

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of the Shiawassee County Road Commission was held on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 7:30 a.m. meeting of the Shiawassee County Road Commission, 701 West Corunna Avenue, Corunna, MI 48817-1229.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman, John Michalec.

Commissioners Present: John Michalec, Ric Crawford & Mike Constine

Staff Present at the Shiawassee County Road Commission: Managing Director, Chris Cannon, Director of Finance and Human Resources/Clerk, Jennifer Schiebner, Equipment Superintendent, Jeremy Dietz and AFSCME Chapter Chair, Ryan Kruger.

VISITORS:

County Commissioner, John Plowman and Julie & Paul McDermed.

AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Constine, supported by Commissioner Crawford, to approve the agenda with the addition of the 2022 Communications Workshop.

All Ayes.

Motion Carried.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, supported by Commissioner Constine, to approve the minutes from Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

All Ayes.

Motion Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The following communications were received: A) Letter from Francis "Bus" Spaniola regarding Juddville Road Bridge dedication B) Letter from State Representative, John Moolenaar regarding Juddville Road Bridge dedication.

A motion was made by Commissioner Constine, supported by Commissioner Crawford, to accept the communications as presented and place them on file.

All Ayes.

Motion Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC (three (3) minute guideline):

Mrs. Julie McDermed addressed the board stating: "Good Morning, my name is Julie McDermed and I am the daughter of Steve Zemcik. I am here today to continue the request of

naming the Juddville bridge after my father. When I started this process three (3) months ago, I looked to see who the bridges were named for and there are six (6): “Bus” Spaniola, State Representative, Vic Nicols, Road Commissioner, Worden Garber, Road Commissioner, John Conger, Road Commissioner, Edward Deveroux, Managing Director and Buzz Howes, Managing Director.” She went on to state that, “Steve Zemcik is the longest sitting Road Commissioner elected for 28 years and during his tenure, Chairman of Seven County Council and Road Commission Chairman several times. He was also an independent business owner over the last 45 years with Steve’s Standard, Dedic’s Tavern and Owosso Rufuse. Additionally, Co-founder of the West Town Merchant’s Association, City of Owosso Police Reserve for seventeen (17) years, Hospice Chairman, Member of the Knights of Columbus – 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, Eagles, Elks, F.O.P., Conservation Club and American Legion.” Mrs. McDermed continued, “I then went to the Road Commission by-laws to read the guidelines on how it is determined a bridge, building or whatever is named for an individual and found nothing. This leaves the decision to the discretion and bias of whomever is elected at that time. At the beginning of August, I reached out to the Managing Director, Chris Cannon, to formally discuss and request the Juddville Bridge be named after my father. He said he would talk to the commissioners and ask around for how it is done. Chris came back a week later letting me know they have not done a sign for some time and the reasons are: Trimming around the sign causes more work for the workers, gets in the way of the arm of the mower or snow plow and the cost of materials and sign maintenance. My response was, the sign doesn’t need to be on the ground it can be bolted to the bridge, which is allowed in the by-laws and would conform to the guidelines. I also looked up the annual budget for the “added expense” and under maintenance in the annual budget there is an allocation of two (2) million dollars but the Road Commission makes their own signs so the cost would be significantly less than an outright purchase. In addition, I researched wear and tear on a road sign and how long it lasts and it is a minimum of fifteen (15) years. During the week of August 15<sup>th</sup>, Bus Spaniola spoke with John Michalec and said the commissioners are not opposed to naming the bridge and trying to figure it all out. On August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, I asked to be placed on the agenda for the monthly meeting and got the wrong time. When I realized, I emailed Chris Cannon and all the commissioners asking to meet for coffee to discuss. Nobody responded other than Chris Cannon. To further secure my dad’s legacy, I reached out to U.S. Representative Moolenaar, Congressman Barrett and State Representative Fredrick requesting a letter of support be sent to the board. On October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Barrett and Fredricks letter arrived with a request and support; on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Moolenaar’s letter arrived with a request and support; on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Spaniola’s letter arrived with a request and support. I followed up with Chris Cannon on next steps for naming the bridge thinking letters of request and support from the politicians that the Road Commission directly works with for grants and funds for projects that are needed in the Shiawassee County area would finally convince the board. Two (2) days after the letter was received by the commissioners, I received feedback that Mr. Constine had a problem with the word “pioneer”. To clarify, this letter was written on behalf of my father. If it was written with all commissioners involved on the Juddville Bridge, it would have been plural. In addition, it was brought to Chris Cannon’s attention a resident that passed away during the time the bridge was built had requested the bridge be name after him. Again, to clarify, the resident did not work for the Road Commission and had nothing to do with the bridge.” She wrapped up with, “I made a request to Chris Cannon to see the formal letter of the request along with any information in the meeting minutes and nothing could be found. As all the commissioners are businessmen, I’m sure you know if it’s not in writing or documented, then it never happened. In addition, my dad, a Road Commissioner at that time, does not recall any such request. Lonnie Latunski, the Managing Director at that time, does

