

KEWEENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Minutes

November 9, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners was held at their offices in Mohawk, Michigan on November 9, 2017.

Present: Commissioners Karvonen, Schaefer & Waananen

Guest: Ken Rowe, Don Piche

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM

The minutes of the October 10, 2017 regular meeting were read and approved on a motion by Commissioner Schaefer and support from Commissioner Waananen.

Vouchers #28397, #28398 and Master Vendor Vouchers #23-2017 and #24-2017 in the total amount of \$173,227.48 were audited by the Commissioners and the Master Vendor Voucher was signed. Commissioner Waananen moved to pay the bills. Commissioner Schaefer supported the motion. The motion carried.

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

The Engineer presented to the Board the Keweenaw County Local Task Force Transportation Improvement Plan for 2018 - 2022 for federal and state aid. The public meeting for formal adoption of the plan will be set as soon as the State "D" funding amounts are received from MDOT, typically within the next few weeks. Commission Waananen motioned to adopt the plan and present for approval by the Keweenaw County Local Transportation Task Force. Commissioner Schaefer supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer informed the Board of the ongoing erosion along the Gay Lac La Belle Road, north of Little Betsy, caused by the unusually high water levels of Lake Superior. Action was during the October 27th storm to preserve the road and it will continue to be monitored. Various plans for future preservation or relocating the road inland were discussed. If necessary, the road would be closed for public safety.

The Engineer discussed increasing the dollar amount of crushing at the Central property from \$15,000 to \$30,000. This would allow for more material in comparison to the mobilization costs. Commissioner Waananen motioned to authorize the Engineer to develop a bid package for crushing aggregate material in 2018 at the Central property, up to \$30,000. Commissioner Schaefer supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer and Finance Director discussed the health insurance increase with the Board. At 3.45%, the increase falls below the 5% opener, therefore the 3rd year of the 3 year contract agreement goes into effect. Commissioner Waananen motioned to accept the Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance package and 3.45% increase and complete the 3rd year of the contract. Commissioner Schaefer supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer and Finance Director informed the Board that the Employees Expectations Policy, modeled after Marquette County Road Commissions, has been presented and discussed with all of the employees. The policy includes attendance, performance, behavior and safety. Another presentation will be given again in the future and all employees will sign off on the policy.

The Engineer informed the Board that draft legislation has been prepared by Representative Scott Dianda for increasing the length of installment loans for road commissions from 15 years to 30 years. Senator Tom Casperson is aware of the issue and is offering his full support. This will benefit all road commissions in need of new or upgraded facilities that do not have the necessary fund balances to undertake such projects.

The Engineer informed the Board that CRASIF has come out with annual safety awards. KCRC is among a few counties statewide to safety honor roll for 7 straight years.

The Engineer and the Board discussed the winter maintenance on specific routes for 2017/2018. Segments of Phoenix Farms Road, Tukku's Farm Road, and Cliff Drive will not be plowed this year in order to reduce winter maintenance costs. West Ballman Street in Fulton will not be plowed as well, similar to the previous winters.

Other items of routine business were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

John Karvonen, Chairman

Gregg M. Patrick, Engineer