**Presque Isle County Road Commission**

**Minutes**

**December 8, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Road Commissioners for Presque Isle County was held at the Road Commission office at 657 South Bradley, Rogers City, Michigan. Chairman Thomas Catalano called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Board Members Present:** Thomas Catalano, Norman Quaine

**Excused:** Ronald Bischer

**Also Present**: Supt./Mgr David Kowalski, Clerk Anne Wirgau

**Visitors:** John Chappa – Presque Isle County Commissioner

***Minutes:***

A motion was made by Quaine (Catalano) to approve minutes from November 17, 2021 regular meeting.

Ayes: All

***Approval of Agenda:***

A motion was made by Quaine (Catalano) to approve the agenda for December 8, 2021.

Ayes: All

***Accounts Payable:***

Motion by Quaine (Catalano) to approve the December 8, 2021 accounts payable in the amount of $159,094.29

Ayes: Quaine, Catalano

***Supt./Mgr Report:***

* Supt./Mgr has obtained cost to install rumble strips at three locations at a cost of approximately $3,000.00 per intersection.

1. M-211 and North Allis Highway – will be contacting MDOT to possibly cost share for either signage or rumble strips
2. 634 Highway and County Road 451 – discussion regarding installing on both sides of intersection, currently only east side has them.
3. 638 Highway and County Road 441 – have received a couple of requests to install rumble strips and more signage at this intersection.

* Discussion was held regarding the ordering of a new tandem truck early to mid-spring 2022 to get a 2023 delivery.
* Five applications were received for the maintenance position, will be interviewing one on December 10th.
* Discussion was held regarding the possibility of the Rainy River Bridge on M-68 being reconstructed by MDOT in 2022. The detour would be tentatively M-33 to 638 to South Porter. Further discussion included a possibility of a trucking company bidding on a Moran Iron Works project that would involve twenty-nine loads of product 110’ in length and weighing 400,000 lbs.
* MDOT purchased the road commission one arrow board with the understanding we would purchase a second and build trailers for the arrow boards. Our current arrow boards are not MDOT compliant for work on state trunkline where speed limit is 65 mph. Approximate cost will be $4,500.00.
* Discussion was held regarding the old sand/salt shed. Supt./Mgr will look into options to possibly save the rafter and roof which are in acceptable condition, block walls that have caved are the problem.
* Eric Precord, MDOT, mentioned to Supt./Mgr that if the road commission were to purchase a brushing head for our track skid steer MDOT would have enough work to nearly cover the initial cost. Discussion was held.
* Posen truck # 0103 is back and in service and a claim for $21,748.05 has been submitted to MCRCSIP.
* MDOT is allowing us to use a truck from the State equipped with a prewet system, Eric Precord would like to see if there is a major benefit for us. Nick Idalski’s US-23 south route is being considered for the trial area. Additionally, Precord is giving us 2 different type of tungsten blades to try on new sealcoats. It may be possible for these new blades to last much longer than our current carbide and flame hardened blades which would result in a savings of money and man hours to change the blades.
* Discussion was held regarding a section of Grand Lake Highway between Miller Road and Green Road approximately 700’ long which is really out of shape. The west and east bound lanes are at different heights in areas. Supt./Mgr recommends that this section be repaired prior to installing anymore sealcoat on it. R.S. Scott will be doing a soil boring for us soon and the result will help determine the project cost.
* Frank Avent has inquired about cutting one-half acre of cedar on our property at Finley Road and Wilk Highway. Discussion was held. The Board is not interested in having the wood cut at this time preferring to leave it as a green belt/buffer.
* Supt./Mgr reported on the Legal Symposium hosted by CRA which he and Commissioner Quaine attended yesterday in Mt. Pleasant.

***Unfinished Business:***

After brief discussion a motion was made by Quaine (Catalano) to set the Head Mechanics wage at $24.35 for 2022, $24.70 for 2023 and $24.95 for 2024 and to set the Mechanics wage at $23.35 for 2022, $23.70 for 2023 and $23.95 for 2024.

Ayes: Catalano, Quaine

***New Business:***

A motion was made by Quaine (Catalano) to authorize a safety allowance of $300.00 for full time employees and $150.00 for part-time employees.

Ayes: Quaine, Catalano

Discussion was held regarding the Supt./Mgr salary and the Board reviewed his proposal.

A motion was made by Quaine (Catalano) to set the salary for Supt./Mgr Kowalski at $71,000 for 2022, $73,000 for 2023 and $76,000 for 2024.

Ayes: Catalano, Quaine

Discussion was held regarding the Clerk’s salary and the Board reviewed her request.

A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to set Clerk Wirgau’s salary at $52,923.00 for 2022, $54,923.00 for 2023 and $56,923.00 for 2024.

Ayes: Catalano, Quaine

Discussion was held regarding the Foremen salaries. Supt./Mgr will take a counter proposal back to them and report at the next Board meeting.

A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to set the Payroll Clerk wage at $19.85 for 2022, $20.70 for 2023 and $21.55 for 2024.

Ayes: Catalano, Quaine

Supt./Mgr Kowalski reviewed the proposed budget for 2022 and gave the Board a list of possible sealcoat and fog projects along with three possible road construction projects.

Chairman Catalano set a Public Hearing for Wednesday, December 29, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of accepting comments on the proposed 2022 Presque Isle County Road Commission Budget.

A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to authorize the installation of rumble strips at three intersections (M-211/N. Allis, 634/451 and 638/441).

Ayes: Quaine, Catalano

The next regular meetings of the Presque Isle County Road Commission Board of Commissioners are set for Wednesday, December 29, 2021 and Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

As there was no further business to come before the Board Chairman Catalano adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.