not recall any such request. It is no secret in politics that people don't always see eye to eye. I would hope this board has the wisdom to know the difference between personal feelings through the years and the amount of service my father has given to the Road Commission and surrounding communities. With all that said, I would like the board to address all the discrepancies I have mentioned. Specifically, invoking a dead person's name and memory and using it as a road block for naming the bridge after my dad. In addition, I would like to know now if the board will now commit to naming the Juddville Bridge after my dad. I would like to thank Chris Cannon for helping navigate what should have been a simple process and to the Board for letting me speak her today."

Commissioner John Michalec responded that he wanted to clarify a couple things. First, the conversation with Mr. Spaniola was early on in the stages of this and at that time, no research had been completed. We were still looking into this. Also, he clarified that Mr. Brian Jackson worked on the Juddville Bridge construction through the construction company that built the bridge and years ago Lonny Meyers requested that the Juddville Road Bridge be named after him and the board denied this request because they do not do this. We do not agree with naming a bridge after an individual.

Mrs. McDermed stated that she has been working on this for months and this just came up and she could not find anything in the minutes regarding this request.

Chairman Michalec stated that he is not sure why it was not in the minutes and maybe it is and we missed it, however, he remembers it being discussed in a board meeting. In the past twenty-two years, no one on the board has ever agreed to name a bridge after an individual.

Commissioner Constine, stated that they did have to make a decision when Lonny Meyers addressed the board regarding Brian Jackson, it was a tough decision, but again, they have never put a name on a bridge.

Mrs. McDermed stated that you have put names on the bridges, there are six named that they are Commissioners, State Representatives and prior Managers.

Commissioner Michalec stated that he does not agree with that statement, those Commissioners made the decision to put those names on the bridges and this board has never made that decision.

Managing Director, Chris Cannon, has spoke to other surrounding Road Commissions, and Clinton County has done it for fallen heroes only. Montcalm does not do it at all and Gratiot has one dedicated bridge in their county but does not do it any longer.

Commissioner Michalec stated that the state does not do that either, correct? Managing Director, Chris Cannon stated they have but you have to follow their bylaws and the manual for highway traffic control.

Mrs. McDermed stated, she cannot help but feel this is personal against her father.

Commissioner Crawford stated that his understanding that years ago Commissioner Zemcik asked if he could put his name on a bridge, and it was denied.

Commissioner Crawford, stated that with that being said, he does not know the history too much because he is new to this board. He would be in support if the other board members are, but we need to base this decision on the facts.

Mrs. McDermed stated that her dad has the longest service history of a commissioner in our county and she does not understand what the hang up is, if it is not personal. She has heard so many excuses over the past three months and she does not understand the hang up.

Commissioner Michalec, stated that his hang up is just that he does not agree with naming bridges after individuals, this board has never done it and do not agree with it. It is not personal at all. Commissioner Constine stated that he agrees with Commissioner Michalec and that this bridge was constructed by many and they denied a worker that had worked on this bridge physically that had deceased. He does not agree and is not in favor of naming any bridge in the county after one individual.

