

An **organizational** meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Finance Manager Nedow at the Road Commission offices in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **January 13, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Bob Rosa
Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Member Ted Mick
Manager Matt Skeels
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Guests: County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Sherry Taylor, Benzie Central Schools representatives Jason Barnard and Brian Childs, Colfax Township representatives Ron Seguin and Audrey Swisher, and Colfax township residents Irene Dunham-Thayer, Gene Hoseit and Steve and Joyce Blood.

Nedow called for nominations for Chairman for the ensuing year.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to nominate Bob Rosa as Chairman of the Benzie County Road Commission for the ensuing year.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Bowers, Mick and Rosa. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby approved.

Nedow then turned the meeting over to Chairman Rosa.

Nominations for Vice-Chairman:

Motion by Commissioner Rosa supported by Commissioner Mick to nominate Jim Bowers as Vice-Chairman of the Benzie County Road Commission for the ensuing year.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Rosa, Mick and Bowers. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby approved.

Appoint Clerk/Secretary to the Board:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to appoint Joe Nedow as Clerk/Secretary to the Board of the Benzie County Road Commission for the ensuing year.

Discussion: None

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby approved.

2022 meeting schedule:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to adopt the 2022 Benzie County Road Commission meeting schedule as presented.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby approved.

Resolution 22-01 Bank Depositories for 2022:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to adopt Resolution 22-01 which reads as follows:

WHEREAS, under the laws of this State of Michigan, Act 40 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1932, 1st Extra Session, as amended (MCL 129.12) this board is required to provide, by resolution, for the deposit of all public monies, including tax monies, belonging to, or held for, the State, County or other political units coming into the hands of the County Treasurer, in one or more banks, savings and loan associations or credit unions within the state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The depositories for the Road Commission funds will be Honor Bank and Michigan Class Investments. Further, the County Treasurer, Michelle L. Thompson, is authorized to invest funds with any bank or trust company in the State of Michigan or with any agency of the U.S. Government, upon approval of the Benzie County Board of Commissioners, and

2. The persons authorized to sign on these depositories are: Michelle L. Thompson, County Treasurer; Kelly Long, Chief Deputy Treasurer; Matthew Skeels, Manager of the Road Commission; Scott Fasel, Superintendent and Lisa R. Taber, Payroll Clerk, and
3. The Treasurer is authorized to enter into and execute on behalf of the Road Commission any contracts with any bank or trust company for the safekeeping or third-party custodianship of any of the Road Commission's securities as well as any contracts or repurchase agreements with any corporation for the purchase of any such securities which will be the subject of such safekeeping or third-party custodianship arrangements, on such terms and conditions as the County Treasurer shall require, and
4. The County Treasurer is authorized to rely on the continuing effect of this Resolution until amended or repealed by a subsequent resolution of this or a successor Board of County Road Commissioners.

Roll call vote: Rosa – aye; Bowers – aye and Mick – aye. Nays: None. – Resolution is hereby adopted.

Commissioner Rosa then closed the Organizational meeting at 9:45 a.m.

A regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was then called to order by Chairman Bob Rosa at 9:46 a.m.

The agenda was accepted as presented.

December 23, 2021 regular meeting minutes were approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Mick to pay bills #51167 to #51209 in the amount of \$54,039.90 and Payroll #1 for \$61,677.00.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby approved.

Cash Summary: Reviewed – no comments offered.

Work Summary: In addition to offering comments on how the fleet is holding up this winter, Fleet & Facilities Manager Johnson reported that the hydraulic hoist used by the mechanics to service the fleet is worn out and should be replaced sooner rather than later. While short-term fixes can still keep the unit in service, a long-term solution should be considered. Johnson had received a rough preliminary quote for \$155,000.00 to replace the entire unit and he would like some direction from the Board how he should proceed. Also, the replacement unit would need to be installed in a different spot to ensure sufficient overhead clearance and accessibility. After further discussion, Johnson instructed to proceed with efforts to replace the old unit by what the bid specifications should be, and if the item is available on the State of Michigan MiDeal or Sourcewell programs.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County.

Public Input: None.

Items Before the Board:

-Memorandum of Agreement with Grand Traverse Band – funding for Brownell culvert replacement project:

While no construction is anticipated until later this year or possibly the next, this agreement would provide funds for replacing a large drainage structure on Brownell Road, with the Road Commission doing much of the work. Skeels stated that he estimates the only cost to the Road Commission would be for limited design work on the culvert footings that should not exceed \$1,000.00.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to authorize Manager Skeels to execute the Memorandum of Agreement with the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians whereby the Benzie County Road Commission agrees to install/construct and maintain a culvert crossing for that part of Carter Creek flowing under Brownell Road, with the Road Commission being reimbursed upon completion and final approval, less any operations fees that may apply.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

-Approve MDOT resolution naming staff members (by title) authorized to submit permit applications to MDOT for working in the trunkline road right-of-way:

Nedow explained that MDOT was updating their records and discovered that many road commissions had submitted resolutions that authorized specific individuals by name instead of by position which would be invalid if the person named had left or retired from their respective road agencies. As such, MDOT is asking all road agencies to provide updated resolutions.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to approve MDOT form 2207B "Performance Resolution for Municipalities" for Benzie County Road Commission authorizing the Manager, Superintendent, Engineer Technician and Foreman to submit permit applications to MDOT for any work/tasks performed in the trunkline road right-of-way as needed.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Correspondence/Information/Discussion:

Letter dated January 4, 2022 from MSRC SIP Claims Director Wendy Hardt explaining the Open Meetings Act update. As of January 1, 2022 Board members must be physically present at a meeting of a public body in order to be counted as establishing a quorum and to vote, unless the member is absent due to military duty. In addition, meetings must be open to the public and be held in a place available to the general public but can still be made virtually available if desired.

Public Input: None.

Board Round Table:

Skeels reported on efforts to re-establish a Road Commission Safety Committee comprising of staff and union members; pursuing first aid/CPR training and other work-related training sessions. New tow-straps have been purchased to replace the heavy-duty chains that had been used to pull stuck or hung-up plow trucks free.

Skeels has also been in contact with Brad Link, who is preparing a memo on the condition of the various county bridges. The Haze Road bridge has been added to the list of locations that need to be addressed, and Skeels stated that sooner than later, the Road Commission will need to start addressing the list of bridges that need work.

Appointment: Public Hearing: Dinger Road abandonment request:

Chairman Rosa opened the public hearing at 10:30 a.m. to hear comments on the Dinger Road abandonment request for that portion of the seasonal road between Center Road and Stanton Road as requested by adjacent property owners Steve and Joyce Blood.

Those who voiced support for the abandonment request: Steve and Joyce Blood.

Those who voiced opposition to the abandonment request: Colfax Township Clerk Audrey Swisher, who resides at 2381 Miller Road, Irene Dunham-Thayer, who resides at 2477 Miller Road and Gene Hoseit, who lives at 2407 Miller Road. Each provided their reasons for opposing the request.

Colfax Township Supervisor Ron Seguin was in attendance but did not offer an opinion to the request.

Written correspondence:

Nedow reported Skeels received emails from Apollo Exploration & Development Vice President Tim Hauck and Lambda Energy representative Rodney Schoolcraft regarding Dinger Road.

In an email dated December 3, 2021 Schoolcraft wrote that after discussions he had with Steve Blood, Lambda has no objection should the northern segment (Section 26) of Dinger Road is turned private from public as he opined Lambda retains its authority to use this segment of Dinger Road by virtue of the grant recorded in the Edwin P. Walter lease dated 3-9-83, and that Mr. Blood had informed him that he would move gates to accommodate Lambda's needs.

Also in an email dated January 10, 2022, Apollo Exploration Vice President Tim Hauck wrote that he had been contacted by Steve Blood concerning the abandonment of Dinger Road which his firm uses to access their well-site in section 35 south of Stanton Road. Hauck wrote Apollo would have no objections to gates being placed on Dinger Road provided Apollo had keys so that they could access their well. If the road is abandoned, Hauck requested an easement be granted to Apollo to use the road right of way until their well is plugged and abandoned.

Nedow then announced that Michigan Compiled Law states the Board has thirty days following the public hearing to make a decision on the abandonment request so that they could consider the testimony heard at today's hearing. Commissioner Bowers stated he would be absent at the January 27th regular meeting to which Chairman Rosa responded that the matter would be on the February 10th meeting agenda when the full board is expected to be present.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to close the public hearing and return to open session.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Chairman Rosa then reconvened the regular session at 10:48 a.m.


Other Matters: Status of possible Henry Road relocation:

Skeels passed out a revised drawing provided by the engineering firm hired by Benzie Central Schools that depicts the south end of Henry Road on the east side of the DTE easement and that DTE did not offer any objections to the proposal provided the new road is constructed at least 25 feet from their east boundary line. Benzie Schools representative Jason Barnard and Brian Childs stated their Board supports the proposal to relocate Henry Road and their people are proceeding with drawing up an easement for the Road Commission can assume control of the new roadway. Barnard and Childs are asking the Road Commission to construct the gravel portion of the new road this spring, with paving to happen after construction is completed at some point in 2023. Further discussion ensued as to the width of the easement so that the tree removal contractor hired by Benzie Central Schools can cut/remove those trees within the proposed right of way, with a sixty-six feet width agreed upon. Commissioner Rosa stated he will support the Road Commission constructing the new road so that construction planning can continue without delay, but informed Barnard and Childs this did not include improvements such as sidewalks and lighting which the school would have to pay for.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **February 10, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Member Ted Mick
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Manager Matt Skeels

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Sherry Taylor, Steve and Joyce Blood, Weldon Township Supervisor Ron Hitesman and AIS salesman Daniel Novak.

The agenda was accepted as presented.

January 13, 2022 organizational and regular meeting minutes were approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Mick to pay bills #51245 to #51281 in the amount of \$62,668.19 and approve Payroll #3 for \$62,802.21.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed with no additional comments.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County.

Public Input: Heard comments from Sherry Taylor: Benzie County had recently decided to discontinue allowing their employees to purchase additional service credit for their individual MERS defined benefit pensions accounts.

Appointments: None.

