

Board of Road Commissioners Meeting
County Services Building
April 10, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Oceana County Board of Road Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Myers at the County Services Building at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Members present: Myers, Gowell, Forbes, Spitler.

Absent: Koch.

Staff present: Timmer, Holmes, Terryn, Balkema, Smith, Cribley, Bosch.

Visitors: Lee Hyslop, Crystal Township Supervisor; Lynne Cavazos, Pentwater Township Supervisor; Dave Leonard, Colfax Township Supervisor; Steve Fleming, Benona Township Supervisor; Garry McKeen, Parks and Recreation Commission; Mike Bosch, Hart Township resident; and Mark Trierweiler, Pentwater Township resident. **TOTAL: 7 visitors.**

AGENDA

Motion by Forbes and supported by Gowell to approve the following Agenda items for discussion.

1. Lansing Avenue (Pentwater Township) Abandonment
2. Orchard Drive (Hart Township) Abandonment
3. Public Access to and Video Recording on Road Commission Property
4. Extended Warranty on Two (2) Volvo Loaders
5. Utilize Road Commission Attorneys

Roll call vote: Forbes – yes; Gowell – yes; Spitler – yes; Myers – yes.

Absent: Koch.

Motion carried.

CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION

Lee Hyslop asked if there is a time frame for brining to start. Mark Timmer advised when brining begins the Road Commission brines in the order the brine contracts were received from the townships. Lee also inquired about E. Madison Road in Crystal Township. Mark Timmer noted this project will be bid out in June 2024.

Garry McKeen asked if there was any update on the SHPO issue with Marshville Dam project. Mark Timmer commented he has been in contact with WMSRDC on this issue.

Lynne Cavazos wanted to advise-remind everyone about the DTE closure at Longbridge Road and Monroe Road in Pentwater Township will begin on Monday, April 15, 2024. This closure will be for approximately four (4) weeks.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Spitler and supported by Gowell to approve the Minutes of the March 27, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

Roll call vote: Spitler – yes; Gowell – yes; Forbes – yes; Myers – yes.

Absent: Koch.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The Revenues & Expenditures Report and Cash Flow Statement were given to the Board members to review.

Motion by Gowell and supported by Forbes to approve the following Vouchers as presented.

Voucher No. 72350 (Accounts Payable)	\$ 405,473.36
Voucher No. 72351 (Payroll)	<u>\$ 87,523.98</u>
	\$ 492,997.34

Roll call vote: Gowell – yes; Forbes – yes; Spitler – yes; Myers – yes. Absent: Koch.
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 1 –LANSING AVENUE (PENTWATER TOWNSHIP) ABANDONMENT

Motion by Forbes and supported by Spitler to absolutely abandon and discontinue the last 940 feet of Lansing Avenue on the South end. This is West of Old US-31 BR (Pere Marquette Highway). The Board has determined that it is in the best interests of the public that this highway and/or portion of highway be absolutely abandoned and discontinued. Reference MCL 224.18, Section 18 (3). The Road Commission had certified .5 miles (or 2640 feet) and will continue to maintain the first 1700 feet West of Old US-31 BR (Pere Marquette Highway).

Roll call vote: Forbes – yes; Spitler – yes; Gowell – yes; Myers – yes. Absent: Koch.
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 – ORCHARD DRIVE (HART TOWNSHIP) ABANDONMENT

Motion by Forbes and supported by Spitler to absolutely abandon and discontinue both the private and public parts of Orchard Drive from 72nd Avenue West to the dead end for a total of .55 miles, including the 1081.5 feet that was adopted by resolution on July 25, 1962. The Board has determined that it is in the best interests of the public that this highway and/or portion of highway be absolutely abandoned and discontinued. Reference MCL 224.18, Section 18 (3).

Roll call vote: Forbes – yes; Spitler – yes; Gowell – yes; Myers – yes. Absent: Koch.
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 3 – PUBLIC ACCESS TO AND VIDEO RECORDING ON ROAD COMMISSION PROPERTY

Motion by Forbes and supported by Gowell to adopt a policy regarding public access to and video recording on Road Commission property.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Road Commissioners of Oceana County has determined that it is necessary and appropriate that the Road Commission adopt a policy, in keeping with principles of the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, to address public access to and video recording on Road Commission property, and,

WHEREAS, a right to photograph and video record in a public space, including the right to record public officials and employees, arguably exists under the First Amendment, subject to reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions,

WHEREAS, most areas of Road Commission property are considered limited access areas, which are not generally open to or occupied by the public, and, therefore, are not subject to any right to photograph or video record under the First Amendment, but the designated waiting or reception areas in the Road Commission building during the hours in which the building is open to the public and any room being used for a meeting of a public body open to the public under the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.261 *et seq*, are considered public areas that are generally open to general public access and occupancy and arguably subject to a right to photograph or video record,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Road Commissioners of Oceana County hereby approves and adopts the attached Policy Regarding Public Access to and Video Recording on Road Commission Property.