Mrs. McDermed stated she is disappointed, to say the least. She would think that there would be some more consideration and thanked the board for their time.

NEW BUSINESS:

CRA LEGAL SYMPOSIUM & WILL WORK FOR LOCAL FUNDING COURSE:

A motion was made by Commissioner Constine, supported by Commissioner Crawford, to authorize up to three (3) Commissioners and three (3) supervisory staff to attend the 2022 Legal Symposium and Will Work for Local Funding course on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at a cost not to exceed \$169.00 per attendee for registration and one nights stay at \$85.00 per attendee plus applicable taxes and fees.

All Ayes.

Motion Carried.

2022 COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP:

A motion was made by Commissioner Constine, supported by Commissioner Crawford, to approve the Managing Director and Commissioner Crawford to attend the 2022 Communications Workshop in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan at the Comfort Inn on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 at a cost not to exceed \$140.00 per attendee.

All Ayes.

Motion Carried.

2023 FORD F250:

A motion was made by Commissioner Constine, supported by Commissioner Crawford, to authorize the Equipment Superintendent, Jeremy Dietz, to order a 2023 Ford F250, which will be included in our 2023 Budget, at a cost not to exceed \$49,123.00.

All Ayes.

Motion Carried.

STAFF REPORTS:

Managing Director, Chris Cannon, reported on the following: A) Gravel Processing – Meeting scheduled with Jeff Campbell at Al-Par Peat to discuss the possibility of mining an area at Al-Par Peat for processed gravel B) 7 County Council Meeting – Electric Vehicles - We are going to lose MTF dollars and they are trying to figure out how we are going to make up this loss in revenues B) Bid Openings – November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 will be chip seal, gravel processing and SCRC Project for 2023 C) New Hire – interviewing this week 6 individuals – goal is to hire one individual to get us back to the 39 employees. We are down one employee at this time D) MDOT Approved, 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Shift Night Patrol – starts at midnight, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and E) Roadway damage/Vernon Road and Fowlerville Road – a flow boy truck driver employed with Shaw Contracting Company, dumped 20 tons of asphalt down Vernon Road and we had to call employees in on overtime to clean up. We will be billing Shaw Contracting Company for the clean-up of this. Secondly, a Cement truck from Modern Concrete tipped over on Fowlerville Road and when the wrecker picked up the truck it damaged our roadway and Modern Concrete has agreed to pay us for that damage.

Commissioner Constine stated in regard to the meeting with Al-Par Peat, how beneficial this would be to the Road Commission to preserve Ruess Road Pit as long as we could and to the Townships who purchase gravel for their Township projects who would receive a lower trucking rate on the northern end of the county. Also, to please let him know in regard to the gravel processing and how the meeting went.

Director of Finance and Human Resources/Clerk, Jennifer Schiebner, reported on the following: A) 2023 Insurance Rates for HAP B) Janitorial Quotes-Jennifer explained to the board that we received two quotes and our current provider with adding the union breakroom and bathrooms along with stripping and waxing, it was still under what we were paying the two vendors which did not include the stripping and waxing for the union breakroom and bathroom. The other quote we received was quite a bit over what we were currently paying so it was decided to stay with our current provider based upon the quotes we received and B) September 2022 Financial Statements.

Superintendent of Operations, Troy Howes, was absent, Managing Director, Chris Cannon reported on his behalf, on the following: A) Gradall update – there are two Townships to complete; Venice and Middlebury. This will complete our full rotation of all sixteen townships and B) Gravel projects for Perry and Woodhull Townships will be brined next week.