Items Before the Board:

-Decision: Dinger Road abandonment request:

Motion by Commissioner Rosa, supported by Commissioner Bowers to adopt Resolution 22-02 which reads as follows:

Whereas the Benzie County Road Commission has received a petition asking for the abandonment of the northwesterly portion of Dinger Road, a seasonal road located in Colfax Township, and

Whereas, in accordance with MCL 224.18, notification has been published in the Record Patriot and a public hearing on the Notice to Abandon was held during a regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners on January 13, 2022 and comments objecting and supporting the request were heard, and

Whereas the abandonment of that portion of Dinger Road would not land-lock any parcel of land as the road does not abut any privately owned land that is not owned by (and part of) Steve and Joyce Blood, and

Whereas in the event the parcel is subsequently developed or split into smaller parcels, Public Act 591 Land Division Act requires the developer provide private deeded access for each newly created parcel to a public road, and

Whereas the petition applicants have signed a Release of All Claims, releasing the Benzie County Road Commission, its officers, employees, agents and insurers from any and all claims, actions, causes of actions

demands, rights, damages costs and compensation whatsoever related to property damage or personal injury, and

Whereas it appears to said Board of County Road Commissioners that it is in the public's best interest that the northwest portion of Dinger Road, between Center Road and Stanton Road should be absolutely abandoned and discontinued,

Now, therefore be it resolved that the northwesterly segment of Dinger Road, more fully described as:

The northwest segment of Dinger Road, starting at Center Road, then running south-southeasterly to Stanton Road, a distance of 0.56 miles,

All located in Section 26, Colfax Township, be and the same is absolutely abandoned and discontinued, reserving the rights of any utilities that are currently present.

Be it further resolved that a record of this abandonment is to be registered with the Register of Deeds and a legal notice of abandonment is to be published in the Record Patriot.

Vote: Rosa – aye; Bowers – aye; and Mick – aye. Nays: None. - Resolution is hereby adopted.

-Review preliminary draft “Statement of Intent-Platte River School Property”:

Conceived as a general statement to provide transparency to the property acquisition process, the one-page narrative summarizes the chain of events that will eventually culminate with the Road Commission receiving the Platte River School property from Benzie Central School District. It also identifies the intended primary long term and short term plans the Board has for the property/building.

No action taken as Nedow requested the Board review the draft and offer comments/edits before adopting it at the February 24th meeting so that the document can be published on the Road Commission website.

Chairman Rosa stated that he was recently contacted by Advocates for Benzie representative Bill Ward who asked if the group could leave their office furnishings in the Platte River School building until their new facility presently under construction is ready for them to occupy later this spring. No objections were offered.

-Crystal Flash’s offer to extend their 2021 fuel pricing to 2022:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to accept Crystal Flash’s offer to extend their 2021 gasoline and diesel fuel pricing into 2022.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

-Request to approve annual Act-51 Certification maps dated 12-31-21:

Manager Skeels reported there has been no changes in the number of miles the Road Commission is certifying when compared to last year. Next year’s report will include several corrections including the removal of the northwest section of Dinger Road.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to authorize the Chairman to sign/approve the Act-51 Certification cover sheet updated for 12-31-21 as presented.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby approved.

-Request to approve cost-sharing proposal with Weldon Township: engineer study Black Bridge:

Skeels reported Weldon Township is willing to commit to a 50-50 cost share proposal with the Road Commission for an engineering study for removing the two Black Bridge abutments. Weldon Township Supervisor Ron Hitesman acknowledged his Board will provide matching funds for the study with the Road Commission using Local Road Cost Participation Policy funds that are earmarked for Weldon Township.

Motion by Commissioner Rosa supported by Commissioner Bowers to approve a cost share agreement with Weldon Township for an engineering study for the removal of the Black Bridge abutments. Weldon Township will be providing half the funds for the study with the Road Commission providing matching funds through the Local Road Cost Participation Policy.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

-County Road Association Board of Directors ballot:

In a letter dated January 12, 2022 the CRA of Michigan is asking members to cast a ballot for a three-year seat on the Board of Directors that represents the Northern Michigan Association with Mark Christensen of Montcalm County the only candidate listed on the ballot.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to vote for Mark Christensen as the CRA Board of Directors – Northern Michigan Association representative.

Discussion: Skeels stated that his past dealings with Christensen has been positive and that he would be comfortable recommending him for this position.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Public Input: Steve and Joyce Blood voiced their appreciation to the Board for approving their road abandonment request. They also asked questions as to when the abandonment becomes official and if they need to record a revised deed for the property associated with the now abandoned roadway.

AIS representative Daniel Novak introduced himself and offered anyone interested to join a schedule tour of the Midwest John Deere manufacturing plant.

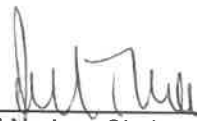
Board Round Table: Skeels provided brief updates on the following topics: upcoming annual material bids; status of right-of-way easement for constructing the new portion of Henry Road accessing Homestead Road; Pioneer/King Road safety project contract default and status of corrective action which he is hopeful will happen this summer. He also stated that MDOT informed him that the State Attorney General is indicating the Road Commission is to absorb the cost of construction engineering for the “fix” and not funded from the bond proceeds.

Ron Hitesman also offered comments of his experience with long delays while seeking permit approval from a regulatory agency governing river frontage for putting a picnic table at the Day Park at Black bridge.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **February 24, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Member Ted Mick
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Manager Matt Skeels

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Sherry Taylor, Andrew Cascini, Rich Allen, Jason Barnard, Keith Bonney, Pat Grey and another guest.

Nedow requested the agenda be amended to add a Sourcewell bid acceptance and adjustment to the 2022 Capital Acquisition budget for a portable floor lift.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to amend today's agenda to add accepting a Sourcewell bid for a portable floor lift and an adjustment to the Road Commission's 2022 Capital Acquisition budget on the "Items before the Board" section.

Discussion: none.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

The amended agenda was then approved.

The February 10, 2022 regular meeting minutes were approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Mick to pay bills #51282 to #51313 in the amount of \$175,481.08 and approve Payroll #4 for \$65,312.24.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed. Fleet Manager Johnson reported that as efforts to locate a contractor who would be willing to bid replacing the old and outdated floor lift, he since shifted his focus on portable units instead. Johnson was able to obtain a Sourcewell quote from Mohawk Lifts for a Gray 19,000-pound capacity portable lift for \$95,318.82. He further added that this unit is large enough to accommodate our present needs and can be moved should a new garage be built in the near future. While the current in-floor lift is still functional, he will seek quotes to remove it as soon as possible given the unit's age and questionable reliability.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County.

Public Input: Heard comments from Pat Grey who asked the Board for assistance in shifting Lincoln Road, a gravel road located in Benzonia Township, back onto the section line. Grey owns an orchard that borders Lincoln Road, and because the road has shifted off the section line close to his orchard, he is precluded from erecting fencing along his property line to keep the deer out of his orchard. Grey stated he had contacted Benzonia Township Supervisor Jason Barnard to ask the township to fund the project, and has since obtained a quote from Bonney Brothers Excavating to relocate the road bed and install ditching to control the water runoff. He asked the Board if there is anyway the Road Commission would consider providing grading equipment for this project and if there were any objections to moving the road back onto the section line.

No action was taken, as Chairman Rosa stated he wanted to confer with Superintendent Fasel before giving Grey a formal response.

Appointments: At 10:00 a.m. the Board met with attorney Andrew Cascini, Henn Lesperance PLC to discuss hiring him to represent the Road Commission for labor related legal issues. Cascini provided a background on his professional history and stated he would be happy to represent the Road Commission for any future legal matters that would arise.

At 10:30 a.m. the Board heard comments from Beulah business owner Rich Allen on his vision for the Platte River Elementary school property. While acknowledging that he is not offering financial support or spearheading his endeavor, he would like to see the vacated building turned into a community-based enterprise which he is calling "Benzie County Business & Technology Incubator." He further stated that he recent meet with the Benzie County Administrator who was supportive of this vision and offered her assistance in seeking funding sources.

Items Before the Board:

-Motion to accept Sourcewell quote - portable floor lift/amend 2022 Capital Acquisition budget:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers, supported by Commissioner Mick to authorize the Fleet Manager to accept the Sourcewell bid tendered by Mohawk Lifts for a Gray Model BPLS-1900 portable lift in the amount of \$95,318.82. In addition, the 2022 Road Commission – Capital Acquisition budget is to be increased \$95,400.00 accordingly to accommodate the additional purchase.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

-Review/award paving bids:

Paving bids were opened and read at 1:00 p.m. on February 18, 2022 for two paving packages: The results are listed below:

Vendor	Team Elmers	Rieth-Riley	Molon Asphalt
Package "A" (millage):	\$924,745.25	\$908,174.85	\$975,153.50
Package "B" (Twp funded):	\$212,907.42	\$230,136.90	\$217,415.00

Motion by Commissioner Rosa supported by Commissioner Bowers to accept the \$908,174.85 bid tendered by Rieth-Riley for Package "A" and accept the \$212,907.42 bid provided by Team Elmers for Package "B".

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

-Award annual material bids:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to accept staff's recommendation for awarding this year's annual bids as follows:

- 360 single bevel grader blades - \$38,664.00 from St. Regis Culvert.
- 75 carbide grader blades - \$21,300.00 from Truck & Trailer Specialties.
- Assorted curved cutting blades/wing blade shoes/wing blades - \$18,572.00 from Truck & Trailer Specialties.
- Catch basin cleaning-State - \$62.50 per catch basin from CSB Industries.
- Catch basin cleaning-County - \$250.00 per hour from CSB Industries.
- Rip-Rap stone - accepted all bids as provided by Specification Stone Products, Team Elmers, Kasson Sand & Gravel and AJ's Excavating for various sizes for pick up or delivered to Honor Pit.
- Pavement Markings – Accept P.K. Contracting bid for \$0.052 per foot for early season – yellow paint; \$0.050 per foot for early season – white paint; and the same price for both colors for late season application; rumble strips - \$7.50 per linear foot and \$7.50 per square foot for Snowmobile crossings.
- Assorted guardrail sections/pieces – award jointly to Jensen Bridge & Supply and Nationwide Control.
- Emulsion – accept quote from Bit-Mat for HFRS-2 at \$3.10 per gallon/ 0 - 3,000 gallons and \$2.85 per gallon/ for 3,001 + gallons.
- Brine - \$0.58 per gallon for 38% calcium chloride, and \$0.0505 per gallon for 32% winter brine provided by Great Lakes Chloride.
- ¼" natural, crushed/washed stone – accept all bids provided by AJ's Excavating, Team Elmers and Verplank Trucking.
- Team Elmers awarded the bids for: Produce 15,000 yards 23A gravel at Thompson Pit \$7.95/yard-\$119,250.00; Produce 10,000 yards 22A gravel at Kyser Pit \$5.75/yard - \$67,500.00; Produce 2,000

yards 22A gravel at Thompson Pit \$8.75/yard - \$17,500.00; Crush 1,200 yards concrete at Thompson Pit \$14.00/yard - \$16,800.00 and Crush 900 yards asphalt at Thompson Pit \$12.00/yard - \$10,800.00.

