

**SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
332N EAST ROAD, MANISTIQUE, MI 49854
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 14, 2022 - 7:00 a.m.**

000480

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes
6. Public Comment
7. Unfinished Business:
 - A. Policy A6.00 Policy for Removing a Road from Seasonal Designation
8. New Business:
 - A. Voucher 22-49, 22-50
 - B. Approve Resolution for JN 212425 CR 449 & JN 405688 CR 436
 - C. MERS Year-End Additional Payment
 - D. August Financial Statement
 - E. Interview Travis Hopp Temp truck Driver
9. Manager's Report
10. Engineer's Report
11. Department Heads
12. Meeting Notices
 - A. Commissioners Seminar October 9-1, 2022, Frankenmuth, MI
13. Public Comment
14. Adjournment

1. Call Meeting to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman K. Rochefort at 7:00 A.M.

2. Roll Call Information: The roll was called for the Commissioners.

Present: Keith Rochefort
Randy Lund
Robin LaCroix

Absent: Dale DuFour
Thomas Klarich

Also in Attendance: Jean Vanderville, Managing Director; Tanya Hoar, Finance Director; Ian Stampfly, Highway Engineer, Ann Peterson, Payroll/HR Coordinator, Roger Martin, Shop Foreman; Kim Rochefort, Road Foreman and Troy Basset, County Commissioner

3. Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge was recited.**4. Approval of Agenda:**

It was moved by Commissioner R. LaCroix, seconded by Commissioner R. Lund, to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Three

Nays: None

Absent: Two (D. DuFour and T. Klarich)

Motion Carried

5. Approval of Minutes:

It was moved by Commissioner R. Lund, seconded by Commissioner R. LaCroix, to approve the minutes of the Regular Session meeting held on August 24, 2022.

Ayes: Three

Nays: None

Absent: Two (D. DuFour and T. Klarich)

Motion Carried

6. Public Comment: None

7. Unfinished Business:

- A. Policy A6.0 Policy for Removing a Road from Seasonal Designation:** Nothing new to report.

8. New Business:

A. Vouchers:

i. 22-49:

It was moved by Commissioner R. Lund, seconded by Commissioner R. LaCroix, to approve voucher 22-49 as presented.

Roll Call:

Lund - Yes

LaCroix – Yes

Rocheport – Yes

DuFour – Absent

Klarich - Absent

Motion Carried

i. 22-50:

It was moved by Commissioner R. LaCroix, seconded by Commissioner K. Rocheport, to approve voucher 22-50 as presented.

Roll Call:

LaCroix – Yes

Rocheport – Yes

Lund - Abstain

DuFour – Absent

Klarich - Absent

- B. Resolution: Job Number 212425 – CR 449 and Job Number 205688 – CR 436 –** The resolutions were presented for approval and adoption.

It was moved by Commissioner R. LaCroix, seconded by Commissioner R. Lund, to approve adoption of the two resolutions as presented.

Roll Call:

LaCroix – Yes

Lund – Yes

Rocheport – Yes

DuFour – Absent

Klarich - Absent

Motion Carried

MERS Year-End Additional Payment: T. Hoar recommended SCRC make the \$300,000 additional payment to MERS as budgeted because the 2022 Statement of Activities should exceed the projected increase in net assets. Discussion was held on whether to make this additional payment because we are losing staff and we need to increase our wages to be more competitive in the current market. J. Vanderville and T. Hoar stated that the 2023 Budget has wage increases in it that will bring our staff to a competitive position when compared to other Road Commissions our size. They also discussed our Corrective Action Plan with the State that commits SCRC to at least an additional \$275,000 MERS. The 2023 budget has an additional \$15,000 per month to MERS with an additional \$220,000 at year-end. The majority of the Board in attendance supported those amounts.

C.

It was moved by Commissioner R. Lund, seconded by Commissioner K. Rochefort, to approve the MERS Year-End Additional Payment as presented.

Roll Call:

Lund – Yes

Rochefort – Yes

LaCroix - No

DuFour – Absent

Klarich – Absent

Motion Carried

D. August Financial Statement: T. Hoar provided an overview of the August Financial Statement. She noted that budget adjustments will be presented at the meeting to be held on September 28th.

It was moved by Commissioner R. LaCroix, seconded by Commissioner K. Rochefort, to approve the August Financial Statement as presented.

Roll Call:

LaCroix – Yes

Rochefort – Yes

Lund – Yes

DuFour - Absent

Klarich – Absent

Motion Carried

E. Interview Travis Hopp Truck Driver: An interview was conducted following the 2nd Public Comment period.

9. Manager's Report:

Township & Germfask Meetings: At the Thompson Township meeting, J. Vanderville spoke to the board regarding questions and concerns. There were none on the road, but they asked about paving. As we would not do the paving, she provided names of pavers they could contact for bid.

At the Germfask Township meeting, drainage issues were discussed. There are five pipes running back from the street through M-77 to the river. Backups of water are on people's lawns, etc.

Foreman's Truck: Greg Bink stopped in to say that he received the 3/4-ton pickup that we ordered, but it came in as a 2023 when they ordered a 2022. The cost increased by \$2,500. J. Vanderville approved the additional cost and is waiting for a bill.

