

## KEWEENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Minutes

March 15, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners was held at their offices in Mohawk, Michigan on March 15, 2010.

Present: Commissioners Bjorn, McEvers and Muljo

Guest: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 P.M.

The minutes of the February 9, 2010 regular meeting were read and approved as read on a motion by Commissioner Muljo and support from Commissioner McEvers.

Vouchers #28213, #28214 and Master Vendor Voucher #3-2010 in the total amount of \$182843.04 were audited by the Commissioners and the Master Vendor Voucher was signed. Commissioner Muljo moved to pay the bills. Commissioner McEvers supported the motion. The motion carried.

The financial statement was read, discussed and approved on a motion by Commissioner Muljo and support from Commissioner McEvers.

The Engineer informed the Board that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has approved our National Scenic Byway project for Brockway Mountain Drive. When funding is approved, a work authorization will be issued and work can begin on the Copper Harbor Overlook Park, scenic turnouts, rock wall restoration and interpretive signing. We will be working with MDOT, WUPPDR and the KNHP on this project.

The Engineer informed the Board that GreenSand Corporation is continuing to move forward with their project in Gay. A pilot study will be run sometime this spring with the removal of approximately 100 tons of stamp sand for further testing by interested building material manufacturers.

The Engineer gave the Board an update of the issues discussed at the CRAM Annual Meeting held in Lansing last week, including the positions of the legislature and governor on the introduction of bills addressing an increase in the fuel tax to provide an increase in funding for Michigan's failing road system.

The Engineer informed the Board of the continuing advancement of the MDOT Great Sand Bay Restoration and Improvement Project. Final design will be completed this year with property acquisition later this year and construction in 2011. Included will be stairs to the beach at the west and east turnouts and an off highway parking area with restroom at the east area.

The Engineer informed the Board that the Cliff Mine Site Restoration Project will most likely be designed this summer and constructed in 2011. A meeting will be held later this month which will include a review of the preliminary plan and a discussion of the regulatory permitting issues.

The Engineer informed the Board of the annual C.R.A.S.I.F. safety seminar in Baraga, Wednesday May 5<sup>th</sup>. Plans were made for the safety committee to attend.

The Board discussed the Road Commissioners' Seminar in Traverse City, April 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>. Plans were made to attend.

The Board discussed the need for new tandem dump trucks and the results of the presentation on truck emissions at the UPRBA winter meeting. Given the condition of the deteriorating dump truck fleet and the current difficult times financially, Commissioner Muljo motioned to purchase 1 new tandem dump truck with advanced EGR emissions, with a Wausau plow/wing/underbody scraper package. A purchase strategy will be determined upon delivery and may include MTF funds, manufacturer's financing, local bank financing and/or any combination of these options. Commissioner McEvers supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer informed the Board of the promotion of Chris Cronenworth to the maintenance foreman position. The new foreman proposed to upgrade his personal cell phone to unlimited minutes and split the monthly fee with KCRC. This would save KCRC money as well as the foreman having to carry only one cell phone. Commissioner McEvers motioned to accept this proposal. Commissioner Muljo supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Board received correspondence from WUPPDR requesting broadband internet service expansion in the rural areas. The Board discussed the matter and Commissioner McEvers motioned KCRC enthusiastically supports the upgrade of improved broadband internet service for rural western U.P. areas and directed the Engineer to send a letter of support. Commissioner Muljo supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer reported that a meeting was held recently with the KNHP to discuss the making and installation of Keweenaw Heritage Sites roadside signs. Further meetings will be held to determine exact details of the proposed sign program and the extent of KCRC's involvement.

Other items of routine business were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 P.M.

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Eric Bjorn, Chairman

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Gregg M. Patrick, Engineer