In addition, the Board approves Staff's recommendation to absorb the difference in cost between the 38% brine and the 26% mineral well brine (bid provided by DJ Bowen) to encourage each township boards to accept using the 38% calcium chloride for future applications. This offer applies to the first round of brining this season and if a secondary round is needed, the townships would pay the higher rate for the 38% calcium chloride.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

-Resolution 22-03 MDOT State maintenance contract amendment:

Skeels informed the Board that the State maintenance contract ratified this past fall needed to be amended to include a revise Appendix G and MDOT is requiring a resolution to authorize the signature on the contract addendum.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to adopt Resolution 22-03 which reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation ("MDOT") has presented a proposed **contract amendment** to Appendix G for contract 2021-0337/A1 between MDOT and the Benzie County Road Commission under which the Road Commission would continue to perform maintenance on state trunk-line highways within Benzie County, and

WHEREAS, MDOT has affirmatively found that contracting with the Benzie County Road Commission for the maintenance of state trunk-line highways and bridges within Benzie County, is in the best public interest; and

WHEREAS, the Benzie County Road Commission concurs in MDOT's finding that it is in the best public interest to contract with the Benzie County Road Commission for the maintenance of State Trunk Line highways and bridges within Benzie County for the reason that the Road Commission has a proven record of efficiently providing a high level of service on state trunk-line highways within Benzie County for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Benzie County Road Commission has reviewed the terms of the contract amendment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Benzie County Road Commission hereby accepts the State Trunk-line Maintenance Contract amendment as presented by MDOT, and Robert Rosa, Chairman is authorized and instructed to sign the State Trunk-line Maintenance Contract amendment on behalf of the Benzie County Road Commission for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2026.

Ayes: Chairman Rosa, Vice-chairman Bowers, and Member Mick. Nays: None. Resolution is hereby adopted.

"Statement of Intent: Platte River Elementary School property transfer" review/approval:

Upon review, the Board directed Nedow to delete any references to time limits under the "Secondary Uses" section of the statement, leaving the rest of the wording as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to approve the Statement of Intent-Platte River Elementary School property as revised during today's meeting.

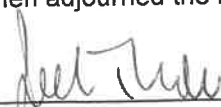
Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

Board Round Table: Skeels provided brief updates on the following topics: The delayed Esch Road federal aid project is on target to start in late April with the road closed until late June. He also provided a summary of topics discussed at the recent Paul Bunyan Council meeting.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.


Robert Rosa, Chairman


Joel Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **March 10, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Member Ted Mick
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Manager Matt Skeels

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Bruce Walton (representing Crystal Lake Township), and Molon Asphalt representatives Scott Porter and Mike Foster.

The agenda was approved as presented.

The February 24, 2022 regular meeting minutes were approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Mick to pay bills #51314 to #51357 in the amount of \$128,431.68 and approve Payroll #5 for \$64,355.03.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed. Superintendent Fasel gave an oral report on recent crew work activities. He also noted the lone sand screen/stack bid received was much higher than expected and that he is looking into other options for screening and stacking winter sand for next winter.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County. Sauer stated that he heard from State Representative O'Malley that the State of Michigan is considering suspending the Road tax on gasoline for six months in an effort to reduce the impact of high fuel prices. This initiative, if passed, would include making up for the lost road funding by substituting COVID relief funds.

Public Input: Crystal Township representative Bruce Walton provided his views on the asphalt bid package award scheduled later in today's meeting.

Appointments: None.

Items Before the Board:

-Follow up: request to re-align Lincoln Road:

At the last Road Commission Board meeting, Benzonia Township resident Pat Grey asked for assistance in shifting Lincoln Road, a gravel road in Benzonia Township, away from his orchard and back onto the section line but still within the recorded road right of way.

Superintendent Fasel stated he had spoken to Grey and informed him the Road Commission does not have the budget or manpower to re-align the road but he would be agreeable to issuing a permit to allow an outside contractor to do the work without assistance from the Road Commission. However, Fasel did acknowledge he would consider committing Road Commission resources to removing a large tree in the right of way at the intersection of Hidden Hollow and Lincoln Road as well as contact the utility companies to move their lines.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to approve a request submitted by Benzonia Township resident Pat Grey to hire an outside contractor to re-align Lincoln Road by shifting the road bed onto the section line that is within the recorded right of way. Other than issuing a permit, the Benzie County Road Commission's only financial involvement is limited to removing the large tree that is on the section line within the Hidden Hollow/Lincoln Road right of way and to contact any utilities currently in the right of way be moved for this project.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

-Review/award paving bids-Package C:

Paving bids were opened and read at 1:00 p.m. on March 8, 2022 for additional millage and BCRC paving projects: The results are listed below:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Team Elmers</u>	<u>Rieth-Riley</u>	<u>Molon Asphalt</u>
Package totals:	\$443,782.35	\$417,560.02	\$416,315.00

Further discussion ensued. Molon Asphalt representative Scott Porter and owner Mike Foster provided their assurances that the large tonnage of the bid package is not a problem and is within their company's ability to fulfill. According to Porter, they are in the process of implementing new processes which he believes will improve the end results and alleviate any concerns the Board members and staff may have.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to accept the \$416,315.00 bid submitted by Molon Asphalt.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

-Race permit application: North Mitten LLC race event scheduled for May 29, 2022 in Weldon Township:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick approving the special event/race permit application submitted by Janice Davidson for the North Mitten Half Marathon race scheduled for May 29, 2022 with the understanding that no county road would be closed and the event coordinator will provide sufficient support staffing to ensure adequate safety measures are in place to protect the race participants, spectators and the motoring public for that portion of the route that utilizes our roads.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioner Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

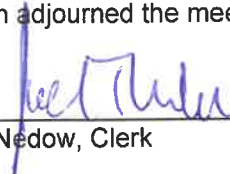
Public Input: None.

Board Round Table: Discussed options for future facility renovations that include the possibility of rehabbing portions of the existing buildings and what constraints that presently exist which would hinder this option. Staff was instructed to gather future facility needs and space requirements with the expectation of submitting the results to an outside engineering firm to draft a design recommendation.

Skeels reported that he provided Lake Township officials with options for upgrading Beech Street, a platted, developed road not claimed by the Road Commission. As any improvements would have to be funded by the Township, Skeels had provided them with two options for upgrading the road so that the Road Commission could maintain it, with the Road Commission's costs for the upgrade and any future maintenance would be reimbursed by the township.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.


Robert Rosa, Chairman


Joel Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **March 24, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Member Ted Mick
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Manager Matt Skeels

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Brad Link and Weldon Township Zoning Administrator Craig Meredith.

Manager Skeels recommended going into closed session to discuss negotiating strategy regarding the union's written request to re-open the current union contract to implement wage enhancement for the membership.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to go into closed session to discuss Board strategy regarding the TPOAM request to re-open the union agreement.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Chairman Rosa then recessed the open meeting and the Board went into closed session at 9:32 a.m.

At 10:25 a.m. the Board came out of closed session and Chairman Rosa reconvened the regular session.

Chairman Rosa then stated that staff is given the authority to represent the Board when negotiating with the union bargaining unit representatives within the parameters discussed during today's closed session.

Staff asked for the Board to issue a general statement as to the Road Commission's responsibility for the proposed Henry Road/Benzie Central School entrance construction be added to the agenda. Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to add the requested topic to the meeting agenda under "Items before the Board".

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

The revised agenda was then approved as presented.

The March 10, 2022 regular meeting minutes were approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Mick to pay bills #51358 to #51390 in the amount of \$230,938.20 and approve Payroll #6 for \$60,190.12.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

Appointments: At 10:30 a.m. the Board met with Brad Link to discuss his report "Benzie County Bridge Improvement Priorities" that include cost estimates for repairing several deteriorating structures, and to select three to submit to this year's Critical Bridge Fund or possible consideration. Locations included are: Major Collector Lindy Road over the Betsie River; Local Roads Reynolds Road over the Betsie River; Fewins Road over the Platte River, Haze Road over the Platte River, Nostwick Road over the Betsie River, King Road over the Betsie River and Carmean Road over the Betsie River. In total, these need repairs total \$9,069,000.00 for all seven structures, and Link is recommending submitting applications for Reynolds Road, Nostwick Road and Lindy Road bridges to the Critical Bridge Funds program this year. Possible alternative routes for bypassing one of the bridges was also discussed.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County.

Public Input: Heard comments from Weldon Township Zoning Administrator Craig Meredith on the following matters: clarification on the residential driveway approved by the Board last fall for applicants requesting access directly to CR-669 instead of using the private drive Autumn Mist; request for any drainage easement within the Village of Thompsonville, Wolfe Road bridge and status of the abutment removal for Black bridge.

Items Before the Board:

-Approve Resolutions 2022-04 (Lindy Road bridge); 2022-05 (Nostwick Road bridge) and 2022-06 (Reynolds Road bridge) – Critical Bridge Funds 2022 submitted applications:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to approve Resolutions 2022-04 for Lindy Road bridge, 2022-05 for Nostwick Road bridge and 2022-06 for Reynolds Road bridge as this year's Critical Bridge Funds application submissions for Benzie County Road Commission as recommended by Engineering consultant Brad Link.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioner Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Resolutions are hereby adopted.

-Proposed Henry Road relocation – Benzie Central School entrance construction: general statement:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to the following general statement:

-As soon as weight restrictions are lifted, to construct a temporary egress drive from the existing Henry Road right of way easterly across the existing natural gas pipeline easement to connect to the Benzie Central School parking to allow construction equipment access to the school property to begin construction activity with the new school facility.

-As soon as an easement for relocating the south end of Henry Road has been drafted, recorded and accepted by the Board staff is instructed to construct a new gravel roadway (from Homestead Road northerly within the new road right of way up to the proposed entrance to the school property) when work load and manpower becomes available in the near future.

-The Road Commission's financial obligation is limited to cutting, grading and graveling the new roadway. Any future paving will be funded by third-party source(s) other than from the Road Commission.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioner Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Resolutions are hereby adopted.

Public Input: None.

Board Round Table: Heard update on the Pioneer/King Road safety project from Skeels.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **April 14, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Member Ted Mick
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Manager Matt Skeels

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer and Sherry Taylor.

Manager Skeels suggested the Board go into closed session.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to go into closed session to discuss a tentative agreement regarding a union request to re-open the current contract for wage enhancements for the membership.
Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Chairman Rosa then recessed the open meeting and the Board went into closed session at 9:33 a.m.

At 9:55 a.m. the Board came out of closed session and Chairman Rosa reconvened the regular session.

The agenda was approved as presented.

The March 24, 2022 regular meeting minutes were approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Mick to pay bills #51391 to #51440 in the amount of \$315,734.41 and approve Payroll #7 and Payroll #8 in the amount of \$123,249.02.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

Appointments: None.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County.

Public Input: Heard comments from Sherry Taylor, who asked staff if a bolt had fallen off one of our chippers when working by her residence. Taylor stated she had to replace a tire that had a bolt embedded in the tread, and she provided a description of the type of bolt removed from the tire. Skeels assured Taylor that the size of the bolt she described does not match the bolts associated with any of the Road Commission's equipment used in her area.

Items Before the Board:

Memorandum of Agreement with TPOAM:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Benzie County Road Commission and the Technical, Professional and Office-workers Association of Michigan (TPOAM) whereby effective the first full payroll following the agreement's ratification (April 25, 2022), all bargaining unit members will receive an additional \$0.75/per hour increase to their existing pay rates, with overtime paid at double-time instead of time and a half.

