**Presque Isle County Road Commission**

**Minutes**

**January 17, 2024**

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:** Norman Quaine, Thomas Catalano, Robert Macomber

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

**Visitors:** Clifford Tollini-Presque Isle County Commissioner

***Re-Organizational Minutes:***

A motion was made by Macomber (Quaine) to approve minutes from January 3, 2024 re-organizational meeting as presented:

Ayes: All

***Minutes:***

A motion was made by Macomber (Quaine) to approve minutes from January 3, 2024 regular meeting as presented.

Ayes: All

***Accounts Payable:***

A motion was made by Quaine (Macomber) to approve the January 17, 2024 accounts payable in the amount of $317,247.81

Ayes: Catalano, Quaine, Macomber

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

* Supt./Mgr advised the Board the mini excavator will be delivered this week.
* Supt./Mgr updated the Board on the status of the employee off duty due to the substance abuse offense. The employee is currently undergoing counseling and at a minimum will be off work until February. Could possibly be longer.
* Davis Construction has requested a right of way permit to work on the Monaghan Creek Bridge (over Shubert Hwy) replacement.
* The new employee in Posen will start on January 22, 2024 and will be a grader operator and truck driver.
* Sam SanMiguel, Senior Safety and Risk Consultant for CRASIF, will be doing the following training for all employees in the spring:

Forklift certification-bucket lift training-flagging traffic control-brush chipper-and front-end loader training. Supt./Mgr believes it will be a good training session for all the employees.

* Clerk Wirgau is working with Berthiaume & Company, CPAs and Watkin/Ross for the 2023 financial audit.
* The winter season has arrived and Supt./Mgr commends the crews for doing a fantastic job. Posen was short staffed and Supt./Mgr was able to get our previous grader operator to work on Saturday to help with plowing.
* Fred Ellenberger, Onaway garage, has given retirement notice with a last day of February 2, 2024. We have a current Onaway employee that will take over the motor grader and we will be looking for a replacement Truck Driver.
* MDOT has requested an estimate to seal coat and fog one mile of M-65 through the Village of Posen. Item moved to new business
* Supt./Mgr presented a handout detailing recent work done by R.S. Scott & Associates in preparation for upcoming projects.

***Visitors:***

Three representatives from DTE and one representative from Barton Malow Company appeared before the Board to discuss the upcoming Little Trout Solar farm project in Belknap and Pulaski Townships.

A map of the proposed project was presented with roads possibly to be used indicated. Lengthy discussion was held covering items such as load weights, number of trucks hauling, time line for project, payment for damaged roads, employment possibility for locals, communication methods, permits, road use agreements and other areas of concern.

DTE will provide copies of road agreements used in Huron County and Montcalm County for Board review along with cut sheets and crossings for electrical and road access points.

Supt./Mgr will be contact person for Presque Isle County Road Commission.

Representatives thanked the Board and left the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Commissioner Tollini advised the GFL landfill will be operational another seven to eight years. Discussion was held regarding repairs to 5 Mile Highway with it being noted GFL appears to be open to participating financially in the road repair.

***Unfinished Business:***

None

***New Business:***

A motion was made by Macomber (Quaine) to authorize expenses for Supt./Mgr, Clerk and Commissioners to attend the 2024 Highway Conference and Road Show in Lansing, March 19-21, 2024.

Ayes: Catalano, Macomber, Quaine

A motion was made by Quaine (Macomber) to authorize purchase of one (1) Fecon FMX36 Mulcher Head from Michigan Cat for $24,202.94.

Ayes: Quaine, Macomber, Catalano

A motion was made by Macomber (Quaine) to authorize expenses for Clerk and Payroll Clerk to attend Cogitate software workshop at Emmet CRC on Tuesday, January 23, 2024.

Ayes: Catalano, Macomber, Quaine

A motion was made by Macomber (Quaine) to cast an affirmative vote for Jerry Heim for a three-year term on CRA Board of Directors representing the Northern Michigan Association of Road Commissions.

Ayes: All

A motion was made by Macomber (Quaine) to authorize Supt./Mgr to submit estimate to MDOT for seal coat and fog project in the Village of Posen on M-65, approximately one mile.

Ayes: Catalano, Macomber, Quaine

The next scheduled regular meetings of the Presque Isle County Road Commission are set for Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. and Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

Due to a scheduling conflict with the Highway Show, the March regular meetings will be March 6, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. and March 27, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Catalano adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.