

APPROVED MINUTES
ALGER COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
April 3, 2023
4:00 p.m.

Pursuant to resolution, the Regular Meeting of the Alger County Road Commission was held at the Road Commission Office. The meeting was called to order by Chair Jack Hubbard with the following members present: Pete Heyrman , Jack Hubbard, & Marci Taskey. Absent: None.

Also present: Engineer/Manager, Robert Lindbeck, Dan Rushford, Jon Rondeau, Jim Rondeau, Mickey Rondeau, Tim Swajanen, Heidi Swajanen, Brice Burge, Brian Menghini, & Jeff Hiner.

APPROVAL/CHANGES TO AGENDA

A motion was made by Taskey to approve the agenda as presented. Supported by Heyrman. Ayes: Heyrman, Taskey, & Hubbard. Nays: None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 03/20/23 REGULAR MEETING

Taskey made a motion to approve the minutes from the 03/20/23 Regular meeting as presented. Supported by Heyrman. Ayes: Taskey, Hubbard, Heyrman. Nays: None. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Heyrman to approve the Accounts Payable, which is due in the March in the amount of \$186,316.75 and to authorize payment when funds are available. Supported by Taskey. Ayes: Heyrman, Taskey & Hubbard. Nays: None. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ENGINEER/MANAGER REPORT

MDOT Maintenance Work:
Winter maintenance continues.

State Bridge Bundling Options for Woodland Road Bridge and Kivamaki Road Bridge:
The Woodland Bridge removal has been advanced to a September 1, 2023 bid letting. Preliminary plans have not yet been completed. Both projects are under design and State Historic Preservation (SHPO) review.

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H-58 over the Sucker River Bridge:

Preliminary plans include a 40-foot span precast concrete arch bridge structure. Final plans and advertisement will likely occur in the fall of 2023, with construction in 2024.

Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Grant:

The MDOT Agreement will be forthcoming. The project is now scheduled for a May bid letting. Obligation of funds was delayed between the Federal Highway Administration and Eastern Federal Lands. Although obligation was requested in January, it did not occur until March 27th. As a result of the later bid, the project completion date has been extended an additional month to September 29th.

2022 Plow Trucks:

Our first truck is targeted for April 15th completion, and the second truck estimated to be in service May. We will strategize to use these new trucks only on highway shoulder maintenance for the summer.

2023 Federal Aid Buyout (Eben-Trenary Road, extending 2.10-miles south from M-94):

I will be in contact with Payne & Dolan to develop a progress schedule and approved Asphalt mix design.

H-58 Speed Study, Grand Marais:

Burt Township has formally requested a re-evaluation of the speed study, which was performed in 2010. The township also wishes to expand the speed study, to the East. Speed studies are conducted by the Michigan State Police, provided the Township and Road Commission agree to proceed. Dan Verlin, of MSP, would proceed with the analysis, when winter conditions subside. I recommend that the Road Commission Board direct me to provide written confirmation that the Road Commission supports the speed analysis.

1-Ton Pickup Chassis (Grand Marais Foreman vehicle):

Our new 1-ton pickup has been delivered to Truck & Trailer Specialties in Boyne Falls. The dump body, tool box, and top light will be installed in the same configuration as the current unit. The existing Grand Marais foreman truck will be transferred to the Limestone fleet, as part of our long-term equipment plan strategy.

County Road Association Legislative Conference:

Commissioners Hubbard, Taskey, and I attended the March 21-23 conference in Lansing. We met with our legislators and networked with Road Commissions from around the state. The key topic is capturing road revenue with the projected increase in electric vehicles. Michigan may need to accelerate the transition of MTF funding from fuel tax to a vehicle miles travelled system.

County Road Association (CRA) Board of Directors Seat:

During the annual conference, the ballots were totaled and I was officially elected as one of the 12 Board of Directors for the CRA. I contacted the incoming president of the association and resigned from the Association's Engineering Committee. Many of the Board meeting times are scheduled concurrently with the Engineering Committee meetings. It is my understanding that being elected as a board member will add one or two meetings annually, over the typical committee meetings that I am accustomed to. The seat I was elected to is a 3-year board position.

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Spring Safety Meeting:

Our Safety and Operations Meeting will be held on April 21st. The County Road Association Self Insurance Fund (CRASIF) specialist has worked with me to coordinate a program for that day. An agenda is attached. As always, the crews from all three shops will meet in Munising.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

H-58 SPEED STUDY

Burt Township had asked for a speed study on two sections of H-58. In order to conduct a speed study performed by the Michigan State Police, the Alger County Road Commission must authorize it. A motion was made by Taskey to direct the Engineer-Manager to request a speed study. Supported by Heyrman. Ayes: Heyrman, Taskey, & Hubbard. Nays: None. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brian Menghini wanted to thank us for providing meeting minutes on our website, but also wanted to say thanks to the crew for their hard work during the last storm. He also mentioned that he would like the agenda for each board meeting emailed to him.

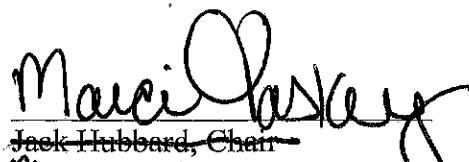
Jim Rondeau had a handout of pictures showing the ice caves parking situation before the parking lot and after the parking lot, including peak weekends (Michigan Ice Fest, U.P. 200, and Trenary Outhouse Classic) showing how well things have improved. He had asked about extending our agreement to plow their road. Lindbeck recommended we wait until after spring breakup and reevaluate the situation.

COMMISSIONER TOPICS

Taskey wanted to congratulate Mr. Lindbeck on his election with the County Road Association Board. It shows that he is respected across the Upper Peninsula and the State.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:22 PM.


~~Jack Hubbard, Chair~~
Marci Taskey
Vice Chair


Daniel Rushford, Administrative Assistant