In addition, the TPOAM agrees to the inclusion of the sentence "Employees shall keep themselves reasonably available for snow and ice removal as well as for other emergency work upon Employer request" at the end of Article 23; the employer enforcing the first full sentence of the second paragraph in Article 14 of the current CBA "Nothing shall restrict the Employer from scheduling overtime and the employees shall be required to work such overtime unless excused for satisfactory reasons" and the parties further agree that any past practice which might arguably have prior been established contrary to this provision shall henceforth be unenforceable. Lastly, all employees will be allowed a maximum of ten minutes at the end of each shift to wash up and fill out a time sheet or other required documents.

Discussion: Staff to forward the agreement to the union's Business Agent to execute the agreement.
Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion (and agreement) is hereby adopted.

Request by Manager to adjust Engineer Technician, Foreman and Payroll Clerk salaries/wages:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to accept the Manager's recommendation to adjust the following administrative salaries/wages: increase the Engineer Tech/Foreman salary to \$58,000.00 annually; the Foreman salary to \$55,000.00 annually, and increase the hourly Payroll Clerk's hourly rate by \$1.25/per hour with all increases effective the first full payroll period (April 25, 2022) following today's meeting.

Discussion: Skeels: rates for two salaried positions are based up a survey of other Paul Bunyan Council members with similar size and funding levels.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Request to adjust the 2022 Revenue budget – MDOT audit refund:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to Nedow's recommendation to adjust the 2022 Revenue budget, increasing State Trunkline Audit Refund by \$232,178.00 in recognition of 2020 State trunkline audit results as determined by the Office of Commission Audits in a letter dated April 11, 2022 addressed to Skeels. When received, Nedow stated this refund is to be applied against the Road Commission's MERS unfunded pension liability – surplus division which is mandated by the Board's Corrective Action Plan on file with the State of Michigan for underfunded pension plans.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Loan/sale of old Oshkosh truck: offer to shrink wrap units for storage at Honor Pit:

Nedow reported receiving a phone call from Barry Yacks, an Honor-area resident who represents a loose knit group of local residents interested in taking possession of the old Oshkosh trucks for a historical display at some point in the future as soon as a suitable place can be located to display them. Until this happens, he offered to have both units shrink wrapped for storage at his expense for outside storage. Skeels asked if the offer should be accepted and have both trucks moved to Honor Pit, or offer both units for sale on the open market.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to accept Yacks offer to have both Oshkosh trucks shrink wrapped and moved to Honor Pit for storage with the understanding Yacks will create a legal, non-profit entity in order to accept both Oshkosh trucks, either as a loan or as a possible donation. Until the entity is created, the Board agrees to retain ownership of both truck and review the proposal annually pending Yacks locating a suitable site to display both units locally with the understanding that the proposal will be reviewed annually and possibly altered accordingly.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Request to list obsolete/surplus equipment on Rangerbid.com auction website:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to authorize the Fleet Manager to list the following obsolete/surplus equipment on the Rangerbid.com auction website: 2005 GMC bucket truck (#305) with a minimum bid of \$12,000.00; an asphalt cutting wheel (#750) with a minimum bid of \$1,000.00 and the truck bed from a 2017 Ford F450 truck with no minimum bid.

Discussion: None.

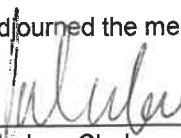
Ayes: Commissioner Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Public Input: None.

Board Round Table: Heard update from Chairman Rosa on the trying to locate a suitable tenant for the Platte Lake Elementary School property and whether it would be prudent to have the facility inspected by an independent third-party consultant to obtain an unbiased opinion on the condition of the structure. Skeels provided an update on the status of the new Henry Road easement agreement.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.


Robert Rosa, Chairman


Joel Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **April 28, 2022** at 10:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Member Ted Mick
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Manager Matt Skeels

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer and Sherry Taylor.

The agenda was approved as presented.

The April 14, 2022 regular meeting minutes were approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Mick to pay bills #51441 to #51479 in the amount of \$99,304.22 and approve Payroll #9 and #9A in the amount of \$62,361.11.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

Appointments: None.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County.

Public Input: None.

Items Before the Board:

Resolution 22-07: MDOT contract for CR-669 (Maple City Highway):

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to approve Resolution 22-07 which reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the "Project" covers the following improvements, in Benzie County, Michigan, described as follows:

Hot mix asphalt overlay, aggregate shoulders, guardrail and permanent pavement markings along Maple City Highway from Almira Road (County Road 610) to Oviatt Road; and all together with necessary related work, and

WHEREAS, the project, or portion of the project, are being programmed with the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration for implementation under the Transportation Economic Development Fund, identified as: Control Section STL-10000, Job Number 215049CON, Project Number 22A0422, CFDA Number 20.205 (Highway Research Planning & Construction), Contract No. 22-5130, and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Benzie, Michigan have reached an understanding with each other regarding the performance of the project work and have set forth this understanding in the form of a written contract,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County enters into an agreement with MDOT for the purpose of fixing the rights and obligations of the parties to undertake and complete the Project and that Chairman Robert Rosa be authorized to sign the contract.

Roll call vote: Mick – aye; Bowers – aye and Rosa – aye. Nays: None. Resolution is hereby adopted.

Easement agreement: new Henry Road right-of-way off Homestead Road:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to approve the Dedication of Public Road Easement drafted by Attorney Bill Henn whereby Benzie County Central Schools conveys a public highway easement over and across their existing property to the Benzie County Road Commission which is described as follows:

Part of Section 30, Town 26 North, Range 14 West, Benzonia Township, Benzie County Michigan described as: beginning at a Point on the North Line of Homestead Road which is South 88°26'24" East 178.54 feet and North 01°33'36" East 33.00 feet from the southwest corner of said section; thence North 01°01'07" East 182.11 feet; thence North 43°58'53" West 129.40 feet more or less to the East line of an existing 66.0' right of way to Michigan Consolidated Gas Company recorded in L.23, pg.381 beginning 33' each side of the existing pipeline as marked and located in field on March 1; thence North 01°01'07" East 414.19 feet along said East line; thence North 43°58'53" West 71.82 feet to the east line of Henry Road; thence north 01°17'13" east 131.08 feet along said east line; thence South 43°58'53" East 164.30 feet; thence South 01°01'07" West 452.55 feet; thence South 43°58'53" East 129.40 feet; thence South 01°01'07" West 210.07 feet to the North line of said Homestead Road; thence North 88°26'24" West 66.00 feet along said North line to the Point of Beginning. Containing 1.40 net acres of land, more or less.

Chairman Rosa is authorized to sign this agreement accepting the easement described above on behalf of the Benzie County Road Commission, with the document to be forwarded to Benzie County Central Schools Superintendent Aimee Erfourth to execute the agreement.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Discuss rescheduling May 12, 2022 meeting date:

No action taken: Nedow will ask Manger Skeels to prepare the agenda and record meeting minutes during his absence with the understanding accounts payable would be processed later that week upon his return from the Finance and Human Resource Conference. No objections were offered by the board members.

Award bid: Crystal Drive over unnamed tributary to Crystal Lake project:

Bids for this project were opened and read at 1:00 p.m. on April 26th with the results as follows: Popp Excavating - \$32,769.00; Team Elmers - \$44,725.00; Molon Excavating - \$48,018.00 and Global Asphalt Solutions - \$39,995.00. Upon review, staff is recommending awarding the bid to the lowest bidder for this project.

Motion by Commissioner Rosa supported by Commissioner Bowers to accept the \$32,769.00 bid tendered by Popp Excavating for the Crystal Drive over unnamed tributary to Crystal Lake culvert project.

Discussion: None.

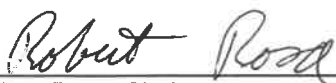
Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Public Input: None.

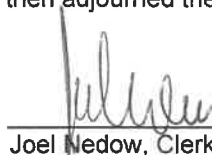
Board Round Table: Heard report on the Esch Road project provided by Skeels. Skeels was informed that he and project Engineer Joe Williams of GFA received an email from Sleeping Bear Dunes National Park Deputy Superintendent Tom Ulrich that a Red Shouldered hawk as build a nest on the south side of Esch Road just west of the Aral Road intersection. According to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Public Lands Management Strategy, the MDNR is recommending no construction activity take place within a five-chain radius from March 15th to July 15th and that this project could be possibly delayed until after Labor Day. Skeels stated that until he receives clearer indications from the National Park Service and the MDNR whether this is a recommendation or a mandate, the project is on hold for the time being.

Presented a plaque to retiring employee Jim Ballard recognizing his almost twenty-four years of service to the Road Commission.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **May 12, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Member Ted Mick
Superintendent Scott Fasel

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Manager Matt Skeels

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer and Sherry Taylor, Benzonia Township Supervisor Jason Barnard, Pat Gray and Inland Township Supervisor Paul Beechcraft.

The agenda was approved as presented.

The April 28, 2022 regular meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Mick to approve Payroll #10 in the amount of \$56,223.46.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

Appointments: None.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County. The dates for Household Hazardous waste / tire collections are June 18 in Frankfort, July 16 in Thompsonville (tires only) and August 27 at the Road Commission, appointments necessary call 231-882-0554.

Public Input: Jason Barnard and Pat Gray inquired on the status of the Lincoln Road project. Mr. Gray would like to advance the project and is looking for the Road Commission to participate with providing equipment to offset the cost to the Township. Board members were under the impression that the Road Commission had agreed to take down the large tree but were not aware of any further commitments. The Board members asked Superintendent Fasel to meet with Mr. Bonney to discuss what other assistance the Road Commission could provide to move the project forward. The Board agreed to place the issue on the May 26th meeting for further reports and discussion.

Mr. Beechcraft discussed his concept for improving Hulbert Road over time. The first project he would like to complete is raising the intersection with Fewins Road. The second would be to address the culvert area and potentially raising the road over the culvert. The Board agree to place this issue on a June 9th Board meeting agenda for further reports and discussion.

Mr. Fasel reported on the activities the crew and field staff are involved in currently.

Items Before the Board:

Letter from DNR regarding Red Shouldered Hawk – Esch road Project:

Letter state DNR is recommending / requiring postponing project start date until after July 15. Skeels contacted Elmers and they are willing to postpone the project until after Labor Day at no additional cost. Skeels is waiting to hear back from Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore staff regarding their opinion of delaying until after Labor Day.

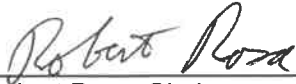
Skeels and Fasel reported on the Pioneer/King/Weldon Road project. DJ McQuestion is scheduled to start on addressing the deficiencies of the 2018 project on May 23.

Fasel reported on the Crystal Drive culvert and chip-seal projects. The culvert project is scheduled to start May 23rd, and the chip seal project anticipated in late July or early August.

