

SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION  
332N EAST ROAD, MANISTIQUE, MI 49854  
BOARD MEETING AGENDA  
April 8, 2026 - 7:00 a.m.

001124

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:
8. New Business:
  - A. Voucher 26-25, 26-26, & 26-27
  - B. Strategic Goals Presentation
  - C. National Work Zone Awareness Week April 20-24, 2026
    - a. Approve News Publication
  - D. Township Construction Contracts Approval
  - E. Milakokia Bridge Deck Investigation Approval
  - F. VanDamme Chloride Application Approval
  - G. Administrative Contracts
  - H. **Add-on** RMS Estimate Approval
9. Manager's Report
  - A. Commissioner Comments
10. Engineer's Report
  - A. Commissioner Comments
11. Department Heads
12. Commissioner's Comments:
13. Meeting Notices
  - A. RTF Meeting April 8, 2026, Alger CRC
  - B. Orange Day April 22, 2026, NWZAW
14. Public Comment
15. Adjournment

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman T. Klarich at 7:00 am.

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

**Present:** Thomas Klarich  
Randy Lund  
Keith Rochefort  
Wayne Johnson

**Absent:** Robin LaCroix

**Also in Attendance:** Jean Vanderville, Managing Director; Ian Stampfly, Road Engineer; Tanya Hoar, Finance Director; Michelle Steffen, HR Generalist, Kim Rochefort, Road Foreman, Roger Martin, Shop Foreman; Paul Walker, County Commissioner

Absent: None

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

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

Ayes: Four  
Nays: None

Absent: One

***Motion Carried***

**It was moved** by Commissioner K. Rochefort, seconded by Commissioner R. Lund to approve the addition of H. RMS Estimate Approval.

Ayes: Four  
Nays: None

Absent: One

***Motion Carried***

**5. Approval of Minutes:****Board Meeting 3-23-2026:**

It was moved by Commissioner K. Rochefort, seconded by Commissioner W. Johnson, to approve the Board Meeting minutes from 3-23-2026 as presented.

Ayes: Four

Nays: None

Absent: One

***Motion Carried***

**6. Public Comment:** Commissioner P. Walker stated that due to the hospital's 2.5 million in losses from the blizzard, he has filed for a State of Emergency.

**7. Unfinished Business:** None

**8. New Business:**

**A. Voucher 26-25, 26-26, & 26-27:**

It was moved by Commissioner R. Lund, seconded by Commissioner W. Johnson, to approve the Voucher 26-25, 26-26 & 26-27 as presented.

**Roll Call:**

Lund – Yes

Johnson – Yes

Rochefort – Yes

Klarich – Yes

Absent: One

***Motion Carried***

**B. Strategic Goals Presentation:** J. Vanderville provided a PowerPoint presentation of SCRC's strategic goals. It was noted that while we do have goals, they historically have not been driven by the board. J. Vanderville welcomes feedback and guidance on strategic goals from the board.

**C. National Work Zone Awareness Week April 20-24, 2026: Approval of News Publication:** J. Vanderville received approval from the board to place a work zone safety article in the local papers.

**D. Township Construction Contracts Approval:** I. Stampfly provided the Township Construction Contract Agreements for Manistique Township, Hiawatha Township, and Doyle Township.

**It was moved** by Commissioner W. Johnson, seconded by Commissioner K. Rochefort, to approve the Contract Agreements as presented.

**Roll Call:**

Johnson – Yes

Rochefort – Yes

Lund – Yes

Klarich – Yes

Absent: One

***Motion Carried***

**E. Milakokia Bridge Deck Investigation Approval:** I. Stampfly presented the proposal from WR Construction for the Milakokia Bridge Deck investigation costs.

**It was moved** by Commissioner K. Rochefort, seconded by Commissioner W. Johnson to approve the proposal from WR Construction in the amount of \$36,556.33 to conduct the Milakokia Bridge Deck investigation.

**Roll Call:**

Rochefort – Yes

Johnson – Yes

Lund – Yes

Klarich – Yes

Absent: One

***Motion Carried***

**F. VanDamme Chloride Application Approval:** J. Vanderville presented the spreadsheet for the chloride application estimate.

