/24	Scott Civil Engineering Co., design engineering services for Long Rapids Road Bridge.	\$5,255.00
TOTAL CONTRACT PAYMENTS				\$157,714.16

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Spaulding inquired if the dust control program was completed for 2024 and if there were any roads getting a second application.

Commissioner Lucas commented that Salina Road is in bad condition with all the potholes.

THIRD STREET EXTENSION

Managing Director Ryan Brege informed the Board that a public hearing needs to be scheduled for the Third Street Extension. Mr. Brege is meeting with Luke Golden from DEQ to review the man-made ditch and the culvert requirement. One of the biggest concerns for the extension was the speed limit of 55 mph. A roundabout has been designed in the plans for an approximate cost of \$32,000 to be placed at the Barrington Circle intersection. Truck traffic would also be prohibited. Mr. Brege would like to get the project started and have it go out for bids. Charter Township of Alpena Supervisor Nathan Skibbe informed the Board that his Township can afford to pay fifty percent of the project. A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, October 7, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Charter Township Hall on US 23 North. Moved by Spaulding, seconded by MacArthur to hold a public hearing for the Third Street Extension. Motion carried unanimously.

TRUCK FOR DISTRIBUTOR TANK

The vendor that the distributor tank was purchased from cannot order the tank without knowing the exact make and model of the truck it will be placed on. Moved by MacArthur, seconded by

Spaulding to approve the truck purchase for the distributor tank for \$40,000. Motion carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting of the Alpena County Road Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. in the lower level of the Alpena County Road Commission.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Gerald Lucas, Chairman

Julia G. Patterson,
Board Secretary