Peterbilt Trucks: Scott Lemke stopped in to go over specs and discuss cost increases to the plow trucks we ordered. Copy of details were included in the packet. The price has increased, as he had the wrong truck specs originally.

Truck & Trailer Cost Increase: R. Martin reached out to Jason at Truck & Trailer to get updated pricing for upfitting of new trucks. A copy of the details was included in the packet. There is a 390-day lead time.

News Article: There are many frustrations among not only our employees but members of the public surrounding the social media posts from a candidate for the SCRC board. Most of the frustration comes from the belief that the candidate is spreading untruths about the road commission. J. Vanderville created an interview-style article (included) to address those claims and to give the public a deeper look at who the road commission is and what we do. She asked the editor at the Tribune if they were interested in running the article but has not heard back yet. A copy of the article was included in the packet.

RTF Change: Due to increased cost, we shifted County Road 453 (M-149 to Peterson Rd.) from FY'23 to FY'25 and moved the funding to County Road 433 (US-2 to Scharstrom). The changes were considered minor changes and were able to be completed with an email vote.

Resolution for JN 212425: This resolution was previously missed for approval and was presented at this meeting (see 8.B. above).

10. Engineer's Report:

Township Work/Meetings: Berm removal has been completed on Cemetery Road. The gravel lift portion of the project will take place after grade stakes are placed. I. Stampfly plans to have the project staked later this week or early next week.

I. Stampfly attended Manistique and Hiawatha Township meetings last week. Manistique was pleased with the work we did on Dillexie Lane and that we came in under budget. Manistique Township did not have any questions or concerns for the road commission. Hiawatha Township, also, did not have any questions or concerns for the road commission.

CR-433 River Road Project (2022) & CR-448 over Stutts Creek: An update was received on the River Road project start date; Payne & Dolan is looking at starting on August 31st. A precon meeting will be taking place in mid-August and I. Stampfly is still working out the dates for it. We are still waiting for award on the Stutts Bridge, and he has heard no new updates.

CR-433 River Road Project (2023): I. Stampfly has been in contact with the consultant who will be doing the GI meeting on MDOT's behalf. We were trying to schedule the meeting for this week or next week. He is still waiting for official date and time.

CR-436 & CR-449 Force Account Projects: Funding has been obligated and we can start on these projects now anytime. I. Stampfly needs to re-stake CR-449 (8 Mile) as many of the stakes have been run over or removed prior to starting the gravel lift. We are planning to start CR-449 in the next couple of weeks and CR-436 will follow after CR-449 is completed. Since obligation, he has also started to work on the construction admin/documentation for both projects as well.

Seney Salt Barn: Construction has started on our new salt shed. Johnson Brothers were prepping for the footings and placing rebar for the walls during our site visits last week.

11. Department Heads:

Tanya Hoar, Finance Director: None

Troy Bassett, County Commissioner: Noted that he spoke with SCRC commissioner candidate Isaac Swisher and invited him to attend a meeting to address his questions and concerns regarding SCRC. However, it is believed that Mr. Swisher is already planning to attend the meeting to be held on Wednesday, September 28th.

There is an Audit and Finance meeting today to discuss the budget. The District Court budget is being worked on specifically, especially as it relates to sheriff and undersheriff salaries.

He is working on getting meetings going again to discuss the American Rescue Plan money.

Kim Rochefort, Road Foreman: Reported there is a lot of work to finish up for the year, but there are enough crew members now to keep up. There is currently one grader and one truck out of commission. Two more will be needed before winter.

Roger Martin, Shop Foreman: The news that Jaden Treece, Mechanic, is resigning has changed his plans for the winter. One truck will need to go to MI CAT.

Ann Peterson, Payroll / HR Coordinator: Reported that Jaden Treece, Mechanic, handed in a resignation letter on Thursday, September 8th, providing a two-week notice, with his last day being Thursday, September 22nd. An exit interview has been created, which will be conducted with Jaden prior to him leaving. The first question will ask what prompted the employee to look for another position. The exit interview will aid in keeping the SCRC a positive workplace.

Per J. Vanderville, ads will be placed for the mechanic position via newspaper, radio and possibly TV6's "Job of the Week".

There will be eight Temp CDL Drivers hired for the 2022-2023 winter season. There are five returning, one staying on, and two to be hired.

12. Meeting Notice:

A. Commissioners Seminar October 9-11, 2022, Frankenmuth, MI

B. Public Comment:

J. Vanderville noted that there have been several road issues that the new sheriff and undersheriff have been involved in. They have been doing a great job and are willing to help us out.

J. Vanderville provided a letter from Michelle Lakosky requesting donations for the Great Cycle Challenge to fight kid's cancer. Although the SCRC cannot contribute, individuals are welcomed to if they wish.

Commissioner K. Rochefort noted that Advent Road has recently been chip sealed. He asked that the snowplow driver for that route be notified that it is no longer gravel.

Road Foreman K. Rochefort reiterated that the undersheriff is always available to get things done, where the previous one was difficult to contact.

13. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 am by Vice-Chairman K. Rochefort.



Keith Rochefort, Vice-Chairperson



Jean Vanderville, Managing Director