

July 24, 2012

A Workshop Meeting of the Board of Delta County Road Commissioners was held on Tuesday, July 24, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. at the Main Office, 3000 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, Escanaba, Michigan.

Present at the workshop were Chairman Randy Bjork, Vice Chairman Dennis Stanek, Commissioner Rory Mattson and Commissioner Mike Larrabee. Also in attendance was Managing Director Rob VanEffen, Finance Director Amy Reinhardt, and County Board representative Mary Harrington.

Brandon Couvillion, IT Director for the County, and Jim Lundberg with Merit Company attended and discussed a quote for installation of fiber optic cable to the Road Commission and the services and benefits that it would be able to provide.

Colin Nugent with the U.S. Forest Service was present to review a new alternative they are investigating regarding the C.R. 497/Sturgeon River encroachment.

The Regular Meeting agenda items were reviewed and/or discussed – including the Vehicle Maintenance issue, with several citizens in attendance commenting or asking questions on the subject.

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Delta County Road Commissioners was held on Tuesday, July 24, 2012 at 5:15 p.m. at the Main Office, 3000 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, Escanaba, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 5:16 by the Chairman, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Chairman Randy Bjork, Vice Chairman Dennis Stanek, Commissioner Rory Mattson, and Commissioner Mike Larrabee.

ABSENT: Commissioner Pete Stropich

Chairman Bjork asked if there was anyone wishing to be added to the Agenda and there being none, moved to approve the Agenda as printed.

There being no changes or corrections, it was moved by Chairman Bjork to approve the Minutes of the July 10, 2012 Workshop & Regular Meetings as proposed.

Kevin Keveney, Teamsters Local 486 Business Agent, further discussed a spreadsheet he had handed out to the board members during the workshop. He explained that Managing Director Rob VanEffen had sent him a page out of the Act 51 Financial Statements showing the calculation of the Fringe Benefit rate used for the current year based on actual cost for Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2011. Mr Keveney did his own calculation using only the benefits earned per year by only the specific employees that work in the vehicle maintenance department and came up with a much lower rate which he stated should be used when comparing hourly rates of current employees with the proposed hourly rates by the third party maintenance service.

It was moved by Commissioner Mattson, seconded by Commissioner Larrabee to approve the tentative verbal offer received from the Hannahville Indian Community to purchase the Wells District Garage and property at a price of \$25,000 – with the purchase to be contingent upon the

July 24, 2012

results of an environmental study to prove that the property can be used for the intended purpose of the purchaser, and that all costs of such study will be paid by the purchaser and not be deducted from the \$25,000 agreed upon purchase price.

Ayes – 4      Nays – 0

Commissioner Mattson discussed the decision made at a previous meeting to have a letter sent to various legislative and government offices expressing the position of the Road Commission, County Commission and Nahma Township regarding the proposed relocation of C.R. 497. Mr. Mattson explained that there have been three drafts of this letter that he will be reviewing to create one final draft that he will bring to this Board at the next regular meeting for their review.

Managing Director Rob VanEffen informed the Board that employees Jody Norman and Van Marenger have volunteered to take the training to become certified to meet the DEQ Underground Storage Tank requirements and that he is still hoping for one more employee to volunteer to be certified as Class B. Mr. VanEffen also explained that the documents have been signed and the sale of the Garden Garage to Garden Township has been closed, with the initial payment received late last week.

Managing Director Rob VanEffen stated that the Merit Network company had presented a quote and information during the workshop regarding the installation of fiber optic cable service. Mr. VanEffen will do some cost analysis to the fiber versus current costs for further discussion at a future meeting.

Information was given to the Board regarding safety visits from MCRCSIP (the liability self-insurance pool) and CRASIF (the workers compensation self-insurance fund) and both had good reports with the few suggestions already being addressed and that our employees have been doing a great job keeping up with safety issues.

It was moved by Commissioner Larrabee, seconded by Commissioner Mattson to approve the proposed revisions to Policy #40- Job Performance & Evaluation and one additional revision changing the last name of the clerk from Tatrow to Reinhardt, and to mark the policy Revised as of today's date.

Ayes – 4      Nays – 0

Policy No. 25 – Freedom of Information Act Requests was briefly reviewed and a couple of issues were found and will be corrected and presented for approval at the next meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Larrabee, seconded by Commissioner Bjork to approve Bills Payable Voucher No. 2349 of 7/24/12 in the amount of \$1,092,823.30 and Payroll Voucher No. 68901 of 7/19/12 in the amount of \$51,670.06 as presented and reviewed. Roll Call Vote:

Vice Chairman Stanek - Yes  
Commissioner Mattson - Yes  
Commissioner Larrabee – Yes  
Chairman Bjork – Yes

July 24, 2012

The Board was given information regarding the Northern Association of Road Commissions Annual Meeting to be held at Crystal Mountain on September 5-7, 2012 and told to let the clerk know prior to the next meeting if attending so that registration and reservations can be made.

Managing Director Rob VanEffen informed the Board that the DEQ had performed an annual Facility Inspection of our Underground Storage Tanks and everything was good and approved for another year.

It was moved by Commissioner Larrabee, seconded by Commissioner Bjork to approve out of county travel for the Managing Director and any Board Members to attend the Great Lakes Council Meeting in Baraga on September 13, 2012.

Ayes – 4      Nays – 0

Under Public Comments, Bob Ashbacher commended the Board and the public for working together and taking time to listen and discuss an important issue before making a decision.

Under Road Commissioners Comments, Commissioner Stanek reviewed and shared information from the MCRC SIP Annual Meeting which he and Commissioner Larrabee attended last week. Commissioner Larrabee expressed his frustration with a letter to the editor that appeared recently in the Daily Press which contained false information, particularly the statement that the Road Commission has not spent money to purchase equipment needed to maintain the roads properly – when in fact, though it's been several years since a plow truck was purchased, many pieces of equipment have been purchased including road graders, pickups and one-ton trucks, trailers, crack seal machine, loader scales, radios and a tractor. Commissioner Bjork stated that he was also displeased when he read the letter in the paper but that he just "considered the source". Commissioner Mattson also expressed his anger at the "twists on the truth" if not out and out lies listed in the letter to the editor and explained the he will be writing a personal response to the claims as well as discussing the true facts on the Bill Moore radio program this coming Saturday morning.

Commissioner Stanek thanked everyone for coming and for their interest and input in the discussions regarding the Vehicle Maintenance issue. Commissioner Bjork added his thanks and stated that he's learned a lot from the input from Tom Peterson and thanked him for it.

There being no further business to come before the board at this time, Chairman Bjork moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

---

Randolph Bjork, Chairman

---

Amy J. Reinhardt, Deputy County Clerk

July 24, 2012