

KEWEENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Minutes

January 12, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners was held January 12, 2021, via Zoom per the Executive Orders regarding the ban on social gathering during the coronavirus pandemic and the modified Open Meetings Act. The Board members were emailed all necessary documents for the meeting.

Present via Zoom: Commissioners Waananen, Olson and Karvonen

Guests via Zoom: Ken Rowe

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm

This was the organizational meeting of the Board. Commissioner Waananen made the motion that the Engineer take charge of the meeting. Commissioner Olson supported the motion. The motion carried. The Engineer asked for nominations for Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Olson moved to appoint Commissioner Waananen as Chairman and Commissioner Olson as Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Karvonen Supported the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was turned over to the Chairman.

The minutes of the December 10, 2020 regular meeting were read and approved by a motion by Commissioner Olson and supported by Commissioner Karvonen. The motion carried.

Vouchers # 28475 and # 28226 and Master Vouchers # 01-2021, # 02-2021 in the total amount of \$167,045.28 were audited by the Commissioners. Commissioner Olson motioned to pay the bills as presented. Commissioner Karvonen supported the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Karvonen motioned to accept the financial statement as presented. Commissioner Olson supported the motion. The motion carried

Commissioner Karvonen motioned to authorize the Engineer and Finance Director to sign the vouchers and any necessary documents pertinent to this meeting given the MDHHS COVID-19 restrictions currently in place. Commissioner Olson supported the motion. The motion carried.

Old Business:

The Engineer informed the Board the HB 5314 as approved by the Senate and Governor Whitmer signed the bill on 12/29/21, now PA 286 of 2020. Commissioner Olson motioned to adopt a resolution of thanks to Representative Markkanen and Senator McBroom for their assistance in getting this bill passed into legislation. Commissioner Karvonen supported the motion. The motion carried and the resolution will be made a part of these minutes.

New Business:

Commissioner Karvonen moved to adopt a Resolution authorizing the transfer of up to 30% of the Primary Fund to the Local Fund to be made in accordance with section 12 (9) of Act 51, P.A. of 1951

as amended. Commissioner Olson supported the motion. The motion carried.

Act 51 Road Certification was discussed. Commissioner Olson moved to approve the certified mileage, certification maps and to authorize the Engineer to sign the certification. Commissioner Karvonen supported the motion. The motion carried.

Following a discussion and an email delivery issue of the original bid documents, the Board rejected the only bid received for the wheeled excavator based on the Road Commission's best interest. A new bid date will be set for next week and opened by the Finance Director and Engineer. The Board will hold a special meeting to award the bid at a later date.

The Engineer presented to the Board the annual vehicle and equipment reports along with the equipment needs list. The reports and needs list were reviewed and discussed. The all the needs for vehicles and equipment, the Board agreed with the prioritized list as developed by the Engineer, Finance Director, Foreman and Shop Foreman. On a motion by Commissioner Karvonen with support by Commissioner Olson, the Board directed the Engineer to purchase two pickups and a stake body truck from the MIDEAL program. The Board also directed the Engineer to continue to search for a used sign shop truck and a new or used snowblower. The motion carried.

The Forest Road Projects were discussed by the Board. Commissioner Olson moved to approve the Gratiot Lake Road, Gay-Lac La Belle Road, Bete Gris Road, Brockway Mountain Drive and Cliff Drive as Forest Road Projects for 2021. Commissioner Karvonen supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Board discussed the Weighmaster Program for 2021. The Board agreed to join Houghton County, Baraga County and Ontonagon County for the same program as in previous years.

Other items of routine business were discussed, including seasonal roads and future rustic sign language updates when signs are being replaced.

The meeting adjourned at 2:54 pm

Joe Waananen, Chairman

Gregg Patrick, Engineer

Keweenaw County Road Commission

Resolution Honoring

Representative Greg Markkanen and Senator Ed McBroom

At the meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Road Commissioners held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, Commissioner Olson motioned to adopt the following resolution with support from Commissioner Karvonen. The motion carried.

Whereas, the Keweenaw County Road Commission is currently occupying a 104-year old building as their main office and maintenance facility, which is falling into a state of disrepair and which it has outgrown, and;

Whereas, the Keweenaw County Road Commission recognizes the need for a safer and more updated facility for office space, vehicle/equipment repairs and storage, and;

Whereas, it was determined that the cost of a new facility was beyond our current funding and financing capabilities, and;

Whereas, Representative Greg Markkanen introduced legislation, namely House Bill No. 5314, on January 9, 2020, which would effectively change the borrowing period for Road Commissions from 15 years to 30 years, and;

Whereas, Representative Markkanen along with Senator Ed McBroom, diligently moved the legislation through the Michigan House and Senate, where it was approved and signed into law by Governor Gretchen Whitmer on December 29, 2020, and;

Now, therefore it be resolved, the Board of Keweenaw County Road Commissioners would like to express our deep thanks and gratitude for the tremendous amount of effort put forth by Representative Greg Markkanen and Senator Ed McBroom in effecting this much needed legislation that will benefit Road Commissions throughout Michigan.

Board of Keweenaw County Road Commissioners

Adopted: Yeas: Waananen, Olson, Karvonen

Nays: None

Dated: January 12, 2021