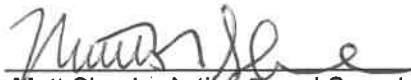
Public Input: None.

Board Round Table: New right of way agreement for Henry Road was approved by the Benzie Central School Board and the easement has been recorded. Some surveying is needed to begin building the road. Staff have been contacted regarding a potential abandonment request for Railroad Point Trail. Staff is also working with Michigan State Police – Motor Carrier Enforcement on a contact for weight restriction patrol for 2023. Board members discussed options securing and maintaining the Platte River School property once the property ownership has transferred to the Road Commission.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Matt Skeels, Acting Board Secretary

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **May 26, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Member Ted Mick
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Manager Matt Skeels

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer and Sherry Taylor.

The agenda was approved as presented.

The May 12, 2022 regular meeting minutes were approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Mick to pay bills #51480 to #51563 in the amount of \$366,263.06 and approve Payroll #10 and #11 and #11A in the amount of \$117,314.99.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

Appointments: None.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed. Heard oral reports from Fleet Manager Johnson and Superintendent Fasel updating the Board on tasks and projects since the last Board meeting.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County.

Public Input: None.

Items Before the Board:

Follow up: request to provide assistance on shifting Lincoln Road back onto section line:

As part of his work summary report, Superintendent Fasel reported he had contacted contractor Keith Bonney about Lincoln Road and both agreed that it would be too difficult to coordinate any construction activities that involve the Road Commission and any outside contractor other than what was previously proposed (remove tree, contact utility companies to move lines). After further discussion between board members and staff, the following guidelines were agreed upon regarding Lincoln Road:

- The Road Commission will retain control over this project to ensure the final outcome would meet our expectations and requirements.
- The project would have to be bid out if the decision is made to not utilize in-house labor and equipment. Also, due to budget and labor restrictions and the anticipated time the utility providers would need to move their lines, construction would likely not happen until next season.
- Benzonia Township would be required to provide a signed commitment for 50% of the estimated cost. Until this happens, any construction plans, other than preparing an estimate, the Road Commission would not consider committing any resources to shifting the road bed toward the section line.

Review/approve right of way-encroachment permit applications:

Permit applications were submitted by Linda Wilcox/Interlochen Trucking and Excavating for constructing a drain-field in the Herron Road right of way, and by Dennis Heniser/Crystal Landscaping to replace a portion of a retaining wall damaged by ice in the South Shore Drive right of way. Superintendent Fasel has reviewed both sites and is recommending the Board approve the applications as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to approve two encroachment permit applications for Linda Wilcox (construct a drain-field within the Herron Road right of way) and for Dennis Heniser (replace/install a retaining wall, part of which is in the South Shore Drive right of way) as recommended by the Superintendent.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Public Input: Gary Sauer reminded everyone about the upcoming Memorial Day service in Benzonia.

Board Round Table:

Skeels offered comments on the following topics:

- Several months ago, a property owner who was selling their parcel on Crum Road had inquired if the Road Commission would consider a new right of way for where the road currently exists instead of where the traveled portion of the road is currently instead of the where the recorded right of way is showing. However, when Skeels proposed a right of way swap whereby the Road Commission would be willing to accept the new right of way provided it is 66 feet-wide, the landowner rejected the proposal width and offered an easement that would be 13 feet-wide to match the rest of the road right of way.

Skeels had contacted attorney Henn, who opined the court mandated settlement whereby the road width had been reduced to 13 feet should only applies to those parcels owned by the property owners who had filed the lawsuit against the Road Commission. According to Skeels, Henn had also inferred that should the Board wish to contest the judge's ruling resulting in a reduced road right of way, there is legal basis to do so.

- In regards the Road Commission's ARPA funding request to the Benzie County Board, Skeels had submitted a list of projects for the County Administrator, including Pt. Betsie Road, Henry Road and for repairing various bridges.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday June 23, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa

Member Ted Mick

Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Vice-Chairman James Bowers

Manager Matt Skeels

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Brian Lea, Debra Gibbpotts, and Robert and Madeline Powell.

Agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to amend the agenda to include a request to approve additional 23A gravel crushing output at the Honor Pit by Team Elmers.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

The amended agenda was then approved as presented.

The May 26, 2022 regular meeting minutes were approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Mick to pay bills #51564 to #51649 in the amount of \$409,721.23 and approve Payroll #12 and #13 in the amount of \$112,194.80.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. - Motion is hereby adopted.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed by the Board.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County. Sauer also informed the Board that the Benzie County Board of Commissioners will be sending out surveys to county residents asking for input how to spend/distribute ARPA funds allocated to Benzie County.

Public Input: Heard comments from:

-Brian Lea, who asked the Road Commission to erect 25 mph speed signs on either end of Valley Road. Lea expressed concerns that traffic on this road has significantly increased in recent years and something needs to be done. He also noted that Pioneer Road has numerous blind spots due to the hilly terrain and asked if something could be done there as well. Skeels informed Lea that requesting the Michigan State Police to conduct a speed study for Valley Road, if requested by his township, would likely not support a reduction in the posted speed limit. He also informed Lea that any hill cutting/road improvements, or signage upgrading would require township cost participation.

-Bob and Madeline Powell, who asked the Board to consider installing rumble strips on Indian Hill Road at the Deadstream Road intersection. Powell also reported a safety issue concerning Woodland Drive (a private drive) that accesses Deadstream Road. Powell reported the adjacent property owner on Deadstream Road, Sally Casey is refusing to cut back brush and foliage growing into the road right of way that is obscuring/limiting visibility for the neighboring Cherry Street residents accessing onto Deadstream Road. Bob Powell stated that repeated attempts to contact Casey, both by phone and in person to ask her to cut back the over-growth have been unsuccessful and he is to the point whereby he is asking the Road Commission to intervene. In addition, both reported Casey had cordwood logs placed on the road shoulder to prevent the Road Commission from mowing in front of her residence. Skeels stated his recent phone messages have not been returned and the Road Commission had sent a crew to remove the wood left in the right of way. After further discussion, the Board instructed Skeels to stake the area with a follow up letter to Casey informing her that unless she cuts back the brush sufficiently, the Road Commission will send out a brush hog and remove all the brush in the right way.

Appointments: Inland Township Supervisor Paul Beechcraft asked the Board if there was any further thought as to his May 12th request for improvements to Hulbert Road (install gravel to raise the intersection with Fewins Road and address the culvert area and potentially raising the road over the culvert. No objections were offered to Beechcraft's

request, and Skeels stated he would ask the Engineer Technician to prepare cost estimates for the proposed improvements, provided Inland Township would agree to fund 50% of the cost.

Items Before the Board:

Michigan County Road Commission Self-Insurance Pool ballot: Board of Directors election:

Incumbent Lester Livermore of Mackinac County Road Commission being the only name on the At-Large-Board of Directors' ballot, staff is recommending casting our vote for him.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to instruct staff to vote for Lester Livermore for the MCRCSIP Board of Directors' At-Large representative.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Resolution of Commitment and Support-Statewide Local Agency Bridge Bundling Program:

Per Skeels, adopting the Resolution is part of the Bridge Bundling program whereby the Benzie County Road Commission agrees to support implementation of the Bundle Program to help facilitate the overall goal of improving local bridge conditions in Michigan. As such, this program is committing funds for the Reynolds Road and Haze Road bridges.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to adopt the Resolution of Commitment and Support for the Statewide Local Agency Bridge Bundle Program in accordance with the conditions listed in the resolution document.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Proposed administrative wage adjustments-per Manager's recommendation:

Skeels is requesting a 6.4% raise for the Manager, Superintendent, Fleet Manager and Finance Manager effective June 20, 2022, the same increase percentage as given to the Union membership this past spring and summer. In the case of Nedow, Skeels noted that Nedow, instead of receiving a monetary raise, has asked to receive his raise in the form of fuel from the Road Commission depot, limited to the equivalent of same percentage as the other requested raises. When asked by Commissioner Rosa, Nedow stated that taxes would be calculated using the present IRS rate of \$3.00 per day the same as how the other administrative staff members provided with a road commission vehicle and fuel are taxed.

Motion by Commissioner Rosa supported by Commissioner Bowers to accept the Manager's administrative wage adjustments request for the Manager (requiring Skeel's employment letter be updated), Superintendent, Fleet Manager and Finance Manager for a 6.4% increase, with the Finance Manager receiving an equivalent amount in fuel from the Road Commission fuel depot with the benefit taxed the same as for the rest of the administrative staff members who are provided with a Road Commission vehicle and fuel, all effective as of June 20, 2022.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Adopt MCRCSIP Agreed Value Resolution for Platte River Elementary School property:

Skeels informed the Board that in order to add the Platte River School buildings and property to the other properties insured by the Road Commission, the Pool is requesting the Board adopt a resolution with a set value for the property. Given the present condition of the facility and the possibility of demolishing all or parts of the structures in the near future, a \$100,000.00 insurable value is recommended by staff.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to adopt the Michigan County Road Commission Self Insurance Pool – Agreed Value Resolution for the former Platte River Elementary School building and property at \$100,000.00 so that the property can be added to the Pool's insurance coverage.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Approve(sign) annual MDOT form 2044 Engineering Reimbursement:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to authorize the Board to sign the MDOT form 2044 Engineer Reimbursement form requesting MDOT to reimburse the Benzie County Road Commission \$10,000.00 for the sum paid to a licensed professional engineer retained by the Road Commission for the time period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Request approval of 23A gravel production overage at the Thompson Pit:

Staff informed the board Team Elmers has asked to double their output for producing 23A gravel at Thompson Pit which would double the 15,000 yard - \$119,250.00 bid awarded to Team Elmers earlier this year. As Team Elmers offered to delay the billing for the additional material produced and there is a large need for this commodity, staff is requesting the approval given the cost overage would require Board approval as mandated in the Road Commission's Purchase Policy.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to approve the quantity overage for 23A gravel production at Thompson Pit awarded to Team Elmers as recommended by staff.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Mick. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Correspondence/Informational/Discussion:

Skeels reported receiving the December 31, 2021 MERS of Michigan pension Actuarial Report which is showing the defined benefit funded pension has significantly increased, from 51% to 68% which should result in the Road Commission being removed from the State's mandated Corrective Action Plan requirements for underfunded pensions.

Public Input: Gary Sauer asked for specifics how the Road Commission was able to increase the MERS defined benefit funding level.

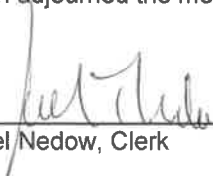
Board Round Table:

Skeels reported a new law that would allow road commissions to sell their federal aid dollars for \$0.90 for each dollar provided the funds are spent on eligible federal aid roads.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **July 14, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Manager Matt Skeels

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Commissioner Ted Mick was absent.

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Sherry Taylor and Fred Harris.

Agenda: approved as presented.

