

The Board of Road Commissioners for the County of Antrim met at the County Garage, Mancelona, Michigan for a regular meeting at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paradis.

Present: Commissioners Dobrzelewski, Hunt and Paradis. Absent: none. Also present: Engineer-Manager Thompson and Secretary Farrier. County Commissioner Eugene Dawson was also in attendance.

It was moved by Hunt and seconded by Dobrzelewski to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2011 regular meeting. Motion carried by unanimous yes vote.

At 9:32 a.m. the floor was opened to public comment. Being none, the floor returned to the Chair.

There was no correspondence to review or discuss.

The Engineer-Manager gave his report.

2011 Cash flow, MTF and fund balance were discussed along with projections for 2012.

State legislative matters were discussed. Bills have been introduced that, if enacted, would allow counties to dissolve road commissions and take over those functions. Governor Snyder has proposed a change to the funding mechanism (taxes) and distribution formula. This may very well reduce the revenue for rural road commissions like Antrim. Senator Walker has introduced bills that would eliminate the current tax on gasoline and diesel and replace it with an increase of 1% on the state sales tax.

The Engineer-Manager informed the Board that the FCC is requiring changes be made in frequency (band width) by 2013 that will require an upgrade to the radio system. Most of the mobile units can be reprogrammed, however the main repeater will need to be replaced. Additionally, due to the narrowing of the band width, our signal strength will be reduced, meaning more "dead spots". This may require additional tower locations in order to get the coverage needed. He has hired a consultant (the same that the County is using) to review the situation and make recommendations.

The Board reviewed the complaint/request reports that had been received since the last meeting.

The possibility of a county-wide millage for road funding was discussed at an Antrim County Board of Commissioners (BOC) meeting a couple months ago. The BOC turned the matter over to their Transportation Committee, which is chaired by Commissioner Dawson, for further discussion. The Engineer-Manager supplied the Committee with information regarding how the current funding (MTF) works, an opinion from Road Commission attorney on the law regarding county-wide millage for road funding and analysis of how much revenue a 1-mill county millage would generate. The Committee requested a "plan" from the Road Commission on how this millage funding, if approved, would be spent. The Engineer-Manager said he will get Board approval before presenting any spending plan to the Committee.

A proposed road maintenance agreement with the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians was discussed. It was moved by Hunt and seconded by Dobrzelewski to approve the agreement for the period of November 1, 2011 thru October 31, 2012. Motion carried by unanimous yes vote.

The Board reviewed the proposed 5-year SAFETEA-LU (Federal Aid) projects for 2012-2015. It was moved by Hunt and seconded by Dobrzelewski to approve 5-year SAFETEA-LU projects for 2012-2015 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous yes vote.

The Board was informed that a requirement of Public Act 29, of 1995, Michigan's Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, is to authorize a representative to make disclosures, if any. It was moved by Dobrzelewski and seconded by Hunt to appoint the Secretary, Dale Farrier, to be the authorized representative for unclaimed property reporting. Motion carried by unanimous yes vote.

It was moved by Dobrzelewski and seconded by Hunt to hold a special meeting on December 30, 2011 at 9:00 to approve the amended 2011 operating budget and any other matter as may come before the Board. Motion carried by unanimous yes vote.

Bills in the amount of \$218,937.02 covered by master voucher(s) #24, #25, #25A&B and payroll(s) #24A & 25 in the amount of \$67064.24 were reviewed.

By motion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

Approved by


Glenn Paradis, Chairman

Submitted by


D.E. Farrier, Secretary