

SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
332N EAST ROAD, MANISTIQUE, MI 49854
BOARD MEETING AGENDA
January 10, 2024 - 7:00 a.m.

000737

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. Vouchers 24-14, 24-15
 - B. November Financial Statements
9. Manager's Report
10. Engineer's Report
11. Department Heads
12. Meeting Notices
 - A. UPRBA February 1-2, 2024, Marquette, MI
 - B. Straits Area Council February 13, 2024, Mackinaw City, MI
 - C. CRA Highway Conference & Road Show March 19-21, 2024, Lansing, MI
13. Public Comment
14. 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
Dale DuFour
Robin LaCroix
Keith Rochefort

Absent: Randy Lund

Also in Attendance: Jean Vanderville, Managing Director; Ian Stampfly, Road Engineer; Ann Peterson, Payroll/HR Coordinator; Kim Rochefort, Road Foreman; Roger Martin, Shop Foreman, Troy Bassett, County Commissioner.

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

It was moved by Commissioner D. DuFour, seconded by Commissioner R. LaCroix, to approve the agenda after moving the November Financial Statements to Unfinished Business. The November Financial Statements will be presented at the next meeting.

Ayes: Four

Nays: None

Absent: One (R. Lund)

Motion Carried

5. Approval of Minutes:**Regular Meeting 12-27-23:**

It was moved by Commissioner D. DuFour, seconded by Commissioner K. Rochefort, to approve the minutes of December 27, 2023, as presented.

Ayes: Four

Nays: None

Absent: One (R. Lund)

Motion Carried

Organizational Meeting 1-3-24:

It was moved by Commissioner D. DuFour, seconded by Commissioner K. Rochefort, to approve the minutes of January 3, 2024, as presented.

Ayes: Four

Nays: None

Absent: One (R. Lund)

Motion Carried**6. Public Comment: None****7. Unfinished Business: November Financial Statements****8. New Business:****A. Vouchers 24-14 & 24-15:**

It was moved by Commissioner R. LaCroix, seconded by Commissioner T. Klarich, to approve vouchers 24-14 and 24-15 as presented.

Roll Call:

LaCroix – Yes

Klarich – Yes

Rochefort – Yes

DuFour - Yes

Absent: One (R. Lund)

Motion Carried**9. Manager's Report:**

Rail Crossing Increases: Copies of the CRA response were included in packet along with MCL 354 of 1993 and the original minutes that prompted the discussion.

Drain Commission: The road commission will continue to serve as the drain commission. In Schoolcraft County there are no registered drains. As far as the delegated authority is concerned, J. Vanderville will remain as a member of the lake authority for Gulliver Lake, but all other control structures will have their own lake authority that will not include the drain commissioner.

Local PASER Reimbursement: J. Vanderville has not yet met with TAMC but received an email notice that additional funds have been allocated to the NFA collection efforts. She has reached out to CUPPAD and requested to be included.

Autosist: We started training and are on target to go live on Monday, January 15th. Currently we are using Autosist for the tandems, will add equipment in the spring, and eventually will add pickups and trailers. R. Martin noted that yesterday the program worked perfectly, as a tandem blower quit and was able to be reported and fixed right away.

CRASIF Inspection: Sam SanMiguel from CRASIF was on-site January 3, 2024, performing a Risk Control Review. After his visit he noted that the following: "After visiting your facility, I am very pleased to report that your facility is very clean and in good working order. I have no red flags to document. This is a reflection of all employees' discipline, pride and hard work. Well done".

10. Engineer's Report:

FLAP Projects: I. Stampfly received an email stating that MDOT has accepted the final documents submitted. He will share the bid letting date once the projects are advertised.

Township Work: I. Stampfly has finished putting together an RFP for Hiawatha Township for work on Swanson Road and Rivers Bend Drive. The proposal is for an HMA overlay. We will be reviewing the proposal this week and sending out for bids. The plan is to have the bids due at the end of this month and award or reject the project at the February township meeting.

Fish & Wildlife Service – Seney Wildlife Refuge: J. Vanderville and I. Stampfly met with the manager of the wildlife refuge to discuss future projects on Robinson Street, CR-448, and CR-436. These roadways would be eligible for FLAP funding and the refuge manager supports the project ideas. They discussed the permits and other documents needed to perform work on CR-448 and CR-436 where the refuge boundaries are, and the manager is willing to help us through that process when the time comes. They also discussed the possibility of partnering with the refuge to perform road or culvert work for them. Basically, we would perform the work for the refuge and then be reimbursed the labor, equipment, and overhead costs. He thinks this is turning into a good partnership for us.

Fish & Wildlife Service: Proposals for fish passage grants have been submitted for CR-437 @ Iron Creek and CR-436 @ Mezik Creek. I. Stampfly is not sure how competitive this is, but he can say the last time the FWS asked him for a proposal like this it was funded, although it was a much smaller cost. He will keep commissioners updated on whether we receive either of these. Construction would not take place until 2025 or 2026 if we receive the funding.

EGLE Permit: After submitting the additional information, EGLE would like to see other revisions to the permit. It sounds like the permit will be approved after the revisions are made and at the time of writing this report, I. Stampfly has not revised the permit yet.

MDOT Detour Maps: I. Stampfly has finished the maps and asked Road Foreman K. Rochefort the guys to review them. There were no changes requested. We will make

additional copies and get them laminated for the emergency trailers. We will also have copies here in the office.

11. Department Heads:

Troy Bassett: Paul Walker remains the chair of the county commissioners, with Craig Reiter being appointed as vice chair, replacing Dan Hoholik.

The Chief Judge chose John Shiner to be the Magistrate. He needs to be approved by the county commissioners.

The county board has set the lake authority boards to include a county commissioner, township official, drain commissioner and/or city official as related to the control structure. Board authorities will work on setting up special assessment districts, setting lake levels, and authorizing repairs and inspections.

The county website for lake information is schoolcraftcountylakes.net.

Kim Rochefort: There are two roads left to do berm removal, Ramsdam and Bloom. These will now be done in the spring with the recent snowfall. Shoulder work on those roads where berms have already been removed will also be done in the spring. Hiawatha Township will be completed in 2025.

Roger Martin: Reported the EGR tune-up is working to resolve some of the after-treatment issues. They will continue to monitor.

Ann Peterson: None

12. Meeting Notices:

- A. UPRBA February 1-2, 2024, Marquette, MI
- B. Straits Area Council February 13, 2024, Mackinaw City, MI
- C. CRA Highway Conference & Road Show March 19-21, 2024, Lansing MI

13. Public Comment: D. DuFour asked about the status of Ruggles Road and what we are doing with it. J. Vanderville responded that Hiawatha Township has no interest in extending the road through. The family that wanted it has stopped pushing it, so it will likely be abandoned rather than decertified.

R. LaCroix asked about funds received by the state for certified roads where no work was completed and then the roads were decertified. He felt any funds collected while the roads were certified but no work was done should be sent back to the state. J. Vanderville responded that she has been working very hard to get roads decertified so that funds are not sent for them. The state has never asked for the funds to be returned. A significant discussion was held.

T. Klarich asked about the dump road across from the gun club on M-94, asking that it be decertified as there is a gate across it. J. Vanderville notified him that the road was no longer ours.

J. Vanderville explained that for seasonal roads we collect funds, as they are still certified, but we do not collect snow funds.

T. Bassett reported that at the UP Whitetails board meeting, Joe Hinkson was elected president. They had a long discussion regarding what Whitetails is all about. The public will likely see them do more to feed deer, etc. rather than just having a party.

14. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 am.


Thomas Klarich, Chairperson


Jean Vanderville, Managing Director