The June 23, 2022 regular meeting minutes were read and approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Rosa to pay bills #51650 to #51701 in the amount of \$593,230.36 and approve Payroll #14 and #14A in the amount of \$70,930.17.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa and Bowers. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mick - Motion is hereby adopted.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed by the Board.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County.

Public Input: None.

Appointments: None.

Skeels announced receiving the signed transfer documents from Benzie Central Schools Superintendent Erfourth has been recorded with the Register of Deeds. As of July 1st, the Platte River Elementary School property belongs to the Benzie County Road Commission.

Items Before the Board:

Update “Procedures for Seasonal Road Change” policy:

Skeels stated a property owner on Crum Road offered to provide the Road Commission with a road easement to formally recognize where the traveled portion of the road currently exists within his parcel in exchange for abandoning the recorded location precipitated the need to review this policy acknowledging our current seasonal road improvement standards.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to adopt the revised “Procedures for Seasonal Road Changes” policy whereby the road surface shall be 23A gravel instead of 22A gravel and spread 6 inches deep instead of 4 inches, and at a width of 24 feet instead of 20 feet.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa and Bowers. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mick – Motion is hereby adopted.

ROW Infringement permit application – Crystal Drive:

Motion by Commissioner Rosa supported by Commissioner Bowers to approve the right of way infringement permit application submitted by Gulley Collier to allow the construction of a drain field taper within the Crystal Drive right of way (no address provided: property located between Spring Valley and Arbutus) as recommended by the Superintendent.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa and Bowers. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mick – Motion is hereby adopted.

Variance Request: county road instead of private road access:

Fred Harris, owner of Harris Custom Homes asked the Board for a variance for his driveway permit application granting him approval to construct his driveway accessing Brownell Road instead of Tink’s Trail as required by the current Road Commission policy. Harris stated that when contacted by the Road Commission about this requirement for this recent application, he learned that a variance had been granted last year for a different lot within the same subdivision allowing access to Brownell Road instead of Tink’s Trail was never communicated to him.

Harris also informed the Board that Benzie County had issued his building permit and assigned Brownell Road as his address. He further stated the footing for the new dwelling have already been poured with the house and garage facing Brownell Road and not Tink's Trail. Skeels stated staff had contacted the County and confirmed that the County had indeed issued their permits using a copy of a driveway application permit receipt instead of requiring an approved permit which Harris claimed is common. Staff has since asked the County to discontinue this practice and asked them to require an approved driveway permit in the future.

Skeels also presented an email he had received dated July 7th from Gregg Decker dated July 7, 2022 that reported as there has been another duplex constructed with accessing Brownell Road instead of onto Tink's Trail subdivision, he is formally asking the Board to not grant access to Brownell Road on any further residences and to let Tink's Trail bear the burden of the additional residential traffic.

Further discussion ensued whether the current policy should be either altered or discontinued. Staff was instructed to provide their recommendation to the Board regarding this policy at a later date.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to grant a variance to Harris Construction approving his driveway permit application allowing his driveway to be constructed onto Brownell Road instead of requiring him to use Tink's Trail (private road) as his access as mandated by the current Road Commission policy.
Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa and Bowers. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mick – Motion is hereby adopted.

Correspondence/Informational/Discussion:

Public Input: None.

Board Round Table:

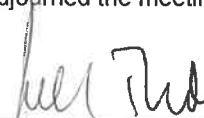
Skeels reported on the following:

- Status of the unclaimed segment of Crystal Drive just outside the Village of Beulah limits, approximately a 150-foot gap between what the Village is certifying and what the Road Commission certifies.
- Sale of next year's federal aid allocation which will be used for improving Cinder Road.
- This summers' federal aid project for CR-669 (from Almira Road north to the county line) is tentatively scheduled for mid-August.
- Informed the Board that the Benzie Central Maintenance Director is recommending heating the Platte River Elementary School building this winter to avoid mold growth and further deterioration to the building. Skeels also mentioned he has not heard back from the independent building inspection firm he had contacted.
- Approved Nedow's question whether the Board would like to retain Anderson-Tackman & Company this year's financial audit

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **July 28, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Manager Matt Skeels

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow
Commissioner Ted Mick was absent.

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Sherry Taylor, Ron Seguin and Craig Meredith.

Agenda: approved as presented.

The July 14, 2022 regular meeting minutes were read and approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Rosa to pay bills #51702 to #51740 in the amount of \$1,273,729.35 and approve Payroll #15 in the amount of \$61,394.87

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa and Bowers. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mick - Motion is hereby adopted.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed by the Board.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County.

Public Input: None.

Appointments: Heard comments from Craig Meredith who asked questions regarding sediment/gravel washing into the Betsie River due to the silt fencing deteriorating there, and if the seasonal portion of Haze Road south of Lindy Road near the Manistee County line could be improved.

Skeels announced receiving the signed transfer documents from Benzie Central Schools Superintendent Erfourth has been recorded with the Register of Deeds. As of July 1st, the Platte River Elementary School property belongs to the Benzie County Road Commission.

Items Before the Board:

Link Engineering Services recommendation: Nostwick Road bridge – temporary structure for sale:

In a memo dated July 25, 2022 to Manager Skeels, Link learned of a temporary bridge superstructure (beams, deck pan and railing) offered for sale by a contractor for \$75,000.00. This prefabricated steel structure has a span of 65 feet and width of sixteen feet which could be a cost-effective temporary solution for Nostwick Bridge. Before any decision is to be made, Link is recommending adding height to the abutments to increase clearance and thus require the approach grades to be raised as well. The southeast abutment, which is presently leaning, would have to be evaluated and stabilized before proceeding. Skeels stated he had contacted EGLE to see whether or not such a project is feasible with the preliminary results appear to be encouraging. Link will provide a preliminary evaluation of the existing structures to ascertain whether it would be possible to stabilize the leaning abutment, determine what other improvements would be necessary and receive permission from all regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over what would be allowed before the Road Commission decides whether or not to pursue this option.

Adopt Resolution: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Bridge Improvement Program participation:

In a letter dated July 25, 2022 from the County Road Association, it was announced a new funding opportunity for a third Bridge Bundling for certain qualifying bridges, which the Nostwick Bridge qualifies. In order to be included with the MDOT application, the Board is being asked to adopt a Resolution and send it into the CRA by the end of the day August 1st to formally apply for this program.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to adopt the "Resolution to Provide 20% Construction Match for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Bridge Improvement Program" which reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the county road agencies of Michigan are responsible for 75% of the state's roads and 52% of the bridges, all of which are vital to Michigan's economic welfare and the safety of its residents and visitors;

WHEREAS, 59% or over 3,300 bridges under county road agency control are in less than good condition; and,

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provides funding for a bridge replacement, rehabilitation, preservation, protection and construction as part of the IIJA Bridge Improvement Program to modernize bridges and to make them safer for all users;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Benzie County Road Commission hereby pledges to provide 20% of the construction cost as matching funds for Structure No. 766 Nostwick Road bridge spanning the Betsie River if Michigan receives an award from the IIJA Bridge Improvement Program fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the preliminary engineering costs and construction engineering costs will not be assessed against the county.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa and Bowers. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mick – Resolution is hereby adopted.

Platte River Elementary School buildings:

Now that the Road Commission has ownership of the property, staff asked the Board to cease exploring alternative options to salvage the structures and proceed with plans to demolish the buildings. With much of the building contents and fixtures have been removed, what is left is in rough shape. In addition, the building would have to be heated over the winter if there is any hope of deterring mold growth and decay of the interior finishes. Skeels pointed out it would be more costly to incorporate any part of the existing structures into the proposed new road commission buildings. Nedow offered the suggestion that if the current school buildings are demolished and the new road commission facility has been built, the Board could reserve part of the vacated existing property/buildings for community/public use. This option would also allow a qualifying non-profit organization time to raise funds to either build a new structure or utilize part of the vacated building into whatever configuration is desired.

After further discussion, staff was asked to proceed with obtaining an independent evaluation on the condition of the school facility which would be used to base their decision on whether or not to proceed with demolition. Chairman Rosa then asked the audience for their thoughts whether the structures should be retained or torn down.

Authorize staff to approve infringement, race/other permit applications without Board review:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to authorize staff to approve the following permit applications (right-of-way infringements, race events, temporary/short term road closures and any special-request applications that staff would otherwise recommend for approval) without Board review/approval. Further, the permit being approved is to be also signed by the Manager in addition to the Superintendent and/or foremen and any permit application that staff would be uncomfortable approving can still be brought before the Board for their consideration.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa and Bowers. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mick – Motion is hereby adopted.

Request to amend the June 23, 2022 administrative raise approval:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to alter the June 23, 2022 administrative wage increase for the Finance Manager by rescinding the authorization to receive in-kind gasoline from the Road Commission's fuel depot and instead, replace it with a monetary raise for the same 6.4% increase as was given to the Manager, Superintendent and Fleet Manager. This change is to be effective as of July 25, 2022.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa and Bowers. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioner Mick – Motion is hereby adopted.

Correspondence/Informational/Discussion:

Public Input: Heard comments from Sherry Taylor and from Craig Meredith. Meredith asked if King Road where the road intersects Haze Road could be improved.

Board Round Table:

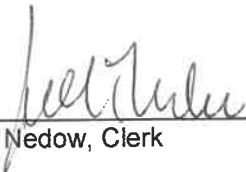
Skeels reported on the following:

-The proposed gravel pit off Nessen Road: Skeels is recommending the operation use Lindy Road to access their pit property which is less hilly and would be a better choice than using Nessen Road.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk

Note: Post meeting, the Road Commission office received Commissioner Ted Mick's letter of resignation effective July 25, 2022

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **August 11, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Manager Matt Skeels

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Sherry Taylor, Margaret Myers, Homestead Township Supervisor Tia Kurina-Cooley and Weldon Township Supervisor Ron Hitesman.

Agenda: approved as presented.

The July 28, 2022 regular meeting minutes were read and approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Rosa to pay bills #51741 to #51785 in the amount of \$83,130.17 and approve Payroll #16 in the amount of \$59,516.66

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa and Bowers. Nays: None - Motion is hereby adopted.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed by the Board. Heard oral report from Fleet Manager Johnson

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County. Sauer reported the Benzie County Board accepted Road Commissioner Ted Mick's resignation letter and is taking applications until August 22, 2022 from persons interested in interviewing with the County to appoint a replacement road commissioner to finish the remainder of Mick's term. He also reminded those in attendance to log into the County website to fill out the survey for residents to offer input on how the County Board should spend Benzie's allocated ARPA funds.

Public Input: None.

