

KEWEENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Minutes

September 10, 2009

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

Present: Commissioners Bjorn, McEvers and Muljo

Guest: Randy Eckloff

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

The minutes of the August 13, 2009 regular meeting were read and approved as read on a motion by Commissioner McEvers and support from Commissioner Muljo.

Vouchers #28201, #28202 and Master Vendor Voucher #10-2009 in the total amount of \$145,635.84 were audited by the Commissioners and the Master Vendor Voucher 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.

The Board reviewed and discussed the actuarial services agreement from Burnham and Flower in order to comply with the GASB 45 Other Post Retirement Benefits (OPEB) requirements. Commissioner Muljo motioned to accept the agreement as presented and authorize the chairman to sign the document. Commissioner McEvers supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Superintendents' Seminar is scheduled for September 30 in Sault Ste. Marie. Plans were made to attend.

The Engineer presented the new MDOT maintenance contract to Board and informed them that the CRAM negotiating committee has endorsed full acceptance of the contract.

Upon review and discussion, Commissioner Muljo motioned to adopt a resolution to accept the contract and authorize the chairman to sign the contract. Commissioner McEvers supported the motion. The motion carried.

The next Great Lakes Council meeting will be held in Baraga on Thursday, September 17. Plans were made to attend.

The Engineer informed the Board of a request from Keweenaw Trail Services, Inc. to move the trail coming into Copper Harbor from Brockway Mountain Drive to 9th street, across M-26 and onto Bernard Street. The previously used trail has been closed by the private landowners. This would remove the snowmobiles from M-26 and US-41, providing a little more safety than previous years. The Board directed the Engineer to meet with Keweenaw Trail Services to determine the actual location within the right-of-way they would like to use and discuss the proposed use with the Grant Township Supervisor and the Sheriff. In addition, Keweenaw Trail Services would like to use the right-of-way at the bottom of Lac La Belle hill on the Bete de Gris Road for the same purpose, including installing a retaining wall and additional guard rail. The Board directed the Engineer to meet with them and discuss this proposal as well.

The Engineer informed the Board that an additional 3 to 4 employees would be needed this winter to continue with the current winter maintenance program. This is due to past retiree's not being replaced and anticipating another loss due to retirement this winter. The Board discussed several options from full time to part time wingman and their effects on the budget. Commissioner McEvers motioned to promote/hire current part time employee Bill Lahti to a full time truck driver's position, with the pay scale to be determined in conjunction with the Employees' Association. Commissioner Muljo supported the motion. The motion carried. Commissioner Bjorn abstained from voting. In a separate action on the manpower needs, Commissioner McEvers motioned to advertise for 4 temporary, seasonal truck drivers at \$15.00/hour, with a current Class B CDL, to be employed 40 hours per week, from November 30, 2009 to April 2, 2010, weather dependent. Commissioner Muljo supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer informed the Board that the Board has historically adopted the MERS E COLA plan for retirees every 5 years, which is now due. However, due to a new rule that went into effect in July 2009, no changes are allowed to any MERS plan unless the plan is funded at a minimum of 80%. KCRC is currently at 76% and to achieve 80%, KCRC would be required to send a MERS a check for \$191,000. The Board declined to action on this matter at this time due to budget concerns.

Other items of routine business were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.