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Roll call vote: Forbes – yes; Gowell – yes; Spitler – yes; Myers – yes.
Motion carried.

Absent: Koch.

The following extended warranty quotes were received from Alta Equipment Group, Inc. for Volvo Loaders L50 and L51.

**36 month (3 year) / 1,500 hours	
Powertrain	\$ 6,245.00 each
Powertrain & Hydraulics	\$ 7,351.00 each
Powertrain, Hydraulics and Components	\$ 8,291.00 each
Complete Machine	\$10,115.00 each
**48 month (4 year) / 2,000 hours	
Powertrain	\$ 7,100.00 each
Powertrain & Hydraulics	\$ 8,400.00 each
Powertrain, Hydraulics and Components	\$ 9,340.00 each
Complete Machine	\$11,400.00 each
**60 month (5 year) / 2,500 hours	
Powertrain	\$ 8,200.00 each
Powertrain & Hydraulics	\$ 9,700.00 each
Powertrain, Hydraulics and Components	\$10,870.00 each
Complete Machine	\$15,540.00 each

Shop Foreman Dan Terryn recommends the 60 month (5 year) / 2,500 hours Complete Machine warranty on both Volvo Loaders L50 and L51.

RESOLUTION NO. 4 – EXTENDED WARRANTY TWO (2) ON VOLVO LOADERS

Motion by Forbes and supported by Gowell to purchase the 60 month (5 year) / 2,500 hours Complete Machine extended warranty for Volvo Loaders L50 and L51 from Alta Equipment Group Inc. for the amount of \$15,540.00 per loader.

Roll call vote: Forbes – yes; Gowell – yes; Spitler – yes; Myers – yes.

Absent: Koch.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 5 – UTILIZE ROAD COMMISSION ATTORNEYS

Motion by Forbes and supported Gowell to use as Road Commission Attorneys Edward McNeely, William Henn, Wendy Hardt, and other attorneys as employed, utilized or recommended by the County Road Association (CRA), MCRCSIP, CRASIF and those Managing Director determines to be in the best interest of the Road Commission.

Roll call vote: Forbes – yes; Gowell – yes; Spitler – yes; Myers – yes.

Absent: Koch.

Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

The State crew has been doing snow and ice removal, roadside cleanup, patching various routes, and tree trimming.

The M-20 and Hart crews patched various roads with the hot box, snow and ice removal, graded gravels, tree trimming, and prep work for paving.

Traffic Services has worked on asset management, Miss Digs, Road Soft, sign repairs, street name signs, supervised the sign crew, permits, closures and detours, upgraded signs in Elbridge Township, and Shelby Township Street name sign upgrade (Shelby Township is paying for these upgrades).

Mark Timmer reviewed bills and finances with the Finance/HR Director, Clerk and Deputy Clerk, met with Road Engineer, worked on township quotes, met with township officials, had pre-construction meeting for 192nd Avenue in Greenwood Township (this project will begin on April 15, 2024 and take approximately two (2) months....this also includes a bridge rehab), received a letter to proceed from MDOT on Shelby Road/1st Street resurfacing project, and met with Shelby Village Interim Manager.

Mark recently attended the CRA (County Road Association) Annual Highway Conference and Road Show. At this conference Oceana County Road Commission received three (3) IMPRESS awards from CRA.

****Road Maintenance Coordinator, Jeff Balkema spoke on the 1st award for OPERATIONS****

The Road Commission partnered with Shelby Township to fix some uneven gravel roads to keep the aggregate from being washed out and forming trenches on the sides of its roads. To combat these issues, the Road Commission utilized 22A slag on the roads and found great success.

****North County Foreman, Randy Smith spoke on the 2nd award for COLLABORATION****

The Road Commission recently partnered with Hart Township and Snider Farms to fix a main road to the farm. Snider Farms, a big producer of corn, contributed significant funds and out-of-pocket to see the project completed, improving their access to the market.

****Sign-Safety Coordinator, Jeremi Bosch spoke on the 3rd award for COMMUNIATION****

In the last year the Road Commission brought back in-person safety talks. The Road Commission bought each employee a 3-ring binder to take notes and ask questions for these meeting. This modality allows employees to interact with each other and share personal safety stories. In 2023 the Road Commission received four (4) safety awards.

Commissioner Forbes commented the Road Commission is fortunate to have four (4) leaders (Mark Timmer, Jeff Balkema, Randy Smith, and Jeremi Bosch).

Mark Timmer also introduced Engineer Technician, Austin Cribley and thanked him for his effort.

Chairman Myers asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. There being none, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

LORI L. HOLMES
Finance/HR Director

WILLIAM MYERS
Chairman

APRIL 24, 2024

DATE