

The regular meeting of the Calhoun County Board of Public Works was held Wednesday, September 19, 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

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

Commissioner Brown called the regular meeting of the Calhoun County Board of Public Works to order at 10:00 a.m.

Moved by Commissioner Travis and supported by Commissioner Monaweck to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 15, 2007. Voice vote. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

No communications or resolutions came before the Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business came before the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business came before the Board

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Brown asked what effect it would have on the project by not starting the Duck Lake project on time. Mr. Randolph stated that we have provided the DEQ an update in our quarterly report and his understanding is that the deadline is the most important date. Mrs. Johnson stated that the deadline for the project is October 8, 2008. Commissioner Brown asked Mr. Randolph if Clarence Township is going to hold the Bond on this project. Mr. Randolph said yes they would and the bond would not belong to the Board of Public Works.

MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Randolph provided the Board with an update on the Duck Lake Project. He said they are working on the easements, which have been difficult to get. We have offered \$4,300 per acre for the easements. These issues have pushed the start of the project back a little, but we should have no problem meeting next year's October deadline to finish the project.

Discussion took place by Mr. Randolph on the refinancing of the Pennfield bond.

Mrs. Eichorst gave the Board an update on the Brownfield project. She noted that we are working on Phase II on Industrial Road, in Marshall, along with another site.

Mrs. Eichorst stated that currently we have 11 county roads that have been adopted through the Adopt a Roadway Program. This program has saved us a lot of money and she hopes that it continues.

Mrs. Eichorst announced that the tire and appliance collection is going to be held October 1st through October 5th. The River Clean-Up will be held on October 6th. The Solid Waste Department is kicking off the "SHARPS" program, which allows for sharp users to dispose of their needles in an environmentally safe way.

SUPERVISOR AND PUBLIC OFFICIAL TIME

Mr. Gay stated that he is part of the citizen's committee for the Duck Lake sewer system. He stated that they had asked two or three times for the accounting of the money owed for the sewer system. He said that they have concerns after seeing the article in the newspaper stating that the sewer project was going to be \$633,000. They know that the EPA grant is for \$867,000 and they were told that \$250,000 of the EPA money would be used on the Duck Lake project but no one can explain what will happen to the balance of it. We would like this information since we will be the ones paying for it.

Mr. Randolph said that the \$633,000 is not correct because it includes almost a year's worth of Solid Waste billables that were due to us. He said that the actual total amount is around \$450,000. Commissioner Brown asked if the auditor was wrong when he put that in the audit report. Mr. Randolph said that the auditor showed a receivable to the Road Commission, which included a number of other things. Commissioner Brown said that the auditor reported that the \$633,000 was for the Duck Lake project. Mr. Randolph said that it was not correct.

Mr. Henning stated that the majority of the \$633,000 was for the Duck Lake project but it is no secret to the auditor what is included in that amount because it was his idea to break down the money and that is what we are now doing.

Mr. Randolph said that, over the years, he talked to the Board regarding the costs linked to the project but felt it was appropriate to wait until the project got going. One of the reasons why he wanted the County out of this is because there is a long, sour history with the County and the Duck Lake project. There was a failure when the project was originally built which resulted in a lawsuit. The engineer for the project lost one million dollars and that money was used to reline two of the lagoons at the site. The remainder of the settlement money was around \$450,000 and the County took that money and bought cars for the Sheriff's department. Mr. Randolph started discussions with the County Administrator back in 1996 and continued to the current Administrator, about getting that money back to the Duck Lake account. It was never intended for the County's general fund or to spend on police cars. We were finally able to get \$325,000 from the County returned to the township. They held this money for 25 years with no intention of paying it back.

Mrs. Johnson said there were things taken from the audit as Commissioner Brown and Commissioner Solis noted numerous times, but there is more to it than that and we should have the opportunity to explain it. She understands what the perception is out there and this is why we are trying to ensure that the residents at Duck Lake have a minimal financial impact.

Discussion continued on the Duck Lake project.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 17, 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 11:02 a.m.

Scott A. Brown, Chairman

Pixie Ann Coats, Deputy Clerk