**It was moved** by Commissioner W. Johnson, seconded by K. Rochefort to approve the VanDamme Chloride Application estimate as presented.

Ayes: Four

Nays: None

Absent: One

***Motion Carried***

**G. Administrative Contracts:** The proposed Administrative Contracts were reviewed by the board.

**It was moved** by Commissioner W. Johnson, seconded by Commissioner T. Klarich to approve the contracts with the addition of attorney Mike Kluck's recommendations.

Discussion was had relating to wages and attorney recommendations.

**An amended motion** was made by Commissioner W. Johnson, supported by Commissioner T. Klarich, to approve the Administrative Contracts with all attorney recommendations and contracts to be reviewed and negotiated independently of each position as presented.

**Roll Call:**

Johnson – Yes

Klarich – Yes

Lund – Yes

Rocheftort – No

Absent: One

***Motion Carried***

**H. Add-on RMS Estimate Approval:** J. Vanderville discussed the cost difference between repairs and replacement. J. Vanderville then presented an estimate from RMS to repair our 3-post rotary truck hoist.

**It was moved** by Commissioner K. Rocheftort, seconded by Commissioner R. Lund to approve the RMS Estimate as presented.

**Roll Call:**

Rocheftort – Yes

Lund – Yes

Johnson – Yes

Klarich – Yes

**9. Manager's Report:**

**Winter Storm Clean Up Debrief Meeting:** I met with the entire crew to discuss the successes, challenges, and opportunities that were experienced during the storm cleanup. The crew recognized several opportunities to assist in storm cleanup even from a significant storm versus a disaster storm. They felt our fleet could use some additional v-plows, a snowblower for Seney, and an angle plow for use in subdivisions and tight areas. We have taken those into consideration and are working on implementing them into our capital outlay plans.

The debriefing discussions have also led to working on a project to improve and update our disaster recovery playbook. The Emergency Manager for Schoolcraft County has resigned, so we feel that having a solid plan is vital. This is in the early stages, but as we complete the project we will present it to the board.

**Sign Truck:** Nate (Knapheide) advised that they are unable to meet this fiscal year for building a sign truck due to changes in their bucket/man basket provider. Nate is looking at a company they use for their OH division and will get back to us as he knows more about the timelines for the build.

We have started conversations as an administrative team on how to shift the allocated dollars and what our priorities are. Once we have solidified the plan, we will present it to the board for approval.

**State Mineral Leases:** Lease Extension Agreements have been signed. Our new agreements are Seney effective until 11/12/2028 and Inwood effective until 01/31/2029.

**NWZAW:** National Work Zone Awareness Week is April 20-24, 2026. I would like us to participate again this year, so please wear your orange at the April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. I have included a news publication for approval. The days we will participate in again this year are April 22 Go Orange Day, April 23 Social Media Storm, and April 24 Moment of Silence. We have purchased the NWZAW orange silicone bracelets for everyone this year.

**CRA Annual Meeting:** Thank you Rob for recommending the presentation on Forming Allies with Townships. The presentation went great and we received a lot of positive feedback. Thank you to Ian for being a great partner in the presentation.

I attended the CRA Board Meeting, Negotiating Committee, and Canvassing. In addition to our presentation, I also attended the breakout session "New operations tools of the trade". The Governor spoke at our reception and the keynote speaker this year John U Bacon was very impressive.

**JX Warranty Agreement:** I signed the agreement with JX for us to continue doing warranty work in-house. There were no changes to the agreement. Copy of the agreement was emailed to you.

**VanDamme Chloride Application:** We previously discussed having VanDamme apply chloride to some of our township roads in addition to our primary system. Travis (VanDamme) provided an estimate for application that is the same price as our primary system. Application price \$0.739/gal (last year price \$0.714). Our primary system is approximately 62,000 gallons and the local system is estimated at approximately 77,000 gallons. Copy of the roads is included in the packet.

Last year our labor and truck expenses were \$22,588.36; the townships paid \$27,301.63 in material cost for a total cost of \$49,889.99. VanDamme's cost would equal approximately \$56,903 for the local system. This would free up our crew to work on other projects and reduce costs for our townships. This service would be charged against the NRF dollars.

