**Presque Isle County Road Commission**

**Minutes**

**March 16, 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. Vice Chairman Norman Quaine 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 Catalano (Quaine) to approve minutes from March 2, 2022 regular meeting as presented.

Ayes: All

***Accounts Payable:***

Motion by Catalano (Quaine) to approve the March 16, 2022 accounts payable in the amount of $173,627.23

Ayes: Catalano, Quaine

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

* Caleb Bade has accepted the full time position offered to him.
* Weight restrictions went into effect Monday, March 14, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.
* The latest updated MDOT Alpena TSC Road and Bridge Projects map was given to the Board. The Rainy River bridge on M-68 is scheduled to be let in 2024 and work to begin in 2024 or 2025. The suggested detour route is M-211 to N. Allis to Ocqueoc Road. MDOT has set aside some funding to complete portions of a chip and fog seal on parts of the detour route. Supt./Mgr is in the process of scheduling a meeting with Kevin Schaedig, MDOT Operations Engineer, to discuss options and the need for a high wire corridor along the detour route as well.
* A request for reconstruction of the Monaghan Creek Bridge on Shubert Highway is being considered. A question arose about the requested bridge width as federal aid cannot be used to construct a bicycle or pedestrian path. Supt./Mgr explained that the bridge deck currently is quite narrow. Some evidence was discovered in a 2009 Regional NEMCOG nonmotorized plan for Northeastern Michigan that included priority projects for Presque Isle County and a map of corridors that included a local route around Long Lake. Supt./Mgr reviewed the project list and only saw one project that could possibly include Shubert Highway. Supt./Mgr has had several conversations with Roger Safford, PE of HNTB Corporation (infrastructure design firm) about the bridge reconstruction and met him at the CRA conference last week. Will keep the Board updated as more information is obtained.
* The lunchroom flooring project is complete.
* The CRA Highway Conference was very informative. There is currently a fuel tax bill in the House that would freeze the Michigan .27 cent per gallon gas and diesel tax for six months starting April 1, 2022. Governor Whitmer is suggesting she is going to veto the bill. If it does go through the federal legislation supported by Whitmer would shift general funds to ensure there is no impact on road and bridge funding.
* Posen crew has been working on US-23 near Rayburn Highway with the mulching machine rented by MDOT.
* Final required amount of our contracted salt has been ordered and delivered.
* Supt./Mgr will be on vacation starting this afternoon until March 27, 2022. During this time Supt./Mgr will be conducting daily conversations with the Foremen and staff and taking calls as needed. Working with several townships regarding their possible road projects.
* Current road that are bonded include: Cobb Highway, 451 Hwy, Tomahawk Lake Highway, Silver Creek and S. Rogers Road.
* Posen Township has requested an estimate for a chip and fog seal of Elm Highway west of M-65, approximately 1 mile.
* MCRCSIP insurance is refunding the Road Commission for 57 vehicles with MCAA coverage on October 31, 2021 in the amount of $22,800.00
* An unsigned letter from a Posen Township citizen was read and discussed. No action taken as no name was provided.

***Unfinished Business:***

Bids for Unit # 0802 (Used 2008 Chevrolet Pickup) were opened.



A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to award the sale to high bidder, John Schalk, for $710.00. Ayes: Catalano, Quaine

***New Business:***

Correspondence from Michigan County Road Commission Self Insurance Pool (MCRCSIP) regarding Board Director openings was reviewed.

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Catalano and supported by Commissioner Quaine:

***Resolution 2022-04***

**Empower Authorization**

***WHEREAS***, The Presque Isle County Board of Road Commissioners does desire to continue doing business with Empower Retirement Company and

***NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED***, that the Presque Isle County Road Commission hereby authorizes Supt./Mgr David A. Kowalski, Clerk Anne M. Wirgau and Payroll Clerk Susan J. Paull (Primary Contact) to sign any and all necessary documents with Empower Retirement Company.

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,*** new authorized signers are required due to the retirement of Gerald Smigelski

Adopted: Ayes: Catalano, Quaine

Nays: None

A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to allow expenses for Clerk and Payroll Clerk to attend quarterly HR & Finance Association at Roscommon Road Commission on Tuesday, March 29, 2022.

Ayes: Quaine, Catalano

A motion was made by Catalano (Quaine) to advertise for bids for seasonal materials including Bituminous Emulsion, Dust Control and Cold Patch.

Ayes: Quaine, Catalano

The next regular meeting of the Board of Road Commissioners was set by Vice Chairman Quaine for Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. and Wednesday, April 20, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

As there was no further business Vice Chairman Quaine adjourned the meeting at 09:15 a.m.