

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES**  
**ALGER COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**October 16, 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 Marci Taskey with the following members present: Pete Heyrman & John Hermann. Absent: Marci Taskey.

Also present: Engineer/Manager, Robert Lindbeck, Finance Director Daniel Rushford, C.J. Custard, Shane Bugg, Dan Carlson & Brian Menghini.

**APPROVAL/CHANGES TO AGENDA**

A motion was made by Pete Heryman to approve the agenda. Supported by John Hermann. Ayes: Pete Heyrman & John Hermann. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES 10/02/23 REGULAR MEETING**

A motion was made by John Hermann to approve the minutes from the 10/02/23 Regular meeting. Supported by Pete Heyrman. Ayes: Pete Heyrman & John Hermann. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

A motion was made by John Hermann to approve the Accounts Payable, which is due in the October in the amount of \$237,009.58 and to authorize payment when funds are available. Supported by Pete Heyrman. Ayes: Pete Heyrman & John Hermann. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Brian Menghini wanted to thank us for having the meeting minutes up to date on our website.

**ENGINEER/MANAGER REPORT**

**MDOT Maintenance Work:**

Crews are approved for delineator installation. Roadside park closures are scheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup>.

**State Bridge Bundling Options for Woodland Road Bridge and Kivamaki Road Bridge:**

The planning process continues for both structures, with construction delayed beyond 2023.

October 16, 2023  
Regular Meeting Minutes

**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 spring of 2024.

**Chapel Road Construction Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Grant:**

Bacco Construction plans to perform clearing this fall. Construction will begin, after weight restrictions are removed in 2024. The project completion date is September 27, 2024. An updated State/Local Contract Agreement has arrived. This amendment adjusts the FLAP funding to cover all of construction costs, up to the awarded amount. I recommend the Board pass a resolution to approve the Agreement, naming Robert L. Lindbeck, Engineer-Manager, to sign electronically.

**Rapid River Truck Trail Pavement Reconstruction 2024:**

Paving bids will be advertised in February of 2024. The project has been estimated at \$577,000. This work will include crushing, shaping, and paving the 2-mile section of pot-holed pavement extending south from M-94.

**William Hill Road and Sandy Lane (Burt Township Projects):**

William Hill Road is COMPLETE. We are projected to combine forces for the placement and grading of the gravel on Sandy Lane, during the week of October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**AuTrain Township 2024 Project Agreement(s):**

The Township has indicated that they would like to proceed with the 1.2-mile section of 16 Mile Lake Road reconstruction, as shown on their 5-year plan. They also requested a Contract Agreement for replacing the pot-holed pavement on Ridge Road, which will extend 600-feet from the highway approach. I recommend that the Road Commission approves both Agreements and authorizes the Engineer-Manager and Finance Director to sign.

**Luce County Road 407 Detour and Haul Route via H-58:**

As directed by the Board, I have travelled H-58 east from M-77 with a video camera. Some minor damage to the pavement has occurred. I have written a second email to the Luce County Road Commission Engineer-Manager, Mr. Mike McTiver. The first correspondence explained our concerns for the roadway, while the October 11<sup>th</sup> email demands that the Alger County Road Commission receives a written acknowledgment from Luce County pledging to make our County whole for the haul route and detour damage.

**2024 Foreman Pickups:**

The 5-year Equipment plan shows two foreman patrol pickups for Munising and Limestone. I recommend that we continue purchasing through the Michigan Extended Purchase Agreement program, MIDEAL. If I order now, it is estimated that the trucks would be delivered within 6-months. I request that the Board approves me ordering these trucks immediately.

**5-Year Plan for Federal Funds:**

The Road Commission 5-Year Plan must be updated to be fiscally constrained in 2027. This plan must be updated by the Board, prior to the October 23<sup>rd</sup> Alger County Task Force Meeting. I have prepared an updated plan for Board review and comment. I suggest approval of this plan, which adds the section of H-58 for 2025 (near Rosemund Road). H-58 is highly travelled and the condition of this section has deteriorated substantially, over the past three years. This necessitates the less-travelled Buckhorn Road, be moved to the illustrative list.

October 16, 2023  
Regular Meeting Minutes

**Harju Road Pit Purchase Offer:**

The Alger County Road Commission submitted a written offer to purchase the Harju Road fill source property, which contains nearly 40 acres, bordering M67 and Harju Road. I have continued to request updates from Manulife, (formerly Hancock Forest Management). Due to a change in personnel, Patrick Gibson is no longer the real estate contact for the company. I have been referred to Scott Forehand. I believe that our original offer of \$1,300 per acre was quite reasonable, at the time. My most recent correspondence from October 5<sup>th</sup>, explains that the sale of the properties we are interested in has a nested ownership. Within Manulife, a public pension fund holds the title. Mr. Forehand advised me that it would best to first pursue the Harju Road (36 +/- acres) immediately, and that the last transaction that was approved by the public pension fund was \$2,200 per acre. He explained that an offer of \$2,200 would be considered a reasonable offer and that I must follow the Guidelines for Unsolicited Offers. I have attached correspondence, regarding this matter (including the Guidelines for Unsolicited Offers). I recommend that the Road Commission authorizes the Engineer-Manager to follow the Guidelines to submit a written offer for the \$2,200 per acre immediately.

**2024 H-58 Project (Miners Castle Road to 1.5 miles East):**

I have completed design of this 2024 Federal Aid project. It is my goal to secure a February 2024 bid letting for this project.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**HARJU ROAD PIT PURCHASE OFFER**

After discussing an offer on the pit on Harju Rd, John Herrmann asked for Lindbeck to check with zoning and to research the cost to have it taken out of CFA. This will be placed on the agenda for November 6, 2023 after further research under old business.

**CHAPEL ROAD AGREEMENT AMENDMENT 23-5164**

A motion was made by Pete Heyrman to amend the Chapel Road Agreement. Supported by John Herrmann. Ayes: Pete Heyrman & John Herrmann. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**AU TRAIN TOWNSHIP AGREEMENTS 2024**

A motion was made by John Herrmann to approve both Au Train Township Agreements pending Au Train Township approval. Supported by Pete Heyrman. Ayes: Pete Heyrman & John Herrmann. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Brian Menghini asked about placing contingencies on private enterprise projects.

**COMMISSIONER TOPICS**

October 16, 2023  
Regular Meeting Minutes

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

---

Marci Taskey, Chair

---

Daniel Rushford, Finance Director