**Presque Isle County Road Commission**

**Minutes**

**July 6, 2022**

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 Ronald Bischer called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

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

**Also Present**: Supt./Mgr David Kowalski, Clerk Anne Wirgau, County Road Engineer Mark Straley

**Visitors:** John Chappa, Presque Isle County Commissioner, Blaise Ryan, Charles Konarzewski, Michael Vogler, Joseph Ruczynski and daughter, Allan Berg, Mary Cumins

***Minutes:***

A motion was made by Quaine (Catalano) to approve minutes from June 15, 2022 regular meeting as presented.

Ayes: All

***Accounts Payable:***

A motion was made by Quaine (Catalano) to approve the July 6, 2022 accounts payable in the amount of $259,886.51

Ayes: Bischer, Catalano, Quaine

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

* Supt./Mgr informed the Board the culvert replacement on Airport Hwy is complete and came in under the estimate by $13,700.00.
* Michigan Paving was upset that the emulsion bid was awarded to Bit-Mat instead of them. Michigan Paving was .05 cents less per gallon on the oil used for seal coating but was .09 cents higher on fog oil and .50 cents more on durapatch oil per gallon. Supt./Mgr recommended using Bit-Mat rather than Michigan Paving due to their ordering system (email only) and inability to contact a person when having an issue with a late truck. Alcona County Road Commission did award their bid to Michigan Paving and after receiving one load of emulsion was told no more would be available until mid-August. The same type of thing happened to a southern county. Supt./Mgr thought the Board should be aware of the complaint.
* Mr. Blanton’s grading permit is ready for him to sign so the Road Commission can fix his driveway.
* Presque Isle County adopted Juneteenth as a holiday with pay. Presque Isle County Road Commission employees may request the same in the future.
* The culvert order is arriving today at a cost of $49,920.00.

***Visitors:***

Allan Berg appeared before the Board seeking a letter of support in his effort to gain a permit from EGLE (Environment, Great Lake and Energy – formerly DEQ) to relocate Lost Lake Road. Discussion was held regarding the 1/10th acre wetlands being impacted.

A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to authorize Supt./Mgr to draft a letter indicating the creation of a new road built to Road Commission standards would benefit the motoring public, be safer and aid in snow plowing efforts.

Ayes: Bischer, Quaine, Catalano

Attorney Blaise Ryan, representing Charles Konarzewski, Attorney Michael Vogler, representing TMN Properties, and Mary Cummins (TMN Properties owner) appeared before the Board to discuss the dead end of County Road 441. The road was not built on the deeded right of way and bisects Mr. Konarzewski’s property. Attorney Ryan had previously requested via correspondence possible options to resolve the issue. Lengthy discussion was held and covered topics of road relocation, abandonment, sale and or trade of property and road by user status. 53rd Circuit Court has ruled that Mr. Konarzewski is not to restrict TMN Properties access to their property. No Board action was taken.

Joseph Ruczynski, property owner on Orchard Point, appeared before the Board to discuss Orchard Point Road and lake access. Orchard Point Road was accepted into Presque Isle County Road Commission jurisdiction in 2003 and is a platted subdivision road. The plat indicates the roads and lake access lanes are dedicated to the use of the property owners with in the platted subdivision, therefore private roads. Mr. Ruczynski’s property is a metes and bounds description and not part of the plat even though the road is on his property. Mr. Ruczynski is requesting permission for lake access via the public park in the subdivision. Lengthy discussion was held. Board consensus was the road is not within our jurisdiction and should be removed from certified mileage. Mr. Ruczysnki intends to contact both an attorney and surveyor to resolve the issue.

***County Road Engineer Report:***

County Road Engineer Mark Straley updated the Board on the current status of the County Road 451 project due to be let in August possibly. An issue had to be resolved regarding culverts and the need to install cages on the culverts instead of normal flare ends.

Discussion was also held regarding the Lost Lake relocation project proposed and financed by Allan Berg.

A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to sign the title sheets for both County Road 451 and the Ocqueoc Road Force Account projects.

Ayes: Bischer, Quaine, Catalano

***Unfinished Business:***

Commissioner Catalano noted that 634 Hwy (Pepper Hill) is in need of maintenance. Supt./Mgr Kowalski indicated the section of road at the hill was on the list for work this summer.

***New Business:***

A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to request $10,000.00 reimbursement from MDOT for Engineering expenses and authorize Commissioners to sign Form 2044.

Ayes: Quaine, Bischer, Catalano

Clerk Wirgau provided the Board with 2nd Quarter Financial reports and briefly reviewed the reports. Minor budget amendments were proposed including MDOT TWA revenue received and additional funding for fuel expenses.

A motion was made by Quaine (Catalano) to amend the 2022 Budget as proposed (see attached).

Ayes: Bischer, Quaine, Catalano

A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to authorize purchase of IWorQ software for $5,200.00 which includes a one time set up cost of $2,000.00 with $3,200.00 annual cost. The software will be used to inventory culverts on the County and State road systems along with other road system related modules.

Ayes: Bischer, Quaine, Catalano

A motion was made by Quaine (Bischer) to authorize expenses for two employees to attend the 2022 MERS Conference in Traverse City September 26-27, 2022.

Ayes: Quaine, Catalano, Bischer

A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to authorize naming of a private road in Section 34, T33N-R8E, Presque Isle Township as “Schlamp Expressway”.

Ayes: All

A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to authorize expenses for Clerk to attend a Cogitate Software Workshop at Emmet County Road Commission on July 12, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Ayes: Bischer, Catalano, Quaine

Clerk Wirgau advised the Board the next Straits Area Council Meeting will be held Tuesday, August 2, 2022.

Chairman Bischer set the next regular meeting for Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. and Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

Chairman Bischer adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

