

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Benzie County was called to order by Chairman Rosa at the Road Commission offices in Honor, Michigan on Thursday **February 25, 2021** at 9:30 a.m.

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

Guests: The public was invited to attend via telephone conferencing due to COVID concerns and restrictions.

The agenda was accepted as presented.

February 11, 2021 regular meeting minutes were approved.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers and supported by Commissioner Mick to pay bills #50309 to #50341 in the amount of \$207,537.41 and Payroll #4 for \$75,901.64.

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

Cash Summary: Reviewed – no comments offered.

Work Summary:

-Reviewed written report summarizing the tasks and activities completed or in-progress for the Manager and for each department head. Skeels reported he had discussions with Benzie High School representatives about the possibility of relocating a segment of Henry Road as a means of easing traffic congestion to the new elementary building. However, logistic problems would need to be worked out as abandoning the segment that runs behind the high school would be an impediment to several residence who live on that part of the road as well as how the new driveway entrance would interfere with the gas distribution building and lines. Commissioner Bowers stated he remembers a survey of Henry Road was done back in the 1960's which Skeels could use as a resource. Also, Skeels noted that seasonal weight restrictions will soon be imposed next week if the warm daytime temperatures continue.

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

Heard oral report from Superintendent Fasel, who announced seasonal weight restrictions will be imposed starting March 1st at 7:00 a.m.

Public Input: Heard comments from Sherry Taylor who voiced her concerns with traffic congestion at Henry Road when school kids are picked up by their parents at the end of the school day. Rieth-Riley Project Manager Sean Sebela, stated that he is looking forward to re-building a relationship with the Benzie County Road Commission as his firm submitted the low bid for the Cinder Road paving project.

Items Before the Board:

Award HMA project paving bids:

Bids for this summer's primary road paving projects were opened on February 12th with the results as follows:

<u>Projects – HMA paving:</u>	<u>Molon Asphalt</u>	<u>Team Elmers'</u>	<u>Reith-Riley</u>
-Cinder Road (CR 669 to Bendon Road):	\$386,196.50	\$354,766.90	\$350,591.73
-Airport Road (Twp hall to new pavement):	\$76,407.00	\$71,667.05	\$75,187.25
-Airport Road (River Road to Carlson Road):	\$10,327.80	\$8,193.15	\$11,689.70
-Mick Road (Crawford Road to US-31):	<u>\$159,250.60</u>	<u>\$149,243.75</u>	<u>\$151,493.40</u>
Total HMA:	\$632,181.90	\$583,870.85	\$588,962.08

<u>Projects – Shoulder restoration:</u>	<u>Molon Asphalt</u>	<u>Team Elmers'</u>	<u>Reith-Riley</u>
-Cinder Road (CR 669 to Bendon Road):	\$38,400.00	\$51,404.80	\$43,417.60
-Airport Road (Twp hall to new pavement):	\$7,680.00	\$10,240.00	\$12,640.00
-Airport Road (River Road to Carlson Road):	\$792.00	\$1,056.00	\$1,303.50
-Mick Road (Crawford Road to US-31):	\$16,152.00	\$21,536.00	\$18,070.05

Skels offered his recommendation to award the paving bids to Team Elmers' who had submitted the lowest bid package price. He also suggested that due to confusion how the bid documents were put together, he is advising the Board to decline the shoulder restoration bids at this time. Further discussion ensued whether it would be equitable to award the entire package to one contractor or to award the projects piece-meal based upon the lowest bid submitted for each project.

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to award the Cinder Road paving project to Reith Riley who had submitted the lowest paving bid and to decline all the shoulder restoration bids submitted.
Discussion: None.

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

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to award the Airport Road paving projects (both segments) and the Mick Road paving project to Team Elmers' who had submitted the lowest paving bid. Discussion and decline all shoulder restoration bids submitted.

Discussion: None.

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

Award 2021 annual material bids:

Motion by Commissioner Rosa supported by Commissioner Bowers to award the following annual material bids for the ensuing year:

- Brine: D&J Bowen Dust Control for 26% calcium chloride for \$700.00 per mile, and Liquid Calcium for 32% calcium chloride (\$1,487.50 per mile) and 38% calcium chloride (\$1,687.50 per mile);
- Guardrail: award Jenson Bridge as primary supplier and RMD Holdings as secondary supplier;
- Fuel: Crystal Flash as primary supplier and Blarney Castle as secondary supplier;
- Pavement markings: accept the bid tendered by P. K. Contracting for waterborne paint application at \$0.046/per linear foot and \$7.00 per linear foot for rumble strips/snowmobile crossing markings (only bid submitted).

Discussion: None.

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

Proposed "Restrict Non-Employees Riding in Road Commission Trucks & Heavy Equipment" policy:

Motion by Commissioner Bowers supported by Commissioner Mick to adopt the proposed policy as presented.

Discussion: none.

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

Request approval: North Mitten Half Marathon race scheduled for May 30, 2021:

Nedow checked with the Road Commission's insurance Pool after receiving an acceptable certificate of insurance, verifying that document includes the required endorsements and monetary insurability amounts.

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 30, 2021 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.

Correspondence/Information/Discussion:

-Link Engineering Services – memo dated February 24, 2021 which provided a cost estimate to replace a pair of multi-plate pipe arches (installed in 1962) over Betsie River on Lindy Road. Link projected the structures have a remaining life of four to nine years and they are recommending the Road Commission apply for 2024 Local Bridge Program funding which is due this April 5th that also requires support from Benzie County as well as the townships in which the structures are located. The scoping estimate to use for the application is projected at \$1,500,000.00 for a single span bridge with roadway approach work to address the slopes in both directions. This program has a minimum match of 5% or \$75,000.00. With engineering design estimated to be \$40,000.00

and construction engineering estimated at 25% or \$375,000.00, the total cost to the Road Commission would be \$490,000.00 under the provisions of the Program. As there are two other failing culvert stream crossing locations at Nostwick Road and Reynolds Road to consider, Skeels is asking the Board if there are any objections if submits an application to the Local Bridge Program for Lindy Road along with a resolution for the Board to adopt prior to the April application deadline.

-Reviewed PowerPoint presentation prepared and submitted by Joe Bartlett. Bartlett presentation included photos of several seasonal roads which are presently being snowplowed but do not have any year-round residents as examples wasting of taxpayer's dollars. Nedow reported speaking to Bartlett on the phone yesterday in which Bartlett asked to relay the message that the Benzie County Road Commission does a great job plowing but need to continue to review plow routes to ensure funds are being spent wisely. Skeels informed the Board staff reviewed the list of locations identified by Bartlett and included brief explanations on each page as to why a particular road is being plowed.

Board Round Table: Covered the following:

-Skeels recently learned at a recent rural task force meeting that Benzie County Road Commission is eligible for a special COVID related funding for \$135,000.00 which he will explore the possibility of apply toward the Esch Road FLAP grant project.

-Reviewed flooding issue on Crystal Drive by Nichols Drive in which he is enlisting the assistance of our outside engineering firm to design a new drainage structure to alleviate the problem. In addition, the Hidden Hollow drainage issue is still being debated among the attorneys involved.

-Love Road paving project is still waiting on grading easements before the project can proceed. Skeels stated that if the Township Supervisor is unable to obtain the necessary easements, then staff will postpone this project for another year and spend this year's local millage funds on other local road paving projects.

Public Input: None.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Robert Rosa, Chairman

Joel Nedow, Clerk