

The regular meeting of the Calhoun County Board of Public Works was held Wednesday, June 20, 2007, in their office located at 13300 Fifteen Mile Road, Marshall, Michigan.

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

Also Present: Tom Frank, Albion Township Supervisor
Dave Veramay, Clarence Township Resident
Joe Bramble, Convis Township Resident
Paul Beardslee, General Counsel
Tiffany Eichorst, Calhoun County Road Commission

Commissioner Brown called the regular meeting of the Calhoun County Board of Public Works to order at 10:55 a.m.

Moved by Commissioner Brown and supported by Commissioner Monaweck to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 16, 2007. Voice vote: Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Received a letter from Mrs. Eichorst, Solid Waste Director, regarding improvements to the Newspaper Trailer.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Suggestions made on improvements to the Newspaper Trailer by the Board.

Mrs. Eichorst stated that at the last Solid Waste meeting they had a resident who had a complaint regarding the newspaper trailer and felt that it was unsafe to walk up the steps. He wanted the Solid Waste Committee to take off the steps and level it off so that you can walk right into the trailer. It would cost around \$10,000 to \$12,000 dollars and the Solid Waste Committee didn't feel it would be a good allocation of funds. The newspapers can be dropped off at other recycle bins. They were wondering if the Public Works would like to pay for it, since it was on Road Commission/Public Works property.

Commissioner Brown suggested that we post something very colorful and eye catching.

Mr. Beardslee stated that the trailer is not a building structure so it does not have to be handicap accessible. He feels there would be a very small chance of any liability.

MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Randolph provided the Board with the following information:

Mr. Randolph said that he and Mrs. Eichorst went to Sheridan Township last night to discuss the sewer project and Sheridan Township was interested. They have \$20,000 they can put into the project, plus they are going to have a special assessment. Mr. Randolph said he gave them a run down on the process for their Board. The Board will be seeing Resolutions for the sewer project in Sheridan Township.

As of the end of this month, the first Duck Lake loan is going to be paid off and we are starting to transfer the money. Mr. Randolph said that this means that the Duck Lake Sewer System will go from County ownership to Township ownership.

Mr. Randolph said we have been working on our Brownfield Grant. We have received \$200,000 for the Phase I and Phase II work.

Mr. Randolph noted that we couldn't get any type of support from the County, except for them to say, figure it out ourselves. He said that he isn't sure if this is something he wants to continue doing. He said that he understands that the County has had to make cuts, but our situation is even worse. It may just be the best thing to work as a Road Commission like other Road Commissions. Maybe this would satisfy the County Commissioners.

Mr. Randolph commented that we are addressing the auditor's concern about the property because we have a good offer coming in on it. Commissioner Brown asked if the offer would cover all of our expenses and recover all of our payments. Mr. Randolph said yes it would. He stated that we are going to have an appraisal done on the property again, so that the Board will know what the property is worth. We will still be able to retain the easement that we have envisioned all along.

Mr. Randolph said that we are certainly addressing the audit concerns because we now have a pair of fresh eyes by having Mr. Henning here. It was through his effort that we ended up with \$128,000 in our account. That balance is a general fund and not just strictly Act 51 money. We owe \$116,000 for the Parks deficit and we have \$128,000 that we can apply to that and still have some left over for other projects. Commissioner Brown asked if the County had a problem with us using that money. Mr. Randolph noted that Mr. Purcell is concerned that the fund contains money from Federal money that we used on Housing Rehab. As far as Mr. Randolph is concerned, we have managed our books and that is not the case. This money is separate from all of those things. Mr. Randolph said that what Mr. Purcell wants is for us to write them a check for \$64,000 and then we can apply the rest elsewhere.

We have a million dollar State maintenance contract to do the work on Michigan Avenue. It will cost us about \$5,000 dollars but we will get 8 ½ % of the cost of the job, which is \$85,000 dollars for administrative cost. Mr. Randolph said that yesterday the State said that they had a \$100,000 dollar job for us. They want us to pave 11 Mile Road and it will cost us about \$1,000 or \$2,000 dollars, but we will receive another \$8,500 dollars in administrative fee.

Mr. Veramay stated that he has been involved in Public Works since 1970 and he stated that the County is getting what Mr. Randolph does for Public Works for free, and it used to cost them around \$80,000 just for the administrative fees. The County is getting work done for bargain basement prices and if he were sitting in Mr. Randolph's shoes he doesn't think he would be doing that work for free. Mr. Veramay said that he doesn't think that Mr. Randolph gets the recognition that he deserves for all that he has brought to this County, and he wants to let him know that he appreciates all that he has done.

Mr. Bramble said that he agrees with Mr. Veramay, and thinks that the County only wants to find fault with anything Mr. Randolph does and won't cooperate with anyone. He said that he has come to many County Commission meetings and he thinks it is disgraceful how some of the Commissioners act. Mr. Bramble said that the Commissioners think they know everything but won't take an interest in anything.

Mr. Frank said that he feels the roads are a lot better since Mr. Randolph has been here.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 18, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. following the 9:00 a.m. Calhoun County Board of Road Commissioners meeting. There being no additional business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Scott A. Brown, Chairman

Pixie Ann Coats, Deputy Clerk