

The regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners was held on Wednesday, April 16, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in their office located at 13300 Fifteen Mile Road, Marshall, Michigan.

Present: Commissioner Scott A. Brown, Chairman
Commissioner Charles E. Monaweck, Member
Commissioner Chester E. Travis, Member
Kevin Henning, Interim Managing Director
Pixie Coats, Board Clerk
Angie Kline, Assistant Engineer
Mary Jo Crumpton, Secretarial Clerk

Excused: Commissioner Hugh T. Coward, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Eric J. Tobin, Member (entered at 5:38 p.m.)

Also Present: General Public

Chairman Scott Brown called the regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners to order at 5:31 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Commissioner Monaweck and supported by Commissioner Travis to approve the April 2, 2008 regular meeting minutes of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners. Voice vote: motion carried.

SUPERVISORS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mr. Gardy Berezonsky asked the location of the condominium project for the Battle Creek Riverfront Condominiums. Chairman Brown responded that the Board is receiving this as a communication tonight and it is not an action item.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mrs. Coats read the communications as follows:

- a) Received the following policies for review:
 - i. #44-Employee/Retiree Recognition
 - ii. #51-Worker's Compensation
 - iii. #54-Harassment
 - iv. #64-Family Medical Leave
 - v. #95-Violence in the Workplace Prevention
- b) Received a letter from Angela Kline, Assistant County Highway Engineer, to Roosien & Associates regarding private road specifications
- c) Received a Notice of Intent from Vandervoort, Christ & Fisher to establish a Condominium Project for the Battle Creek Riverfront Condominiums
- d) Received a Notice of Intent from Vandervoort, Christ & Fisher to establish a Condominium Project for the Beacon Ridge Condominiums
- e) Received a memo from Kevin Henning, Interim Managing Director, requesting approval on the extension of the 2007 Street Sweeping Bid through 2009

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Commissioner Travis and supported by Commissioner Monaweck to approve the April 10, 2008 accounts payable for \$587,416.94. Roll call vote: Monaweck-Yes; Brown-Yes; Travis-Yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Monaweck and supported by Commissioner Travis to approve the April 9, 2008 payroll for \$107,489.42. Roll call vote: Travis-Yes; Monaweck-Yes; Brown-Yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Travis and supported by Commissioner Monaweck to approve the extension of the 2007 Street Sweeping Bid through 2009. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes; Monaweck-Yes; Travis-Yes. Motion carried.

INTERIM MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Henning provided the following report:

- The number of service requests received from 1/1/07 through 4/16/07 was 2079. Service requests received in this same time period in 2008 was 2745. We have received 567 more pothole service requests this year as compared to last year, given the same timeframe.
- Potholes continue to be a primary focus for our labor force, with a minimum of 12 crews patching. We are dispatching crews by road rather than by township. Crews are using larger trucks and are making multiple trips for cold patch. The patches look good, are level and are holding. We are planning to make additional cold patch and expect to have used 1800 tons by the end of April at a cost of \$51 per ton. The hot mix plants do not open until late April, but morning temperatures can be a factor. Once the "tire busters" are taken care of, we will be using two-men-and-a-bucket crews, which is a slower process.
- We are in spring maintenance mode with crews working on drainage issues, culverts, sign replacement and gravel roads.
- In 2007, we received four "10-day call backs", which means we did not address the request or make contact with the caller within 10 days. To date, in 2008, we have had two.
- To date, we have received almost double the amount of thank you service requests as compared to 2007.
- Effective 6-2-08 and going through 8-21-08, CCRC garage and office employees will be switching to 10-hour shifts, working 6 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday. We will be notifying townships and placing an announcement in the newspapers to inform county residents. Mr. Henning stated that the estimated cost savings could be approximately \$130,000, by increasing efficiency in mobilization (lost time in transit), cutting fuel costs, and overhead costs for electricity and general utility usage on that fifth day of the week.