Equipment Superintendent, Jeremy Dietz, reported on A) Signature Ford will be called Langhammer Ford starting November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Langhammer will honor the bids from Signature Ford B) Consumer's is cleaning up their right now behind at our building C) Moving fence in the back lot for increased gated storage and D) Shiawassee County United Way - utilizing the first few bays in our garage for the United Way to hand out all donated gifts for families in need.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

**Monday, October 17, 2022**

Ionia Court Road Commission

80.00

**Tuesday, October 25, 2022**

Ace-Saginaw Paving Company	341,738.42
Action Traffic Maintenance Inc	740.60
Advanced Drainage Systems	291.60
Interstate Billing Service/AIS	1,012.37
David Arnett	75.00
Card Bros Equipment Inc	60.29
CCP Industries	810.51
Cintas Corporation	189.78
City of Corunna	2,886.42
Consumers Energy	74.34
D&D Truck & Trailer	2,310.98
D&K Truck Company	462.14
Dalton Elevator	181.25
Daystarr Communications	65.00
Delta Dental Plan of Michigan	2,506.36
First Bankcard	3,870.89
Fishbeck	507.68
Flint New Holland Inc	6,974.45
Health Alliance Plan Dp 271101	4,874.93
Alliance Health Life Dp 270301	18,100.42
Heights Truck Equipment	447.00
Renae Holt	650.00
Hubbard Supply Co	762.04
Humana Insurance Co	12,511.28
Hutson Inc	279.44
J&H Oil Company	5,982.66
Jay's Septic Tank Service	240.00
Kimball Midwest	2,029.11
Loomis, Ewert, Parsley, Davis,	333.00
L&D Carey and Sons Trucking Co	57,542.47
M&K Truck Centers of Flint	505.34
M&M Pavement Marking Inc	44,001.02
Maurer Heating & Cooling	134.10
MERS Retiree Health Funding V	141,720.00
Michigan Cat	5,003.99
Michigan Paving & Materials	2,393.69
MITA	75.00
Mutual of Omaha	887.34
Nequist & Son Electric LLC	3,380.00
Northwoods Printers LLC	109.59
Ocenasek Inc	20,939.21
Precision Computer Solutions I	342.00
Rose Pest Solutions	65.00
Schultz Inc	1,160.00
Signature Ford-Lincoln-	2,088.95
SLH Metals Inc	190.92
State of Michigan-MDOT	2,533.92
Staples	18.69
Vision Service Plan	637.46
We Print Everything	110.00
Young Chevrolet-Oldsmobile-Cad	120.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Constine, supported by Commissioner Crawford, to approve the Accounts Payable Vouchers #5913 & 5915 (Checks 21791 – 21842) totaling \$695,006.65, including a MERS ACH of \$141,720.00 and Payroll Voucher #5914 (Checks 26803 – 26809) totaling \$60,812.00 including direct deposits of \$57,937.42.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes, Commissioners Constine, Crawford & Michalec.

Nays, None.

Motion Carried.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Crawford commented December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Christmas Parade in Vernon, Michigan, if any employees would be interested in putting a truck in the parade.

CLOSED SESSION:

A motion was made by Commissioner Constine, supported by Commissioner Crawford, to leave regular session and enter into closed session to talk about negotiated wages.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes, Commissioners Constine, Crawford & Michalec.

Nays, None.

Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, supported by Commissioner Constine, to leave closed session and enter into regular session at 9:46 a.m.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes, Commissioners Constine, Crawford & Michalec.

Nays, None.

Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, supported by Commissioner Constine, to pay each employee a one-time \$400.00 stipend that is non-MERS eligible prior to Christmas of 2022.

Ayes, Constine & Crawford

Nays, Chairman Michalec along with the following comment:

Chairman Michalec voted no in regard to this motion due to the discussion in July regarding waiting six months to see where our budget is at. It has not been six months.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Commissioner Crawford supported by Commissioner Constine, to adjourn at 9:48 a.m.

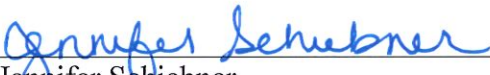
All Ayes.

Motion Carried.

The next regular board meeting is Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 7:30 a.m.

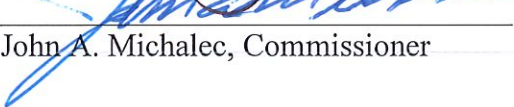
Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Chris Cannon, Managing Director

  
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Jennifer Schiebner  
Director of Finance & Human Resources/  
Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Constine, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ric Crawford, Commissioner

  
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John A. Michalec, Commissioner