Appointments: None

Items Before the Board:

Ballot for CRASIF Board of Trustees-fill three 3-year term positions:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to vote for the three incumbent candidates listed on the CRASIF Board of Trustee ballot: John Hunt from Huron County; Deb Kestner from Saginaw County and Michael Scott from Montcalm County as recommended by staff.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Bowers and Rosa. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Ballot for NMARC Board of Trustees – fill one 2-year positions:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to vote for Karl Hanson from Wexford County for the NMARC Board of Trustee position as recommended by staff.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Bowers and Rosa. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Schedule a public hearing: 2023 Road Commission budget:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to schedule a public hearing on Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 10:15 a.m. for the purpose of hearing public comments regarding the Road Commission's 2023 proposed budget.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Bowers and Rosa. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Discuss/approve new proposal for the Road Commission's 2022 financial audit:

Nedow reported he had recently contacted Anderson-Tackman & Company to find out why their 2022 audit proposal had increased significantly this year. At that time, he was told that due to Phil Wolf retiring and his replacement resigning, Anderson-Tackman was withdrawing their audit proposal and would be unable to perform audits for the next few years until they could restaff their audit department.

Nedow then contacted an alternative auditing firm who he had worked with in previous years who agreed to match last year's audit proposal, a rate lower than what Anderson-Tackman & Company had proposed for this year. He further expressed his opinion that having a "new set of eyes on our books" would offer a fresh perspective on the effectiveness of our internal control systems.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Rosa to accept the \$8,400.00 audit proposal submitted by Smith-Klaczkiwicz PC for auditing this year's financial records/statement and evaluate internal controls for the 2022 fiscal year.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Bowers and Rosa. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Correspondence/Informational/Discussion: None.

Public Input: Heard comments from Weldon Township Supervisor Ron Hitesman concerning sediment washing into the Betsie River from the adjacent road due to the silt fence installed there being knocked down by people accessing the river (Black bridge). Possible alternatives were then discussed as to what could be done to correct this condition. Hitesman also mentioned another location where runoff is also deteriorating the gravel road.

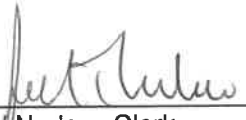
Comments were also heard from Sherry Taylor, Homestead Township Supervisor Tia Kurina-Cooley, Margaret Myers and County Commissioner Sauer.

Board Round Table:

Skeels updated the Board on the latest efforts to resolve a property title/legal description error associated with a portion of the Platte River Elementary School property, possibly due to a possible Scribner error with one or more property legal descriptions recorded in the distant past. More research is needed to determine what course of action would be needed to clarify property ownership of the segment in question.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.


Robert Rosa, Chairman


Joe Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **August 25, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Manager Matt Skeels

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Sherry Taylor and Pat Grey.

Agenda: approved as presented.

The August 11, 2022 regular meeting minutes were read and approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Rosa to pay bills #51786 to #51824 in the amount of \$724,301.66 and approve Payroll #17 in the amount of \$61,631.65

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa and Bowers. Nays: None - Motion is hereby adopted.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Written report reviewed by the Board.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County. Sauer reported the Benzie County Board will be holding a special meeting on September 1st at 1:00 p.m. to interview perspective applicants to fill the recently vacated Road Commission board position for the remainder of former Commissioner Mick's term. As such Sauer anticipates his board filling the position by the first road commission meeting in September.

Public Input: Heard comments from Pat Grey concerning Lincoln Road. Efforts to enlist funds from Benzonia Township to pay for shifting Lincoln Road back onto the section line away from Grey's orchard where he would like to erect fencing have been unsuccessful. Grey informed the Board that he went ahead and installed the proposed fencing, part of which is within the road right of way. He is here today to ask the Road Commission plow drivers not to push snow against the fencing this winter. Skeels stated he would pass Grey's concern on to the drivers and Nedow suggested Grey should apply for a permit so that staff could authorize/approve that portion of the fencing that was installed within the road right of way.

Appointments: None

Items Before the Board:

Proposal for Platte River Elementary School Assessment by Apex Engineering & Management Inc:

After reviewing the tasks listed in the proposal, the Board took no action. Staff instructed to contact Steven Steimel, PE of APEX Engineering to ask him to reduce the scope of the services offered focusing primarily on the exterior shell of the eastern portion of the school for assessing the condition of the roof, exterior walls and support structure on the easterly portion of the structure. This proposal is to exclude the old, original west end of the building which would likely be demolished. As the heating and main electrical hookup is located in the west end, the proposal is to include a ball-park estimate for a new HVAC and electrical service to the west end if the decision is to save that part of the structure.

Correspondence/Informational/Discussion:

Letter dated August 22, 2022 from Lake Township residents Marianne Davis and Laurie Raymond who wrote the letter listing maintenance concerns on Beech Street which they would like addressed now that the Road Commission has committed to fixing their road. Skeels explained that staff had been recently on-site to mark trees that would be removed as part of providing an updated estimate for Lake Township Board should they decide to commit funds to improve the road. Skeels theorized that staff marking the trees led Davis and Raymond erroneous concluding the township had committed to the project when it had not.

Public Input: Comments were offered by Sherry Taylor.

Board Round Table:

The following topics were discussed:

-Crum-rubber application scheduled for Crystal Drive: Skeels reported that after conferring with staff, the project was declined due primarily for a last minute, significant cost increase by the contractor, a change in the application process and not being able to complete the entire length of Crystal Drive with the available funding. The grant, while declined this year, could still be utilized if the decision was made to pursue this process later on next summer. However, Skeels noted that even with the grant, the cost of this process was still significantly higher than for a traditional seal coat application with fog seal.

-CRA Commissioner Committee – Paul Bunyan Council appointment: with Wexford County Commissioner Haase recently passing away, the CRA is looking for commissioners interested in serving on this committee. Vice-Chairman Bowers expressed interest in serving and asked staff to relay his offer to the canvassing committee.

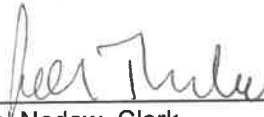
-Agreed to postpone nominating a Road Commissioner to serve on the Benzie County Parks & Recreation Board until the new road commissioner had been filled.

-Heard updates from Skeels on the upcoming Ironman Triathlon race-event and the latest news concerning the Bridge Bundling program which is significantly over-budgeted. Skeels offered his impressions that in order to meet the available funding, several projects are expected to be cut from the program.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joe Nedow, Clerk

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted

Chairman Rosa then recessed the regular session and opened the public hearing at 10:15 a.m.

Nedow provided a brief explanation how the various line items for each revenue and expense category were created and referred to several supporting schedules that provided historical data for comparative purposes.

Comments were heard from Benzie County Commissioner Gary Sauer, concerning the announcement that staff would like to include graveling county roads that would qualify for millage-related road improvement projects starting in fiscal 2024 to the Local Road Committee during the annual meeting later this fall. Each Board member offered their support for this proposal, and Sauer suggested staff should compile a list of recommended gravel roads with cost estimates so that the committee could gauge the financial impact of what is proposed.

With no further comments were offered, oral or written.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Beechraft to closet the public hearing and return to open session.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioner Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Chairman Rosa then returned the meeting to regular session at 10:45 a.m.

Items Before the Board:

Request to adjust 2022 Road Commission budget:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Beechraft to adjust the 2022 Benzie County Road Commission budget as follows:

Revenues: Increases: MTF-Primary Road - \$150,000.00; MTF-Local Road - \$100,000.00; MTF-Snow Funds - \$12,000.00; State Trunkline Maintenance - \$80,000.00; Salvage Sales - \$8,000.00; Federal Aid - \$475,000.00; Other Contributions - \$101,000.00; Permits/fees - \$20,000.00; Gain on Sale of Asset - \$200,000.00 and Interest Income - \$15,000.00. Decreases: State Transportation Work Authorization – (\$60,000.00); Township Contributions – (\$125,000.00) and NCRC/BIA Grants – (\$550,000.00).

Expenditures: Increases: Primary Road-Preventative - \$175,000.00; Primary Road-Routine - \$250,000.00; Local Road-Routine - \$325,000.00; State Trunkline Maintenance - \$80,000.00; Capital Outlay Net - \$375,000.00; Administrative Expense Net - \$100,000.00; Debt Principal - \$5.00 and Debt Interest Expense - \$50.00. Decreases: Local Road-Preventative – (\$275,000.00) and State Transportation Work Authorization – (\$60,000.00).

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Resolution 22-08: adopt the 2023 Benzie County Road Commission budget:

Motion by Commissioner Beechraft supported by Commissioner Rosa to adopt Resolution 22-08 which reads as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED, that a public hearing was held on September 22, 2022 with no oral comment offered and no written inquiries received regarding the proposed budget, and

BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution shall be both the general appropriation resolution and the budget adoption resolution of the Benzie County Road Commission for the year ended September 30, 2022. This resolution adopts proposed revenues and expenditures as presented in the accompanying budget document. Total revenues are adopted as \$8,067,900.00 and total expenditures as \$8,032,100.00, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no Benzie County Road Commission member or employee of the Commission shall expend any funds or obligate any expenditure except pursuant to appropriations authorized by the budget document. Changes in amounts appropriated by the Commission shall require approval of the Commission, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Finance Manager Joel T. Nedow is hereby charged with general supervision of the execution of the budget adopted by the Commission, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution is to take effect October 1, 2022.

Roll call vote: Rosa – aye; Bowers – aye and Beechraft - aye. Nays: None. - Resolution is hereby adopted.

Correspondence/Informational/Discussion: Skeels presented a copy of an email he received from Glenn Cousineau on September 18, 2022 asking if the Board would consider selling our 5.71-acre parcel on Wallin Road that is adjacent to Cousineau's property. No action was taken on the request as no interest was expressed by the members to sell any road commission property at this time, and to inform Cousineau of their decision.

Public Input: Heard comments from Sauer who asked for a friend if the Road Commission sells or would consider selling a used underbody blades to the public. Skeels informed him that Road Commission policy prohibits selling our stock/materials to the public, and Commissioner Rosa suggested Sauer's friend could probably obtain one from the scrap dealer who accepts our metal scrap.

Irene Dunham-Thayer, who resides at 2477 Miller Road near Thompsonville reported a Deer Crossing sign has been defaced near her residence and asked the Road Commission to monitor the area in hopes of catching the person(s) responsible.

Board Round Table: With former Road Commissioner Mick stepping down from the Board, the Road Commission will need to appoint a new representative to the Benzie County Parks & Recreation Committee board. No action was taken at this time as Chairman Rosa asked Beechraft and Bowers if either of them would consider accepting this appointment.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk

-Request to amend the Administrative Employee handbook: allow unused administrative vacation time to roll forward:

No action taken: staff directed to bring a new recommendation to the Board at their November 10th regular meeting.

Correspondence/Informational/Discussion:

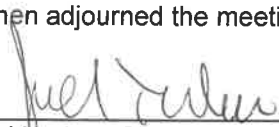
Public Input: None.

Board Round Table: Skeels announced that with all the pending costly bridge replacement projects anticipated to be done in the near future, he is working on a Bridge Policy which he expects to introduce to the board later this fall.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk

Commissioner Rosa then made a motion to withdraw his previous motion as supported by Commissioners Beechraft.

