**Presque Isle County Road Commission**

**Minutes**

**November 3, 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. Vice Chairman Ronald Bischer called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

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

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

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

***Minutes:***

A motion was made by Quaine (Bischer) to approve minutes from October 20, 2021 regular meeting.

Ayes: All

***Approval of Agenda:***

A motion was made by Quaine to approve the agenda for November 3, 2021. Motion died for lack of support.

***Accounts Payable:***

Motion by Quaine (Bischer) to approve the November 3, 2021 accounts payable in the amount of $140,969.54

Ayes: Bischer, Quaine

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

* Mr. Mertz was delivered a settlement agreement and release contract that was written by the MCRCSIP attorney Wendy Hardt. Mr. Mertz was directed to sign the form then he will get his last paycheck. Have not heard from him so far.
* Posen crew finished brush and tree removal on Grand Lake Blvd with the manlift. We had no complaints and Supt./Mgr sending advance notice of the project was very helpful. The other garages have work to do with it also.
* Environmental Excavating & contracting has finished the Grand Lake Hwy west of M-65 culvert replacement and did a very good job. The previous culvert was a plastic one that failed.
* Crews have been installing snow fence and blading roads.
* Two employees from the Posen garage have tested positive for Covid and are off on Covid leave. First time off for both. To date we have paid $21,986.95 in Emergency paid leave for covid illness.
* Presque Isle Sno-Trails Club has requested to use Freel Hwy and Millersburg Road to get across the river in Millersburg. Discussion was held with Supt./Mgr stating other road commissions require the groomers to have a right of way permit to groom in the road right of way. Gives the Road Commission some authority to stop the grooming if it causes certain types of issues such as water backups.
* The Road Commission Blue Care Network renewal contract has gone up 7.65%. We are under the hard cap and employees will not be required to copay health insurance premiums for 2022.
* The mini excavator lease is up with the following information on its activity:

Did work in 8 different townships for 53 hours.

Did work on 3 different State Trunkline Hwys for 62 hours

A total of 115 hours used. The three-month rental was $9,450.00, use for 12 months would be approximately 460 hours. Our equipment rental rate per hour was $82.00. 460 hours at $82.00 an hour is $37,720.00, half the price of a new machine.

* The Onaway Lean to is finished and has been inspected and approved by Building and Zoning. Total cost came to $20,001.07. $25,000.00 was budgeted for the project. A second lean to will be budgeted in Capital Outlay for 2022.
* Unit #0103 Tandem truck that was involved in an accident on September 21, 2021 is undergoing repairs and will be back in service by the end of November.
* Supt./Mgr, Commissioners Quaine and Bischer and Clerk Wirgau attended the Straits Area Council Meeting on Tuesday, November 2, 2021. A brief discussion was held regarding topics talked about at the meeting.
* Supt./Mgr will be attending the Rural Task Force meeting on Friday in Montmorency County.

***Unfinished Business:***

A motion was made by Quaine (Bischer) to advertise for a full-time maintenance employee position with a starting wage of $17.00 per hour.

Ayes: Quaine, Bischer

Clerk Wirgau provided Vice Chairman Bischer a summary of newspaper printing expenses paid from 2007 to 2017. Discussion of cost was held at the October 20, 2021 meeting.

***New Business:***

A motion was made by Quaine (Bischer) to authorize expenses for Clerk Wirgau to attend a Cogitate Users Group Workshop at Emmet County Road Commission on Tuesday, November 30, 2021.

Ayes: Bischer, Quaine

A motion was made by Quaine (Bischer) to authorize expenses for Supt./Mgr and Commissioner Quaine to attend a CRA training (Road Funding 101 and Legal Symposium) in Mt. Pleasant on Tuesday, December 7, 2021.

Ayes: Quaine, Bischer

The next regular meetings of the Board of Road Commissioners will be Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. and Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

As there was no further business Vice Chairman Bischer adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.