

KEWEENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Minutes

May 8, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners was held at the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge in Copper Harbor, Michigan on May 8, 2012.

Present: Commissioners McEvers, Waananen & Jaaskelainen

Guest: Don Piche, Ken Rowe, Jacob Garrow

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 P.M

The minutes of the April 12, 2012 regular meeting and the April 25, 2012 special were read and approved as read on a motion by Commissioner Waananen and support from Commissioner Jaaskelainen.

Vouchers #282635, #28266 and Master Vendor Vouchers #8-2012 and #9-2012, in the total amount of \$215,581.99 were audited by the Commissioners and the Master Vendor Voucher was signed. Commissioner Waananen moved to pay the bills. Commissioner Jaaskelainen supported the motion. The motion carried

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

Ken Rowe, Road Commission Director of Finance, presented the final Act 51 annual report and audit report to the Board and provided a summary of their contents.

The 2011-2012 winter maintenance costs were presented to the Board. The total winter maintenance cost was \$593,530, with costs to complete winter maintenance down \$124,000 over last year. This can be attributed to a reduction in overtime hours needed for winter maintenance this year despite receiving 30 inches more of snow than last year. The Board directed the Engineer to continue evaluating all winter maintenance options again for next year.

The Engineer informed the Board about the upcoming projects for the summer of 2012. The Copper Harbor Scenic Overlook Park is starting this week. The Eagle Harbor Road paving and safety projects will be completed this summer, most likely June or July. The Gratiot River Bridge deck will be refurbished by removing the existing deck and adding a waterproof membrane. Also, there may be additional work to complete for MDOT above and beyond the summer maintenance contract work. The Board discussed the projects and Commissioner Jaaskelainen motioned to adopt a resolution authorizing the Chairman to sign the MDOT contracts for the safety projects. Commissioner Waananen supported the motion. The motion carried.

The U.P. Road Builder's summer meeting will be June 13-14, in Sault Ste Marie. Plans were made to attend.

The MCRC SIP annual meeting is scheduled for July 18-19 in Mt. Pleasant. Commissioner Waananen motioned to designate the Engineer as the voting delegate for Keweenaw County and the Director of Finance designated as the alternate voting delegate. Commissioner Jaaskelainen supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer presented the Board with cost information on the annual dust control program. After reviewing the 2012 material costs for dust control using either PEP at \$27,000, as previously used, or CaCl (38% solution) at \$8,000, the savings were significant enough to make the switch to CaCl. While this year roadway grinding and grading will be required, future years will only require grading, reducing costs even further. Also, with CaCl, roads can still be graded during the summer, which cannot be done when PEP is applied and additional applications can be done at anytime. Generally, CaCl takes a few years to build up, but is effective immediately. If a dry summer occurs, an additional application may be necessary. Due to the cost of the program and reduced funding levels, the Board is considering providing the service in a similar way as Houghton County and most other counties in the State, where the citizens pay Road Commission for the dust treatment in front of the own homes if they choose to take part in the program. Other alternatives include approaching Townships with the option of providing a chip seal surface for existing aggregate road surfaces that meet the base requirements to support a chip seal without a severe spring break up. The Foreman anticipated the roads would be prepared in the next week or two and dust suppressant application would be completed by June 3rd, weather and work load dependent.

The Board reviewed and discussed the Engineering Reimbursement form provided by MDOT. Commissioner Jaaskelainen moved to authorize the Chairman and Board Members to sign and submit the form. Commissioner Waananen supported the motion. The motion carried.

Other items of routine business were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Mark McEvers, Chairman

Gregg M. Patrick, Engineer