Motion by Commissioner Rosa supported by Commissioner Bowers to table further discussion on this subject until the next meeting.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

At this point, Frank asked if he had to return to the next meeting and reminded the Board that he would like to finalize the quotes he is in the process of obtaining.

Staff made a suggestion for the Board to agree to post a general statement in today's meeting which would settle the matter and allow Frank to proceed with obtaining his project estimates: Given that staff cannot verify the validity of the 25-ton weight restriction signage posted on Sutter Roads in Lake Township, the Benzie County Road Commission will not be enforcing this designation and will instruct staff to remove the signs accordingly.

Follow up - amend Residential Driveway Approach standards for access to a private road requirement:

Staff provided a revised version of what had been presented at the last meeting. During the ensuing discussion, several edits were suggested to clarify the revised standard.

Motion by Commissioner Beechraft supported by Commissioner Bowers to approve the requested amendment to the Road Commission's Residential Driveway Approach standards for access to a private road requirement with the changes discussed during today's meeting. Specifically, the amended standard now lists conditions the Board would consider if any applicant does ask for a variance from the private road access requirement.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Follow up – request to amend Administrative Employee handbook to allow unused vacation time to roll forward:

Staff reported that the Administrative Employee handbook already contains a provision that vacation time may be carried into the next calendar year at the discretion of the Manager and/or Board on an individual basis so no revision is necessary.

-Maintenance agreement for Beech Street – Lake Township:

Skeels informed the Board Lake Township had approved a project to cut trees, grade and add gravel on Beech Street, a platted street not accepted by the Road Commission. The entire cost of the project is to be funded by the township. Skeels explained the maintenance agreement is necessary if the Road Commission is to plow the road this winter and do other maintenance activities which would be on a cost reimbursement basis.

Motion by Commissioner Beechraft supported by Commissioner Bowers to approve the Beech Street – Lake Township maintenance agreement and forward the signed document on to Lake Township to execute.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

-Cancellation of November 23, 2022 - Road Commission Board meeting:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Beechraft to cancel the November 23, 2022 regular Board meeting and to authorize Manager Skeels to authorize/approve the month-end accounts payable and payroll payments.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Correspondence/Informational/Discussion:

Briefly discussed report on the present condition of the Platte River Elementary School building as prepared by Apex Engineering & Management, Inc. The report listed the fixes/upgrades and the corresponding estimated costs a qualifying public entity could expect to pay if they wish to pursue occupying the facility.

Commissioner Beechraft expressed his opinion that given the costs already incurred by the Road Commission, he would support demolishing the buildings sooner rather than later. Further discussion ensued, and at the

conclusion, the Board agreed unanimously to wait until July 1, 2023 before making any final decision whether the entire structure is to be demolished, and authorized Skeels to heat the vacant school building during the winter months.

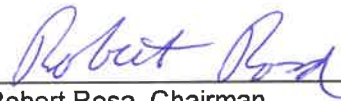
Public Input: Comments were offered by Don Schmid who suggested the Platte River School gymnasium could be used in its current state of disrepair by the community for pickle ball. No action was taken on the suggestion.

Village of Honor President Bill Ward and Sauer asked for a copy of the Platte River School evaluation report.

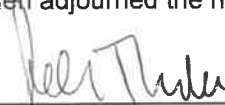
Sauer also mentioned that the Benzie County Sheriff is considering going to 24-hour road patrols.

Board Round Table: Commissioner Bowers brought up a safety concern for the CR-669/CR-610 intersection by the old Almira School, where he has witnessed west bound traffic not stopping at the intersection. Staff will be looking at signage at that location to determine if the proper size stop sign has been installed.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission office in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **December 8, 2022** at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Chairman Robert Rosa
Member Paul Beechraft
Finance Manager/Clerk Joe Nedow

Vice-Chairman James Bowers
Manager Matt Skeels

Guests attending: County Commissioner Gary Sauer, Dan Walters of Grand Traverse Diesel Service, Sherry Taylor, Margaret Myers, Kelly Shahrouri, and Jerry and Cheri Salenski.

The November 10, 2022 regular meeting minutes were read and approved.

Motion by Commissioner Beechraft and supported by Commissioner Bowers to pay bills #52073 thru #52141 in the amount of \$374,721.79 and approve Payroll #24, #25 and #25A in the amount of \$140,167.91.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None - Motion is hereby adopted.

Cash Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Work Summary: Reviewed as presented.

Standing guest: Gary Sauer, County Commissioner – Presented an oral report for items/issues the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is dealing with as well as events impacting local government from around Benzie County.

Public Input: Grand Traverse Diesel Service Manager Dan Walters offered his thanks to the Road Commission for testing a prototype Western Star plow truck for Daimler-Chrysler these past two winters. The unit was returned this fall and the manufacturer asked Walters to relay their appreciation for the large amount of feedback provided by our drivers and mechanics which they will use to improve future designs.

Appointments: Met with Jerry and Cheri Salenski, who reside at 12716 Brownell Road. Along with family member Kelly Shahrouri, the Salenski's are present to ask the Road Commission to correct a problem caused when the past Superintendent had cleared trees and brush along the road several years prior to improve visibility. However, the clearing extended outside the road right of way and because their land is on a hillside, the hill is sliding downward toward the road whenever moisture saturates the clay layer under the soil. Cheryl Salenski stated they had been promised by the past supervisor that corrected action would address the problem but to date nobody from the Road Commission has been in contact with them. Their request to the Road Commission to return cedar logs that were cut down there was also not done, and they are here today to request a definitive action plan be implemented designed by an independent engineering firm as soon as possible to remediate the hillside from slipping more. Commissioner Rosa apologized for the lack of response and stated this would not happen again. Skeels stated that after he had spoken to Cheri and Kelly earlier, he had contacted a local geotechnical engineering firm to evaluate the situation and provide their recommendation(s) to stabilize the hillside. Skeels concluded his remarks by stating the Road Commission would be keeping the Salenskis advised as to what can be done to remediate the problem and stabilize the hillside.

Item Before the Board:

Motion to accept 2022 Road Commission financial audit report & Act-51 report:

Nedow distributed copies of the September 30, 2022 audit report as prepared by Smith & Klaczkiwicz PC reporting an unqualified (clean) opinion, with no significant deficiencies found in the Road Commission's internal controls. The report including two findings; the Road Commission did not prepare government-wide and fund balance interim statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles that included full footnote disclosures, and the second finding is a lack of segregation of duties among the tasks performed by the accounting staff. Nedow informed the Board that both audit findings are common among smaller road commissions with limited staffing. The report also states that the Board is aware of both deficiencies and understands the cost of implementing corrective measures (hire additional staff) outweighs any potential risks.

Motion by Commissioner Rosa supported by Commissioner Bowers to accept the 2022 year-end audit report and accompanying financial statements as reviewed and prepared by Smith & Klaczkiewicz PC and to also approve the audited Act-51 report which Nedow will submit to the State of Michigan via their reporting portal.
Discussion: none.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Consideration: three-year financial audit proposal offered by Smith & Klaczkiewicz PC:

Motion by Commissioner Beechraft supported by Commissioner Bowers to accept the offer tendered by Smith & Klaczkiewicz PC to audit the Road Commission for fiscal years 2023, 2024 and 2025 at a cost of \$8,400.00 each year.

Discussion: none.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Rescind approval: maintenance agreement for Beech Street – Lake Township:

Skeels informed the Board that Lake Township is not interested in entering into a maintenance agreement for Beech Street. As such, he is asking the Board to rescind their previous approval of the proposal.

Motion by Commissioner Beechraft supported by Commissioner Bowers to rescind the proposed Beech Street maintenance agreement with Lake Township.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

-Discussion: Apex Engineering – Platte River School assessment report:

No action taken at this time. Skeels noted the school's boilers have been lit with the temperature low to keep the building minimally heated over the winter to prevent further deterioration to the structure's interior.

Commissioner Beechraft made reference to the carrying costs incurring since the Road Commission assumed ownership last July. After further discussion, no changes were made to the agreed upon July 1, 2023 deadline for making a final determination if the building is to be torn down or retained unless there is a catastrophic failure in the building's heating system before then.

Correspondence/Informational/Discussion:

-A November 24, 2022 letter from Harold Comer, Program Coordinator for Benzie Blessings in a Backpack thanking the Board for allowing their organization to use the Platte River School building these past months until their new home was ready at Benzie Area Christian Neighbors building.

-Reviewed report generated by Nedow that summarizes the Road Commission's MERS Defined Benefit pension fund balance since January 1, 2022. Even with the additional voluntary payments, the plan lost significant value due to the impact of poor investment performance over the past three quarters.

Public Input:

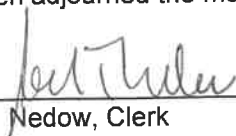
Nessen Road resident Margaret Myers addressed the board reading from a prepared statement. Myers expressed her displeasure with the recent tree trimming that was done there and asked the Road Commission to respect their property and refrain from trimming on the hillside of Nessen Road in the future.

Comments were also offered by Sherry Taylor.

Board Round Table: None.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.


Robert Rosa, Chairman


Joel Nedow, Clerk

Nedow presented a draft of proposed 2023 Road Commission Board meeting dates and asked for a motion to set the first meeting in 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Beechraft to schedule the 2023 Organizational meeting for Thursday, January 12, 2023 starting at 9:30 a.m. to be held at the Road Commission office in Honor. Discussion: Further discussion ensued whether the second meeting in January should be either rescheduled or cancelled as Commissioner Bowers will be out of town on the proposed date in question. Ayes: Commissioners Rosa, Bowers and Beechraft. Nays: None. – Motion is hereby adopted.

Correspondence/Informational/Discussion:

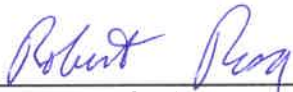
-Reviewed CRRSAA Phase Bundles bridge bid letting schedule for 2023 that includes Reynolds Road bridge (late July 2023) and Haze Road/Black bridge (early October 2023) projects. Funding for both projects is to be provided by the Bridge Bundling program at no cost to the Road Commission. In regard to the Reynolds Road bridge replacement, Skeels stated he will contact the project coordinators to request the bridge width be increased to twenty-four feet wide instead of fifteen feet as planned due to the amount of traffic flow that would be using the bridge.

Public Input:

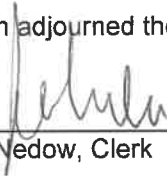
Margaret Myers asked each Board member for background information. Commissioner Sauer asked for clarification on the Black Bridge removal project.

Board Round Table: Commissioner Rosa provided an update on the latest inquiries he has received from a group interested in the possibility of rehabbing the Platte River Elementary school building, with them presenting a proposal to the Board at their next regular meeting.

With no more business to discuss, Chairman Rosa then adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.



Robert Rosa, Chairman



Joel Nedow, Clerk