

KEWEENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Minutes

December 10, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners was held at their offices in Mohawk, Michigan on December 10, 2009.

Present: Commissioners Bjorn, McEvers and Muljo

Guest: Randy Eckloff, Ken Rowe, Steve Defour

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M.

The minutes of the November 12, 2009 regular meeting were read and approved as read on a motion by Commissioner McEvers and support from Commissioner Muljo.

Vouchers #28207, #28208 and Master Vendor Vouchers #13-2009 and #14-2009 in the total amount of \$151,759.65 were audited by the Commissioners and the Master Vendor Vouchers was signed. Commissioner McEvers moved to pay the bills. Commissioner Muljo supported the motion. The motion carried.

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

Commissioner Bjorn opened the 2010 Annual Budget Hearing. The Engineer and Director of Finance presented the Board the revised 2009 budget. Commissioner McEvers motioned to adopt the amended 2008 budget as presented, with a total revenue of \$2,128,943.00 and total expenditures of \$2,062,000.00. Commissioner Muljo supported the motion. The motion carried. The proposed 2010 budget was presented, reviewed and discussed. Commissioner McEvers motioned to adopt the 2010 budget as presented. Commissioner Muljo supported the motion. The motion was carried. The annual budget hearing was closed.

The Engineer informed the Board that a meeting of the Keweenaw County Local Task Force and Rural Task Force 13A will not be required this year. This is per phone conversations and correspondence with Susan Richardson, MDOT planning. The reasons for this include there are no changes to the current 2010 -2013 plan and federal funding is currently being funded through bi-monthly extensions of the previous 6 year SAFETY-LU transportation funding program. Congress is still working on the next long term federal transportation funding bill and several options are being discussed at the committee levels. If future funding levels increase or decrease, task force meetings may be required.

The next meeting of the Great Lakes Council will be Thursday, January 7, 2010. Plans were made to attend.

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed meeting dates for 2010. Commissioner Muljo moved to adopt the meeting dates as presented. Commissioner McEvers supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer informed the Board that the preliminary maintenance contract MDOT Commission Audit for 2008 is complete and the findings indicate that KCRC owes MDOT approximately \$50,000.00. This is due mainly to the fluctuations in equipment rental rates and fringe benefit rates, and the lack of any new or recently purchased equipment, which results in higher amounts of depreciation that would be available to offset the MDOT equipment advance.

The Engineer informed the Board that two of the tandem dump trucks used for winter maintenance are 4 years past their normal life cycle and breakdowns due to operating in a salty (corrosive) environment are happening more frequently. Due to the reduction in funding over the last several years, these trucks have not been replaced when they normally should be, after approximately 5 years of winter service. The Board will consider financing the purchase of a new tandem dump truck in 2010, based on financing options, total cost and the new 2010 emission requirements. These items will be among the topics presented at the UPRBA winter meeting in February.

The Engineer informed the Board of the generator obtained by Jack Dueweke, Houghton/Keweenaw County Emergency Coordinator, for Keweenaw County Sheriff's Department. As stated in the County's Emergency Plan, KCRC is the designated fuel depot in times of emergency that may include an extended power outage. KCRC has been unable to get a Homeland Security grant to obtain a generator to date. KCRC has stored the mobile 15,000 watt generator for a year and was given permission by both the Sheriff and the Emergency Coordinator to list the generator, trailer and toolbox as a contribution to the Road Commission. This would allow the Road Commission to store, maintain and operate the generator when needed. The main shop building will be wired with a transfer switch and necessary sub-panels in order to operate essential equipment and lighting within the building and also the fuel pumps during lengthy power outage. The Sheriff's Department and Emergency Coordinator will have access to the generator for their use whenever they need it.

The Director of Finance and Assistant Engineer/Surveyor requested a formal vacation schedule for management employees. They were both given two weeks of vacation when initially hired with no formal schedule set beyond. The Engineer negotiated a vacation schedule at the time of hiring, which equated to being inserted into the Employees' Association Agreement vacation schedule at the 8 year point. A proposed management vacation schedule was presented for the Board's review and discussion. Commissioner McEvers motioned to adopt the management vacation schedule as presented, applicable to the Director of Finance and Assistant Engineer/Surveyor. Commissioner Muljo supported the motion. The motion carried. The management vacation schedule will be included in a management agreement that will be developed for negotiations next fall.

Other items of routine business were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M