SUPERVISOR, PUBLIC OFFICIAL AND CITIZEN TIME

- A citizen stated that B Drive North from the Marshall city limits to Marengo has some bad holes. He asked if there is a bonding agent that could be used with the crushed concrete to fill holes. Mr. Henning replied that crushed concrete is too dusty for potholes and is typically used on shoulders and gravel roads.
- Mr. Art Farmer, Lee Township Supervisor, noted that he has received resident complaints on the condition of the roads and has referred them to CCRC. He asked about Baseline and 22 ½ Mile Road, which are the two worst roads in the township. Mr. Henning replied that crews are out and we will get there as soon as possible. Mr. Farmer stated that he appreciates CCRC's efforts.

- Mr. Paul Vargas, Leroy Township resident, stated his appreciation to CCRC for patching on 1 ½ Mile Road between the Battle Creek city limits and H Drive South. He asked if more than patching would be done on the really bad areas. Mr. Henning responded that we are compiling a list of areas for paver patching when the hot mix plants open, but this will be subject to available funding. It is considered a maintenance operation. Mr. Vargas inquired about H Drive South from the west county line to 2 ½ Mile Road. Mrs. Kline noted that this was a recycled paving operation that was done four years ago that failed. A chip and seal was done last year to alleviate the cracking caused by problems with the density and compaction. Discussion continued. Mr. Vargas noted that the single seal did not work either, and asked that the remainder of H Drive South (between 2 ½ Mile Road and M-66) not be chip and sealed.
- Mr. Joe Bramble, Convis Township resident, commented that most roads in Convis Township are okay, but S Drive North to Bellevue Road and N Drive North are in bad shape and need attention. Crews need to get the potholes filled.
- Mr. Steve Swafford, Homer Township Trustee, asked why the cold paved roads are crumbling and questioned if there was a problem with the oil. He suggested checking into the oil that we are getting. Mr. Henning responded that we test material to meet MDOT specs. With regards to the cold paved roads, they were supposed to have been followed up with chip and seal, but this never happened. Also, prime and double seal roads were not prepped correctly. Over the past 15 years, way too much money has been spent turning gravel roads into hard surface roads in a manner that did not address drainage, ditching, and tree removal issues. Many of these roads should have been left as gravel. Mr. Bramble disagreed.
- Mr. Art Farmer, Lee Township Supervisor, commented that the last blacktop road done in Lee Township was O Drive North and it is in worse shape than the sealed roads in the township. He agreed that drainage issues need to be addressed to preserve our roads.
- Mr. Gardy Berezonsky, Marengo Township resident, asked about CCRC's personal liability and property damage insurance for the Community Compost Center. Mr. Henning replied that this is under our organizational umbrella insurance that covers any site owned by the CCRC. The City of Marshall is liable for property damage at the Community Compost Center, as they carry insurance to operate on our property. Chairman Brown reiterated that from a Board perspective, CCRC allows the City of Marshall to use the property to operate the Compost Center, but does not get involved in the day-to-day operations. Mr. Berezonsky also asked about the fee schedule for county residents vs. City of Marshall residents to purchase wood chips from the Center. Mrs. Eichorst clarified that wood chips have not been sold to anyone because of the low quality and have been given away.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Tobin thanked Mr. Henning, Paul Adams, and Joe Kline for their assistance around the Village of Athens, particularly around W Drive South. Also, he inquired if those in the audience were aware of CCRC's service request system. Mr. Henning replied that most of those in the audience have called in requests for service. Commissioner Tobin added that the Athens Township Supervisor was under the impression that CCRC would physically respond to service requests within 48 hours, but Commissioner Tobin informed him that was not the case. Mr. Henning stated that it is Board policy to initiate contact with the person making the request within 10 days. He added that we communicate the service request process on a continual basis and will again publish it in the quarterly newsletter that goes out to township supervisors. Commissioner Tobin asked if CCRC was doing the milling on M-66. Mr. Henning replied that this is a MDOT safety initiative project for rumble strips centerline milling. However, we will be receiving the millings from M-66 and 11 Mile Road.

In response to his inquiry at a previous meeting, Commissioner Travis informed Mr. Berezonsky that the Community Compost Center attendant receives \$9 per hour.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next regular meeting of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners is scheduled for Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.

There being no additional business before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Scott A. Brown, Chairman

Mary Jo Crumpton, Secretarial Clerk