

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Clinton was held on Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the boardroom of the Clinton County Road Commission, 3536 S. BR127, St. Johns, MI 48879.

The pledge of allegiance was led by the Clerk to the Board Jill Rey

Commissioners Present: Peter Blauwiel, Kevin Holt and Gail Watkins

Staff Present: Managing Director Joseph Pulver, Director of Engineering Dan Armentrout, and Director of Finance/Clerk Jill Rey

Visitors: Kam Washburn

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Clerk to the Board Mrs. Rey requested nominations for Chairperson for 2017.

Commissioner Watkins expressed his concerns over what he considers as a lack of Board involvement at the Road Commission at every level from union negotiations down to daily operations. The past practices cannot be carried on as it is not sustainable and the Road Commission will cease to exist. The ratio of payroll to MTF at approximately 80% is far too high and a union contract with an 8% increase over 3 years can never happen again. The impact of the negotiated contract carries over as the Administrative staff then expects the same percentage of increase. He feels the employee MERS contribution needs to be raised to at least 10%. Even though he feels confident in the current staff's abilities and direction, the Board still needs to be more involved. After discussing these concerns with Commissioner Blauwiel and feeling confident that his concerns were understood, he then felt comfortable making the following motion.

It was moved by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Holt, to nominate Pete Blauwiel as chairperson for 2017 and to close the nominations.

A vote indicated 2 ayes and 0 nays and 1 abstained.

Clerk to the Board Mrs. Rey requested nominations for Vice Chairperson for 2017.

It was moved by Commissioner Blauwiel, seconded by Commissioner Holt, to nominate Gail Watkins as vice chairperson for 2017 and to close the nominations.

A vote indicated 2 ayes and 0 nays and 1 abstained.

APPOINTMENT OF MANAGING DIRECTOR, CLERK OF THE BOARD, AND ENGINEER FOR 2017:

It was moved by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Holt, and passed unanimously, to appoint Joseph Pulver as Managing Director, Jill Rey as Clerk to the Board, and Daniel Armentrout as County Highway Engineer for 2017.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the December 22, 2016 regular meeting were reviewed. It was moved by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Blauwiel, and passed with 2 yes, 0 nays and 1 abstention, to approve the December 22, 2016 regular meeting minutes as presented.

AGENDA:

It was moved by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Holt, and passed unanimously, to approve the Agenda as printed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The following communications were reviewed: 1) Seven County Council Agenda, 2) Notice from Clinton County Commissioners that Kam Washburn will serve as the Board Representative to the Road Commission for 2017, 3) Auditor's Report regarding 2014 MDOT Audit.

It was moved by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Holt, and passed unanimously, to accept and place the communications on file.

INFORMATION FROM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

County Commissioner Washburn reported: 1) Annual organizational meeting was held, Bob Showers was elected Chair, Adam Stacey, Vice Chair, 2) Made changes to the Bylaws to change the names of the standing committees, they are now known as the Human Resources Committee, the Public Safety Committee and the Ways and Means Committee, 3) New HR Chair is Bruce DeLong, Public Safety Chair is Ken Mitchell, and Ways and Means Chair is Kam Washburn, 4) New veterans representative, Barry Walter, is available to help veterans with issues, he is at the Court House 9-4 each Friday.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments:

STAFF REPORTS:

Mr. Armentrout reported: 1) 2017 Federal Aid projects: Herbison from Turner to BR-127, Grange from M-21 to Colony, and Round Lake Road from Chandler to Babcock, 2) 2018 Federal Aid projects: Clark from Airport to DeWitt Rd., Grove Road over the Stony Creek, Colony from DeWitt to Forest Hill. He noted that Bengal Twp. has not yet returned its contract to start the process on the Grove Road over the Stony Creek bridge.

Mrs. Rey reported on the following: 1) MTF was \$605,002.18, 2) OPEB actuarial report update, 3) IRS Mileage reimbursement for 2017 is 53.5, 4) Nationwide Deferred Comp conversion to new plan is complete, 5) Year-end process is underway, 6) County's auditors, Rehmann, inquired about audit services, 7) Positive Pay discussion due to check cashing issue, 8) Oaths of Office.

Commissioner Watkins requested that a representative from Watkins Ross present the actuarial study when it is complete and that a MERS representative address the Board when the MERS annual report is complete.

Mr. Pulver reported on the following: 1) Maintenance report, 2) MDOT maintenance report, 3) Meeting with Watertown, 4) Seven County Council Meeting 1/17 in Livingston Co. 5) Twp. Assoc. Meeting January 26 at Victor, 6) Engineer's Workshop Jan 31-Feb 2nd., 7) Next meeting February 9th. 8) Olive Twp. has offered to pay for 50% of the cost of chip seal on Pratt Rd. (primary road) between DeWitt and Airport, 9) Chuck Nelson Chair of Greenspace Committee appreciated Blauwiel's appointment to the committee.

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT BIDS:

It was moved by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Holt, and passed unanimously, to authorize accepting bids for aluminum sign blanks and complete signs, bituminous cold patch, dust palliative 38%, dust palliative mineral well brine, erosion control and geo textile materials, gravel hauling from various pits, gravel processing, mining & stockpiling, 21AA, 22A, 23A, Class II Sand, 1"-3" crushed concrete and large crushed concrete, fine graded aggregate-2NS sand, winter maintenance sand, re-lining of existing CMP culverts, roadside mowing- east side, scraper blades, steel sign posts, and tire recaps.

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST:

It was moved by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Holt, and passed unanimously, to set the date of the legislative breakfast for a time and date in February that works for everyone involved.

REVISION OF POLICY NO. 128 – INVOICE DISTRIBUTION COST:

It was moved Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Holt, and passed unanimously, to revise Policy No. 128 to allow the Manager's discretion in the billing process.

AUTHORIZATION TO WRITE OFF INVOICE #9806:

It was moved by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Holt, and passed unanimously, to authorize the Director of Finance to write off invoice #9806 due to nonservice.

2016 ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF ROADS:

It was moved by Commissioner Holt, seconded by Commissioner Watkins, and passed unanimously, to authorize Chairperson Blauwiel to sign the 2016 Road Certification Act 51 Cover Sheet as presented.

RIGHT OF WAY PERMITS:

The right-of-way permits were reviewed by the board. It was moved by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Holt, and passed unanimously, to approve the following right-of-way permits: 001-17 through 005-17.

VOUCHERS AND PAYROLLS:

It was moved by Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Holt, and passed unanimously, to approve vouchers (#60017 - #60088) and payroll checks (#90127 - #90144 and direct deposit advices) as presented, in the total amount of \$367,726.31.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Blauwiel noted that the County Board of Commissioners has requested that the Road Commissioners attend Township meetings throughout the year. A schedule will be worked out for 2017.

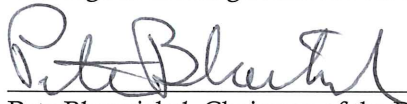
Commissioner Holt – no comments

Commissioner Watkins – no comments now as he made his comments at the beginning of the meeting.

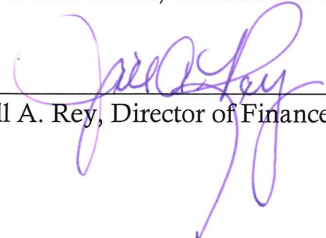
Commissioner Blauwiel – welcomed Kevin Holt to the Board and looks forward to working together.

ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m. with the next regular meeting scheduled for February 9, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.



 Pete Blauwiel, Chairman of the Board



 Jill A. Rey, Director of Finance/Clerk to the Board

