

Discussion: reducing the chargeable overhead rate for billable projects/services:

As this topic was discussed at the last Board meeting, Skeels added our State trunkline maintenance contract includes provisions allowing for an 8.5% overhead rate for trunkline related charges. As such, he offered his recommendation to reduce the current 10% overhead rate to 8.5% which he believes would be positively received by the various township Boards. He also expressed his opinion that doing so may also spark additional interest by township board members to consider more road improvement projects within their jurisdiction.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to reduce the Benzie County Road Commission's 10% overhead rate charged on billable projects and services to 8.5% effective immediately.

Discussion: Skeels stated that any pending township/village project estimates would not be revised, but the lower overhead rate would be applied when the project(s) are completed and billed. Nedow stated this change does not impact the billable overhead rate stated in the street maintenance agreement with the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians.

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

Approve/ratify street maintenance agreements-Benzie Schools & Village of Lake Ann:

Motion by Commissioner Mick supported by Commissioner Bowers to execute the three-year Street Maintenance Agreements for the Benzie County Schools and the Village of Lake Ann.

Discussion: None.

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

Discussion: annual material bidding process:

Nedow provided a draft of a proposed Purchasing policy for the Board to review for possible adoption. He mentioned that adopting a purchasing policy was an audit recommendation included in the 2020 year-end audit report and having a formal policy should streamline the annual bidding process by defining when sealed bids would be required instead of verbal or written quotes. No action was taken at this time pending further discussion at the next scheduled board meeting.

Resolution to allow Flex Administrators Inc. to oversee BCRC Flex benefit plan:

Motion by Bowers supported by Mick to approve a resolution authorizing Flex Administrators Inc to oversee the Road Commission's Flex benefit plan as of January 1, 2021 instead of administering the plan in-house.

Discussion: None.

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

Correspondence/Information/Discussion:

Discussed letter dated January 14, 2021 from State of Michigan-Office of Commission Audit reporting that an audit of the 2018-2019 trunkline resulted in an audit refund of \$184,975. Nedow asked the Board still desires any refunds received from either the Pool or from trunkline audits are to be used to pay down the defined benefit pension unfunded liability, or if this refund is to be channeled elsewhere. While it was generally agreed that the past-practice of routing refunds against the outstanding pension obligation should continue but to defer any decision at this time.

Board Round Table: None.

Public Input: None.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

Robert Rosa, Chairman

Joel Nedow, Clerk