

EATON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 12, 2019

A regular meeting of the Eaton County Board of Road Commissioners was held at their office in Charlotte, Michigan on November 12, 2019.

Members Present: Commissioners Frazier, Lyons, Eldred, Lamoreaux, Maxwell

Members Absent: none

Chair Frazier called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Moved by Lamoreaux, second by Maxwell, that the agenda be approved as amended to include consideration of a starting salary for a new Finance Director. Motion carried.

Moved by Maxwell, second by Lamoreaux, that the minutes of October 22, 2019 be approved as printed. Motion carried.

There was no public comment.

Assistant County Engineer Hannahs updated the Board on the timing of the replacement of the bridge on Vermontville Highway and noted the project will be moved to the summer of 2021 to avoid road closures during the fall while school is in session. He noted that the Michigan Department of Treasury has no objections. There was discussion.

Engineer-Manager Ballou reviewed a ballot from the Association of Southern Michigan County Road Agencies to revise the organization's bylaws.

Moved by Lamoreaux, second by Lyons to vote yes on the Association of Southern Michigan County Road Agencies' question of whether to approve its revised by-laws. Motion carried.

Moved by Eldred, second by Lamoreaux, that Accounts Payable (VO#07) of 10-24-19 in the amount of \$297,449.63, Payroll (VO#08) of 10-29-19 in the amount of \$90,286.40, Accounts Payable (VO#09) of 10-31-19 in the amount of \$14,516.12, and Accounts Payable (VO#10) of 11-07-19 in the amount of \$34,693.31, for total expenditures of \$436,945.46, be approved. There was discussion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Frazier, Lyons, Eldred, Lamoreaux, Maxwell; Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board discussed Old Business.

Mr. Hannahs reported on the status of road projects. There was discussion.

Mr. Ballou reported on the activities of the road crews. There was discussion.

Mr. Ballou reported that a heavy haul company hired by the Lansing Board of Water & Light to move extremely large and heavy equipment from southwest Michigan to its Lansing plant on Canal Road did not adhere to the route approved by the Road Commission and as a result, seriously overloaded the overpass on Canal Road. Mr. Ballou noted that the bridge inspection engineer hired by the Road Commission did not notice any obvious defects upon inspection but the bridge will need to undergo a more thorough analysis and inspection. He noted that the Road Commission intends to work with the attorney and the shipping company to reimburse the Road Commission for any costs incurred to inspect the bridge and repair any damage. He also noted that fines could be in excess of \$400,000.

Mr. Ballou reported on a situation developing in Walmar Estates off of Willow Highway relating to electrical work under the road and in the right-of-way.

Mr. Ballou reported on a culvert on Cole Hwy and a pending agreement with Carmel Township, and a culvert on Boyer Road in Roxand Township that is being replaced by the drain office. There was discussion.

Mr. Ballou updated the Board on two thefts that occurred at Eaton County Road Commission garages. There was discussion.

Marliyn Hollier, Consultant with SRMC, was present to present her evaluation of the Road Commission's physical security and to offer recommendations.

Mark Eberline and Beth Lavery, Capital One, presented information regarding the bank's commercial card program and answered questions.

Mr. Ballou reviewed his recommendation to fill the position of Finance Director, and requested the Board authorize a starting salary of \$76,000 and three weeks of vacation, in addition to the standard benefit package provided by the Road Commission.

Moved by Eldred, second by Lyons to approve the starting salary and benefit package as recommended by staff. Motion carried.

There was discussion about the results of the security audit.

Moved by Lamoreaux, second by Maxwell to pursue an agreement with SRMC to assist with developing specifications for certain security equipment. Motion carried.

There was no correspondence.

Bob Starkweather, Supervisor at Walton Township, was present to express concern regarding a tree laying in the road right-of-way on Cochran Road south of Five Point Hwy. He was also present to represent his niece, Shannon David, 2766 E St Joe Hwy, regarding issues she was having with her driveway after the paving of St. Joe Hwy was complete. There was discussion.

Chair Frazier adjourned the meeting at 9:50 am without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lori N. Friedlis, CPA
Clerk to the Board