

KEWEENAW COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Minutes

October 9, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners was held at their offices in Mohawk, Michigan on October 9, 2008.

Present: Commissioners Tuoriniemi, Bjorn and McEvers

Guests: Randy Eckloff, Sheriff Ron Lahti, Tanya Patrick, Dylan Parske

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M.

The minutes of the September 11, 2008 regular meeting were read and approved as read on a motion by Commissioner McEvers and support from Commissioner Bjorn.

Vouchers #28177, #28178 and Master Vendor Voucher #11-2008 in the total amount of \$193,094.51 were audited by the Commissioners and the Master Vendor Voucher was signed. Commissioner McEvers moved to pay the bills. Commissioner Bjorn supported the motion. The motion carried.

The financial statement was read, discussed and approved on a motion by Commissioner McEvers and support from Commissioner Bjorn.

The Board reviewed the most recent draft ORV ordinance prepared by the County Prosecutor Donna Jaaskelainen, with input from the Sheriff, the Keweenaw ATV Club and the Engineer. The ordinance was discussed in great detail, including definitions, possible roadside damage, potential fines and use of the fines collected. Commissioner Bjorn motioned to support the adoption of the ORV Ordinance by the County Board as presented. Commissioner McEvers supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer informed the Board that a new snowmobile and ATV trail permit for Keweenaw Trail Services, Inc. and the Keweenaw ATV club needed approval. The original permit approved at the July 2008 was for 1 year and the MDNR decided they needed at least a five year agreement in place in order to development improvements and budgets. Commissioner McEvers motioned to authorize the Chairman to sign the 5 year trail permit as presented. Commissioner Bjorn supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer informed the Board that the Michigan Department of Corrections contract for public works prison crews has not been received as of this date. In discussions held with the MDOC personnel, an on-call work crew would be possible. The work crew could be used by several local government agencies in Keweenaw County and not rely solely on the Road Commission to support them, especially if we do not have any work for them. Commissioner Bjorn moved to authorize the Engineer to sign the MDOC Public Works Agreement for FY 2008-2009 on the condition that the crew works on an on-call basis. Commissioner McEvers supported the motion. The motion carried.

The Engineer informed the Board that the next Great Lakes Council meeting will be held in Baraga on Thursday, November 6 at 9:30 a.m. Plans were made to attend.

The Engineer informed the Board that the 2008 bridge inspections have been completed by Greg Kingstrom of UPEA, Inc. and all were found to be in satisfactory condition.

Employee negotiations would continue upon the compilation and formatting the health insurance increases and wage information. This will be completed early next week and will be emailed to the Commissioners for their review. The next negotiation meeting date will be set at the earliest convenience for all involved.

Chairman Tuoriniemi was contacted by a representative of the Keweenaw County Historical Society in regard to the upper mine rock pile at Central. The Historical Society is interested in preserving the pile. The discussion centered on the original intent and purpose of the purchase of the Central and Cliff rock piles by the Road Commission. Also discussed was the current, short and long term future usage. It was noted that mine rock is getting scarce, as can be seen in the diminishing privately owned piles, due to its usefulness as a construction material. The Road Commission did purchase these piles with the intent to have its own supply of mine rock for construction purposes. However, with the rock available at the lower pile and the Cliff sites owned by the Road Commission, it can be reasonably stated that the upper pile will not come under consideration for use for at least 10 to 20 years.

Other items of routine business were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

JOEL TUORINIEMI, CHAIRMAN

GREGG M. PATRICK, ENGINEER