The expected outcome by subcontracting some of the local systems is we can more efficiently cover all townships. Some challenges we encounter are being able to keep enough chloride in stock to complete the entire system. This challenge is due to both our storage capacity and timeliness of delivery of material.

**CRASIF Call for Board of Trustee Candidates:** I received information from CRASIF that there are seats available for their board if anyone is interested.

**Rural Roads Alliance:** I will need to read the information that was received before making any type of recommendation. Stay tuned for that.

## 10. Engineer's Report:

**2025 Projects:** The CR-440 project is wrapped up, and all deficiencies have been addressed. At the time of writing this report, I have submitted the responses/corrections to the deficiencies for the CR-453 project. If MDOT accepts the corrections then all our projects will be wrapped up from previous years.

**CR-437 @ Iron Creek and CR-442 @ Spring Creek:** No new updates on these proposals/grants.

**Township Projects:** Hiawatha, Manistique, and Doyle Township have all accepted Bacco's low bid for their respective paving projects. I have put together contracts for each township, and they are included in your packet. There has been no change in Bacco's schedule as of right now, they still plan to be in the area beginning mid-June. The preconstruction meetings for these projects will be scheduled for later this month, and I hope to do these after our meeting for CR-455.

**Critical Bridge Applications:** Our critical bridge applications have been submitted. There were two separate applications, one to replace the bridge over the Milakokia River and the other to perform preventative maintenance and rehab work to the bridge on CR-449 and Bass Lake Road, both of which cross the Indian River. Typically, we receive notice if our applications have been selected around October.

**CRA Highway Conference & Road Show:** I attended the highway conference and road show also. The conference was great as usual. In addition to the conference, I attended the CRA Board meeting, CRA engineering committee meeting, CRA C Corp Board meeting, and a meeting with MDOT Local Agency Program with other UP counties to discuss some concerns and issues we have been having getting projects through the MDOT system.

**Crisis Recovery Playbook:** A couple years ago, CRA put out some information to help counties in documentation and preparation should a flood ever occur and cause damage. This was born out of the Father's Day flooding that impacted our western neighbors. We have added a couple of documents to this playbook outlining procedures, plans, and contingencies should this occur in Schoolcraft County. Jean and I discussed some lessons learned and things we could improve upon for dealing with significant winter storms such as the one we just dealt with or the ice storm that effected the northern lower counties last spring and out of that discussion we thought it would be a good idea to develop a playbook for significant winter events. This is in the early stages of development, but we think it will be beneficial for us when another winter event occurs. More to come on this in the future.

**11. Department Heads:****Tanya Hoar:**

Nothing new to report. Was on vacation.

**Kim Rochefort:**

We have the chipper out East and the chipper and mini out West.

Attended the Annual Safety Conference in Gaylord last week. There is a manufacturer who has a brand of heated wipers. Jean will provide the information to Roger to investigate.

**Roger Martin:**

We have the chassis back from Accurate Alignment and it appears to be good.

During the blizzard, we did not have any regen issues with the trucks.

We are playing catch-up from the clean-up.

**Michelle Steffen:**

The ESTA hours have been uploaded.

Wage increases will be inputted next week, with an effective date of 4/5/2026.

I will be moving forward in scheduling interviews for next week.

**12. Commissioner's Comments:**

Commissioner W. Johnson stated that we should consider conducting yearly evaluations for the manager.

Commissioner K. Rochefort stated that he is ok with the administrative contracts except for the wage increases.

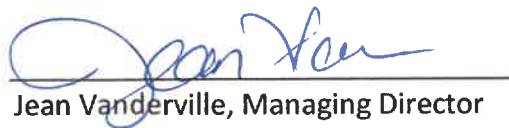
**13. Meeting Notices:**

A. RTF Meeting April 08, 2026, Alger CRC

B. Orange Day April 22, 2026, NWZAW

**14. Public Comment:** None**15. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 am.

Thomas Klarich, Chairperson



Jean Vanderville, Managing Director