

**LAPEER COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, December 28, 2011**  
**5:00 p.m.**

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Present: Mr. Douglas Hodge, Chairman; Mr. Joseph Suma, Vice Chairman; Mr. Dale Duckert, Member

In Attendance: Mr. Erick Pearson, Managing Director; Ms. Linette Daily, Board Secretary; Mr. Ryan Doyle, Assistant Engineer

Also in attendance: Mr. Charles Buckel, Ms. Nancy Elliott  
Mr. Douglas Hodge, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Approve Agenda:**

**122811-117**

Motion by Mr. Suma, seconded by Mr. Duckert to approve the amended agenda with a new Payment of Bills amount of \$497,645.43. Motion carried.

**Financial Report Review:**

The Board reviewed the accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll check register, and cash statement.

**Consent Agenda:**

**122811-118**

Motion by Mr. Suma, seconded by Mr. Duckert to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following,

Approve Minutes For:           Committee of the Whole 12/12/11  
  Regular Meeting 12/14/11

Approve Payment of Bills:   \$497,645.43

Motion carried.

**Meetings Attended:**

Mr. Suma stated that he had attended the MTA Meeting in Rich Township and explained that the main topic of discussion was schools and the effects of the reduced population.

**Manager's Report:**

**122811-119**

Motion by Mr. Duckert, seconded by Mr. Suma to approve the 2012 Meeting and Holiday Schedules.

Motion carried.

Mr. Pearson explained that the contract with Deputy Smith for Weighmaster Services, will end at the end of this week, and will start again in March or April of 2012 depending upon the frost law conditions, similar to the past two years.

Mr. Pearson reported that Mr. Brent Bair, the Managing Director of the Oakland County Road Commission, has announced that he will be retiring at the end of the year. Mr. Pearson stated that Mr. Bair will be missed because he has had such a tremendous impact on Michigan roads for such a long time.

Mr. Pearson went on to state that the crews are fighting the small winter storms. Mr. Pearson spoke about the storm the crews encountered last evening where the roads became icy, were salted, and then the wind caused them to refreeze again; with some re-freezing three times. Mr. Pearson explained that the mild winter has allowed the crews to continue with the winter tree cutting projects.

**Engineering Report:**

**122811-120**

Motion by Mr. Suma, seconded by Mr. Duckert to approve the Haul Route Agreement with Alex Hummel for hauling Class A seasonal loads on Clear Lake Road from the facility entrance on Clear Lake Road to M-53. Motion carried.

**122811-121**

Motion by Mr. Suma, seconded by Mr. Duckert to approve TCO #1(01)2011, In accordance with the Engineer's recommendation, that Hough Road between M-53 and Kidder Road in Almont Township be OPEN TO LEGAL TRAFFIC and that Kidder Road between Hough Road and Drakeshire Subdivision remain posted as "20 Ton Weight Limit". Motion carried.

Mr. Doyle explained to the Board that the National Association of County Engineers Conference is going to be held in Lexington Kentucky and he would like to attend as he hasn't gone in the past couple of years and the venues for the next few years are too far away to drive. Mr. Doyle stated that he would like to keep informed of the national issues in the industry. Mr. Hodge stated that he supports professional training for employees.

**122811-122**

Motion by Mr. Duckert, seconded by Mr. Suma approve overnight lodging for travel to the National Association of County Engineers Conference, April 1-4, 2012, in Lexington, Kentucky for Mr. Ryan Doyle. Motion carried.

Mr. Doyle stated that as a result of an inquiry from the County Press regarding the Newark and Lake Pleasant intersection, he looked at the last six years of accident history and has decided to make an addition in signage. Mr. Doyle stated that he will place the "Cross traffic does not stop" signs on the backs of the stop signs at the intersection. Mr. Doyle explained that perhaps having the sign in the vision of the motorist at all times while sitting at the intersection will reduce collisions. Mr. Doyle stated that he will submit the project for safety funds in 2014.

**Public Comment:**

**Ms. Nancy Elliott**

Ms. Elliott asked the Board a health care question regarding the unfunded liability that is listed in the 2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Due to the complexity of the question, Mr. Hodge asked Ms. Elliott to put the question in writing for the Board to respond to. Mr. Duckert stated that he still believes the most important issue is the fact that the funding for roads in Michigan has not been addressed since 1997 and with the increased cost of expenses to the Road Commissions with fuel, steel and salt, the roads cannot be maintained like they should be, thus leading to poor roadways.

**Board Discussion:**

Mr. Duckert stated that he was happy with the brush cutting that took place on the ramps at Bowman Road, as it improved the sight distance a lot.

Mr. Duckert also stated that he has been paying attention to the truck trailers and is seeing a lot of 53 foot trailers on the road. Mr. Duckert stated that he is sure these trailers are using roads that aren't designated for the extra length and explained that something is going to have to change to accommodate this equipment.

Mr. Suma also stated that he was pleased with the brush cutting that is taking place now.

Chairman Hodge declared the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m. Motion carried.

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Douglas Hodge, Chairman

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Linette Daily, Board Secretary