

KEWEENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Minutes

November 13, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners was held at their offices in Mohawk, Michigan on November 13, 2018.

Present: Commissioners Karvonen, Schaefer & Waananen

Guests: Ken Rowe, Don Piche, Dave Mattila, Rick Olson, Dylan Parske, Bill Lahti, Brandon Gariepy

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm

The minutes of the October 9, 2018 regular meeting were read and approved by a motion by Commissioner Waananen and supported by Commissioner Schaefer. The motion carried.

Vouchers # 28422 and #28423 and Master Vouchers # 22-2018, #23-2018 in the total amount of \$258,936.96 were audited by the Commissioners and the Master Vendor Voucher was signed. Commissioner Waananen motioned to pay the bills as presented. Commissioner Schaefer supported the motion. The motion carried.

The financial statement was read, discussed and approved on a motion by Commissioner Waananen and supported by Commissioner Schaefer. The motion carried.

Old Business:

The Engineer informed the Board that GreenSand was shipping about 20 tons of stamp sand to White Pine for a pilot project for copper extraction. MDEQ, USEPA, and USACE are working towards final proposals for short and long range plans for the stamp sands by next spring.

The CRA assistant director Ed Noyola is working to get House Bill 5764 brought up for discussion in the House Transportation Committee during the lame duck session.

After discussions and site meetings with MDEQ, the staff is moving forward with the design and permitting the Gay – Lac La Belle Road relocation in the shoreline erosion area.

New Business:

The Board accepted bids for crushing 8,000 tons of 22A aggregate at the Central pit. While three notices were sent out, only one bid was received from Superior Sand and Gravel. The bid was open and read aloud, with a price of \$40,280.00. Commissioner Waananen motioned to accept the only bid submitted and award the crushing to Superior Sand and Gravel. Commissioner Schaefer supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer discussed the proposed 2019 paving projects, including the federal aid routes, county primary roads and millage projects. The Engineer and Commissioner Schaefer met with the Township Supervisors to discuss and approve the proposed millage projects for 2019 and 2020. The Keweenaw County Transportation Task Force and Rural Task Force 13A will meet in December to formalize and approve the 5-year Transportation Improvement Plans. With the federal aid buyout, the paving will be bid as one large project with completion expected by the end of August, 2019. A meeting was held with both area paving contractors and the sites have been reviewed by them. Commissioner Waananen motioned to authorize the Engineer to seek bids for the 2019 paving projects to be accepted at the December meeting. Commissioner Schaefer supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Board, Engineer and Finance Director met with the Employees' Association Liaison Committee to discuss the next contract. The health insurance increase is about 7.7%. The Employees' Association has proposed a 1-year contract, a 5% raise and a better Delta Dental plan. The Finance Director presented the costs of the health insurance increase, which does not include this year's refund yet, and the 5% wage increase with comparisons to other U.P. counties. Information on Delta Dental plans will be available in a week. It was agreed to continue the labor negotiations at the December meeting.

The Board discussed recent bills sent to the County with County Chairman Don Piche. The billing rates for equipment were explained by the Finance Director and itemized summaries for the work completed were provided. Chairman Piche will present this information to the County Board at their next meeting. To avoid any future misunderstandings, Commissioner Schaefer motioned to adopt a policy that no "outside work" for other units of government or private parties shall be completed unless a written estimate is provided, the estimate is approved by the outside entity, and the work is approved by the Engineer. Commissioner Karvonen supported the motion. In a roll call vote, Commissioner Schaefer and Commissioner Karvonen voted yes, Commissioner Waananen voted no. The motion carried.

At the request of the County, the Engineer and staff have inspected the brick fence at the County Courthouse regarding the exposed unfinished brick that resulted from the new pavement being placed lower than the existing pavement during the millage project this summer. Waterproofing has been applied to the exposed brick and repairs will be made next year to return the fence to as good or better condition.

The Engineer informed the Board that CRASIF has come out with their annual safety awards. Keweenaw County Road Commission is among a few counties statewide to be awarded a safety honor roll for the 8th straight year.

The Engineer and the Board discussed the winter maintenance on specific routes for the 2018/2019. Segments of Phoenix Farms Road, Tukku's Farm Road, and Cliff Drive will not be plowed this year in order to reduce winter maintenance costs. West Ballman Street in Fulton will not be plowed as well, similar to previous winters.

Other items of routine business were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

John Karvonen, Chairman

Gregg Patrick, Engineer