

## OGEMAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

### MEETING MINUTES OF Wednesday, February 28, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Ogemaw County, Michigan, was held at its office 1250 S M-33 West Branch, Michigan, and was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Chairman Dan Winter, Vice-Chairman Klint Marshall, Commissioner Van Sheltroun

Staff Present: Managing Director Pat Reinke, Board Clerk Brandy Curtis, State/Construction Foreman Bill Sperow

In Attendance: Ogemaw County Sheriff's Department Brian Gilbert and Doug Casselman, Ogemaw County Commissioner Charles Wiltse, Department of Natural Resources Jason Lewicki, Hill Township Trustee Dave Mayhew, Numerous Residents including Randy Short, Kurt Denstedt, Mark Williams, and Tommy Dault, Local Union #15528 President Brent Gilbert

#### Additions to the Agenda:

VC3 Quote for IT Services

Natural Gas Pricing

Churchill Township Cemetery Driveway Addition

Motion Marshall, supported Sheltroun, to approve the additions to the agenda. Motion carried.

#### Approval of Minutes:

Past minutes on February 14, 2024, were reviewed. There being no additions or corrections, the minutes stand as submitted.

#### Approval of Payroll and Payable Accounts:

Motion by Marshall, supported by Sheltroun, to approve and pay payroll voucher #2420 and payable voucher #2421 for \$ 239,613.88. Roll call vote: Ayes: Winter, Sheltroun, Marshall. Nays: None. Motion carried.

#### Public Comment:

Tommy Dault approached the Board requesting information on Refinery Road load limits.

#### New Business:

At 9:10 a.m., the bituminous paving bid opening was held. Bids were received from Bolen Asphalt, Pyramid Paving, and Rieth-Riley Construction. Motion by Marshall, supported by Sheltroun, to allow staff to review for accuracy and accept low bidder. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Marshall, Winter, Sheltroun. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The annual materials and services bid opening was held. Upon reading bids, motion by Marshall, supported by Sheltroun, to allow staff to review and present recommendations at the next board meeting. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Sheltroun, Winter, Marshall. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Randy Short, an Ogemaw County resident, approached the Board regarding the gates located on Bass Lake Road in Hill Township. A lengthy discussion was held on Bass Lake Road's right-of-way, State and Federal abutting land, and encroachments. The consensus of the Board was to request the Manager to contact the liability insurance pool requesting assistance on how to proceed with the encroachments and then follow up with the Board.

Reinke discussed the MDOT salt shed funding opportunities with the Board. The consensus of the Board was to request the Manager to meet with MDOT and discuss funding opportunities and follow up with the Board.

The Board received Foster Township's contract for crush and shape on Horseshoe Lake Road from Piper Lake Road north to Columbia for 0.30 miles at an estimated cost of \$140,288.24, the township's portion estimated at \$77,158.53, and the Road Commission's portion estimated at \$63,129.71. Motion by Sheltroun, supported by Marshall, to sign the contract with Foster Township for the Horseshoe Lake Road crush and shape. Roll call vote: Ayes: Winter, Marshall, Sheltroun. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Eugeni Costa with Albitel-Wind and Solar Project approached the Board requesting a pre-permit or letter to justify that his organization can connect to the power stations using the road right-of-way in Ogemaw County. Reinke requested Mr. Costa to provide the Road Commission with documentation stating his organization is a public utility.

Reinke reviewed a quote received from VC3 for IT services. No action was taken.

Commissioner Sheltroun discussed natural gas rates. Curtis informed the Board that she spoke with DTE last Friday regarding rates and the current contract the Road Commission has with Dillion Energy.

A discussion was held on access to Churchill Township's cemetery. Reinke will stake out the proper site distance for the installation of an additional driveway and follow up with the Churchill Township Supervisor to offer guidance.

Hill Township Trustee, Dave Mayhew, updated the Board on the petition process for the Birch Drive upgrade, a private road with a maintenance agreement in Hill Township.

Ogemaw County Commissioner Wiltse updated the Board on the status of the current millages and Ogemaw County's budget.

#### Unfinished Business:

As a follow-up from the last Board meeting, a discussion was held on the April 21, 2021 motion on employee incentives regarding USDA Rural Development grants. Commission Sheltroun explained he intended to offer employees an incentive for seeking out grants in general. Motion by Sheltroun, supported by Marshall, to amend the motion from April 21, 2021, and strike out the words "USDA Rural Development". Roll call vote: Ayes: Marshall, Sheltroun, Winter. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A discussion was held on financial grant investments made on behalf of the Road Commission. Motion by Sheltroun, supported by Marshall, to award Brandy Curtis \$2,000 as an incentive for a grant award acceptance for the Protecting MI Pension Grant. Roll call vote: Ayes: Winter, Marshall, Sheltroun. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Curtis reviewed the changes to the Administrative Working Policy as recommended by the attorney. Motion by Sheltroun, supported by Marshall, to approve the Administrative Working Policy as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes: Sheltroun, Winter, Marshall. Nays: None. Motion carried.

#### Information:

Reinke updated the Board on the sand barn damage claim.

Reinke reported on winter maintenance, road reports, and equipment updates.

The next MTA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm at the Richland Township hall.

#### Public Comment:

None

Closed Session:

Motion by Marshall, supported by Sheltroun, to go into closed session at 11:30 a.m. for personnel matters as requested by the employee. Roll call vote: Ayes: Sheltroun, Winter, Marshall. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board returned to regular session at 12:35 p.m.

No action was taken.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board of Road Commissioners, Ogemaw County, Chairman Winter adjourned the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Winter, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brandy Curtis, Board Clerk

|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| General Account Beginning Balance |                |
| February 14, 2024                 | \$825,472.44   |
| Receivables                       |                |
| 27637-27639                       | 15,311.89      |
|                                   | \$15,311.89    |
| Disbursements                     |                |
| Payroll Voucher # 2420            | (59,363.75)    |
| Payable Voucher # 2421            | (174,250.13)   |
|                                   | \$(233,613.88) |
| Transactions                      |                |
| Transfer to MI Class              | (300,000.00)   |
| Bank Fees                         | (314.25)       |
|                                   | \$(300,314.25) |
| General Account Ending Balance    | \$306,856.20   |
| Misc Account Totals               | \$898.83       |
| Investment Balance                | \$2,375,404.01 |
| Total Unrestricted                |                |
| Cash Funds February 28, 2024      | \$2,683,159.04 |