

The meeting of the Calhoun County Board of Public Works was held Wednesday, November 21, 2007 at 10:15 a.m. in their office located at 13300 Fifteen Mile Road, Marshall, Michigan.

Present: Commissioner Scott A. Brown, Chairman
Commissioner Chester E. Travis, Vice-Chairman
Commissioner Charles E. Monaweck, Member
Dennis Randolph, Managing Director
Joanna Johnson, Assistant Managing Director
Pixie Coats, Human Resource Director
Kevin Henning, Finance Director
Angela Kline, Assistant County Highway Engineer
Steve Ball, Operations Manager

Also Present: Tiffany Eichorst, Calhoun County Road Commission
General Public

Chairman Scott Brown called the regular meeting of the Calhoun County Board of Public Works to order at 10:15 a.m.

Moved by Commissioner Monaweck and supported by Commissioner Travis to approve the October 17, 2007 regular meeting minutes of the Calhoun County Board of Public Works. Voice vote: motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Joanna Johnson, Assistant Managing Director, read the communications as follows:

- a) Received a memorandum from Joanna Johnson, Assistant Managing Director, regarding Solid Waste Services for 2008.
- b) No other communications or resolutions were received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business that came before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Commissioner Travis and supported by Commissioner Monaweck to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Calhoun County and the Calhoun County Board of Public Works for Solid Waste Services for 2008. Voice vote: motion carried.

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Randolph provided the following report:

- Duck Lake project: We are working to gain access rights to the properties and we were actually in court earlier this week on one of the properties where Judge Miller ruled in our favor. We are finalizing funding, preparing a work plan and implementing an ongoing testing program. We are moving in the right direction, but it has been slow.
- There will be ongoing public works, water, and sewer projects going on around the county, especially due to the casino project. Discussion continued.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

There were no Commissioner Comments made at this time.

CITIZEN'S TIME

Citizens commented on the following:

- There is a lot of trash that gets dumped on the side of the road throughout the county. This Board should discuss supporting a proposal to enact a Blight Ordinance in Calhoun County. Commissioner Brown noted that Tiffany Eichorst, Solid Waste Director, is currently researching a start up company that is coming to Michigan that plans to build three ethanol plants in the State, using old tires, computers, and other biomass as the burn to create hydrogen. Discussion continued. Mrs. Eichorst noted that a few years ago, the Solid Waste Committee explored adopting a littering ordinance, but we were advised by the County's Legal Counsel that if a township had a littering ordinance, it would supersede a county ordinance. At that time, the County advised us not to move forward. Commissioner Travis suggested that Mrs. Eichorst check into a countywide littering ordinance again. Mrs. Johnson added that the Solid Waste Committee did budget \$6,000 to reimburse townships, villages, cities and the road commission for disposal of dead deer and roadside debris. Discussion continued on the definition of blight.

SUPERVISOR'S & PUBLIC OFFICIAL'S TIME

- Art Farmer, Lee Township Supervisor, stated that in the past, townships have been asked by the County to enact township ordinances to assist in enforcing ordinances that have been passed at the county level. He has not seen an example of when a township ordinance can supersede a county ordinance or law. Lee Township has had an Outdoor Storage and Blight Ordinance in effect for many years, but it has not always been enforced. The ordinance is currently being enforced. If the County was to pass an ordinance, it could give more weight to the ordinances passed by townships as a cooperative effort.

- Tom Frank, Albion Township Supervisor, commented that it would be nice to have the Sheriff's Department assist in enforcement of blight/anti-littering ordinances.

OTHER

Mrs. Eichorst informed the Board of the following:

- A draft of the Solid Waste Strategic Plan should be completed by November 30, 2007 to be provided to the Workshop Group. She will provide a copy of the draft to Board members.
- There is a new Watershed permit in the works that is currently out for public comment.
- The Brownfield project is moving along.

The next meeting of the Calhoun County Board of Public Works is scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2007 following the 9:00 a.m. Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners meeting/Public Hearing for the 2008 budget.

There being no additional business before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Scott A. Brown, Chairman

Pixie Ann Coats, Deputy Clerk