

doing so would require creating another project within the present project to satisfy the program guidelines. However, even with the diverted funds, the cost to the Road Commission is still expected to be high, and he asked the Board if they would prefer to proceed with the project or cancel it as being too expensive. After further discussion, Commissioners Bowers and Rosa stated that while they are not happy with the high cost, the improvements are necessary in order to correct ongoing erosion and water runoff problems and both expressed their desire to proceed with the project.

2020 financial audit proposal: Nedow reported he had obtained a copy of the request for quote the County had issued when they took bids for a three-year audit contract in which he learned the Road Commission's audit was excluded in the bid request. Nedow stated he decided to contact Anderson Tackman and Company, who are familiar with our finances and who had performed our audits for the past several years to ask them to submit an audit proposal for this year for the Board to consider accepting.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers, supported by Commissioner Mick to accept the \$6,260.00 proposal submitted by Anderson, Tackman and Company to perform the 2020 Road Commission financial audit.

Discussion: None.

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

Correspondence/Information/Discussion:

-Letter dated September 30, 2020 from Heather Jamison-GFA to Tom Canfield DJ McQuestion & Sons asking for corrective actions for Pioneer Road safety project. McQuestion is being asked to provide a proposed schedule of work to the Project Engineer by October 16, 2020. And if the work is not completed by November 1, 2020 written Notice of Default of Contract will be sent and McQuestion's surety bond will be forfeited.

-Press release dated September 22, 2020 by the County Road Association Self-Insurance Fund recognizing the Benzie County Road Commission for having one of the lowest employee injury rates among road commissions in the State for the second straight year.

Public Input: None.

Board Round Table:

Skeels announced that the rules governing the sale of federal aid has changed. Now road commissions who wish to sell their federal aid designated as Rural funds can sell theirs to other road commissions for use urban road projects instead of only on rural projects. This change should help improve our ability to sell federal aid in the future.

However, he also learned that MDOT instituted a new requirement for federal aid projects that now requires a historical background search performed by a qualified archeologist. It is unknown if this new ruling applies to next year's federal aid projects as well.

Skeels asked the Board for permission to pay out the unused vacation and comp-time banks for two administrative employees who have been unable to use their time during this past year. While the Road Commission policy states any unused time is forfeited, exceptions had been made in the past when circumstances merit. However, Commissioners Rosa and Bowers stated they would prefer that the employees use their vacation time and not grant an exception in this case.

Briefly discussed Commissioner Rosa participating in the November 25th Board meeting via remote video access as he is planning on being out of town on that date.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Robert Rosa, Chairman

Joel Nedow, Clerk