

March 19, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Leelanau County was called to order by Chairman Robert Joyce at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 10550 E. Eckerle Road, Suttons Bay, Michigan. Present: Chair Robert Joyce, Vice Chair Jim Calhoun, Members Garth Greenan, Greg Mikowski and John Popa. Also present: Manager Brendan Mullane, Engineer Craig Brown, Fleet/Facilities Manager Tim Trudell and Finance Manager/Secretary to the Board Susan Boyd. Guest was present. Public invited to attend via GoToMeetings link.

Agenda: Approved as presented.

Minutes from the March 5, 2024 regular meeting – approved as presented.

Public Comments: Mark Krueger, 13008 N. Forest Beach Shores, asked if there would be a public hearing upon completion of the Strategic Plan and if with the elimination of matching funds, property owners on primary roads would be asked to contribute to road projects. He also asked about the status of the engineering review of Cherry Homes.

Communication Items: None.

Appointments: None.

Discussions: None.

Staff Reports:

Mullane: Annual presentations have been done at six townships and the County Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners unanimously approved inclusion of the road maintenance millage request on the August ballot. The call-in work rule was presented and is now formally implemented. NPS and TART scheduled a public input session for the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail extension on April 29th. MDOT has confirmed that temporary traffic signals cannot be installed on a county road that is not a formal detour route but a permanent traffic light at Cedar Run and Gray Road will be discussed. Attended the CRA Negotiating Committee meeting where the 5-year MDOT contract was discussed since it will be renewed next year. Popa addressed the public comment about the strategic plan and said that it needs to be clear that the plan is a living document and the public is welcome to attend any of those work sessions. Joyce reiterated that it is a document subject to change and therefore no public hearing is required. Popa also referenced an article about Lenawee County's procedure for township contributions. Both Brown and Boyd responded as to the impracticality of allocating funding prior to ensuring that routine operations were adequately covered.

Brown: PASER training was completed in early March. Met with EGLE to assess culverts on CR 626. These will be replaced before work on RTF projects planned for next year. Estimates for these RTF projects exceed the allocated funds and some work will be done in-house to save as much as possible. CR 651 Cedar Creek shear connector project is scheduled to start April 1st weather permitting and scheduled to last for two weeks. Crossing #3 of the Crystal River stream crossing project is scheduled for this fall with Crossing #1 scheduled for spring 2025 and Crossing #2 scheduled for fall 2025. Additional funding through BIA is progressing. Prein & Newhof has not yet submitted a plan for Cherry Homes.

Trudell: Currently there are no major repairs on equipment. Two of the new trucks are being prepped with GPS, radios, decals and wiring. The other two new trucks were delivered for upfitting today. Organization and cleaning continue at Maple City. Reviewed list of planned maintenance items for both locations. Patrol pickups are awaiting transport to dealer. Greenan asked about sweeping schedule. Sweepers are ready to go and tentative start scheduled for next week. Popa asked about the gravel pit issues that were discussed at the last meeting. There is a map from previous sampling but there hasn't been time to find it yet.

Boyd: Audit process is complete and a draft of the Act 51 report has been sent to the auditors. Due to the mild winter, there are over 500 less overtime hours and \$15,000 less in expense as compared to last year.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

1. Approval of 2025 plow truck equipment purchase and installation.

Trudell explained that both Shults and Truck & Trailer Specialties submitted bids to specifications but Truck & Trailer would not commit to a date for completion. After visits to other road commission, Trudell recommended Shults based on the quality of work and favorable input.

Motion by Greenan, supported by Mikowski to award the bid to Shults Equipment in the amount of \$119,780 per unit, with Truck & Trailer Specialties as a back-up vendor in the amount of \$122,697. Total cost for four (4) units of \$479,120 from Shults and/or \$490,788 from Truck & Trailer Specialties per memo dated March 13, 2024 and authorize staff to execute contract in the best interest of the road commission.

Discussion: Popa asked if the order for the 2025 trucks had been done. Trudell confirmed that it had and said that this had not been an easy decision due to the long history of working with Truck & Trailer Specialties.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Popa, Calhoun, Greenan, Mikowski and Joyce. Nays: None. Motion is hereby approved.

2. Approval of 2024 plow truck equipment purchase and installation change/adjustment.

Trudell recommended that two of the orders be assigned to Shults in an effort to ensure that at least two are completed in time for the winter season. Changes will not exceed the cost of the bid as originally approved.

Motion by Greenan, supported by Mikowski to:

- Authorize Truck & Trailer Specialties to complete the upfit of equipment on two of the four new Western Star 49X chassis
- Purchase equipment from Truck & Trailer Specialties as needed (at June 8, 2023 bid price) to be installed by Shults Equipment on the two remaining units

- Authorize purchase of additional equipment and installation on the two remaining trucks upfitted by Shults not to exceed the \$118,577 bid price
- Authorize staff to execute contracts in the best interest of the road commission.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Mikowski, Greenan, Calhoun, Popa and Joyce. Nays: None. Motion is hereby approved.

Public Comment: Mark Krueger commented that Leelanau Township was considering adding funds to the budget for road maintenance and wanted to know how to best get on the construction schedule and how much the road commission would contribute.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for April 2, 2024 at 9:00 am. Popa requested that the next Strategic Plan work session be scheduled. Joyce will coordinate following scheduling input from other commissioners.

Staff Comments:

Trudell said that CDL training is going very well and a road test will be scheduled soon for Andy. Mullane said that townships should coordinate project requests through him.

Commissioner Comments:

Mikowski said it was good to be back and great job while he was gone.
Greenan will be attending the CRA road show tomorrow and will update commissioners on road abandonment/decertification after attending the presentation.
Popa requested copies of policies to be reviewed at the next Strategic Plan work session.
Joyce thanked Trudell for all of his work researching trucks and equipment.

With no more business to conduct, Joyce adjourned the meeting at 1:47 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
OF LEELANAU COUNTY

By _____
Robert Joyce, Chairman

Attest: _____
Susan Boyd, Secretary to the Board