

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
MONROE, MICHIGAN
March 14, 2022**

1. At a Regular Meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners at their offices located at the Monroe County Road Commission (MCRC) 840 S. Telegraph Road, Monroe, Michigan on Monday, March 14, 2022, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Stewart at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call by Deputy Clerk as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| <u>PRESENT IN-PERSON</u> | <u>EXCUSED</u> |
| William Kipf | |
| Dan Minton | |
| Jack Thayer | |
| James Jacobs | |
| Greg Stewart | |

A quorum being present, the Board proceeded to transact business.

3. Commissioner Stewart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Commissioner Stewart led the Opening Moment of Silence or Prayer.

5. Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda
Commissioner Kipf moved, seconded by Commissioner Minton to approve the March 14, 2022 regular meeting agenda as presented.

Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Excused: 0 Motion carried.

6. Public Comment - None

7. The following items were listed on the Consent Agenda: *(with immediate effect)*

7.1) Approval of Minutes - February 28, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

7.2) Approval of Journal Entries

Entry No.	Date	Description	Transfer Amount
129	03-01-22	Payroll Checks Advices	\$ 303,469.56
		# 66055 - 66069 # 32747 - 32827	

7.3) Approve the Resolution to enter into MDOT Contract No. 22-5959 for hot mix asphalt resurfacing on St. Anthony Road and Ida Center Road and authorize the Managing Director to sign the contract on behalf of the Board.

7.4) Approve the Resolution to enter into MDOT Contract No. 22-5051 for hot mix asphalt resurfacing on Sumpter Road and authorize the Managing Director to sign the contract on behalf of the Board.

7.5) Approve the Resolution to enter into MDOT Contract No. 22-5061 for fog sealing on South Stony Creek Road and Palmar Road and authorize the Managing Director to sign the contract on behalf of the Board.

7.6) Approve the Resolution for the County Wide and Urban Act 51 certification maps and authorize the Managing Director to sign as a designee to the Chairman on behalf of the Board.

Commissioner Minton moved, seconded by Commissioner Thayer to approve the March 14, 2022 Consent Agenda as presented.

Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Excused: 0 Motion carried.

8. Unfinished Business

9. New Business

9.1) Discussion on participation in the Monroe County Fair July 31, 2022 through August 6, 2022 and approval of the booth expenditure totaling \$475.00.

Commissioner Minton commented on the fair stating it is a worthy event and allowed great interaction with the community. Feedback received each year has been increasingly positive. Commissioner Thayer added that having the five year plan available has helped answer many questions. Commissioner Stewart stated he felt having a booth at the Fair is a great way to communicate with the community.

Commissioner Minton moved, seconded by Commissioner Kipf to approve the participation in the Monroe County Fair and expenditure of the booth.

Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Excused: 0 Motion carried.

9.2) Approval of the AFSCME 1-year extension.

Commissioner Minton moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs to approve the AFSCME 1-year collective bargaining agreement extension.

Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Excused: 0 Motion carried.

10. Report of Officers

Dori Hawkins-Freelain (Managing Director) – Ms. Hawkins-Freelain reported the Stewart Lane road closure is back open. Commissioner Kipf asked if the state complied with our request to put up a sign in the right turn lane on telegraph. Ms. Hawkins-Freelain stated that they did and there were no complications with the request.

Ms. Hawkins-Freelain also reported that she was featured in an article within Cross Roads magazine by the County Road Association of Michigan.

Matthew Snell (County Highway Engineer) – Mr. Snell reported on several grant funding opportunities which will be coming in the future and looks forward to sharing those details with the Board as they are received.

David M. Leach (Superintendent of Maintenance) – Mr. Leach reported the night shift will be ending with all employees returning to day shift on March 21st. IN addition some larger bids will be coming up including county wide paving, emulsion, and countywide mowing.

Commissioner Minton requested a report on how our salt usage was this year. Mr. Leach responded that we are in good shape at this time and we have not ordered the entire quantity which is dedicated to us. Some additional salt was taken in after the barns were initially filled in the fall, but overall we are still in good shape. Commissioner Minton asked if we are obligated to order the remainder of the dedicated salt. Mr. Leach responded that we are and we will be looking to preorder salt for the fall of 2022.

L. Camden Regis (Human Resource Director) – Ms. Regis reported no new COVID cases. Commissioner Minton asked for an update on the previous discussion regarding additional information on those employees who have left employment. Ms. Regis responded that she is working on the information but it is taking time.

Philip Costello (General Counsel) – Mr. Costello reported no new news or developments in pending lawsuits.

Commissioner Thayer asked for an update on the Karst Property. Ms. Hawkins-Freelain responded that there has been no movement on the property. An appraisal was completed and in light of the value that was presented, she is not in favor of donating a property with the amount of value given. Especial when that property is not a true sink hole as original thought.

11. Public Comment

Margery Cusino - Ms. Cusino commented on the work of the Road Commission after two separate winter weather events. Ms. Cusino stated that during the first event, only two center lanes of Lewis Avenue had been cleared and while crossing the road, she slipped and fell when stepping onto the portion of the road which was still covered in snow and ice. As a result Ms. Cusino called and requested the Road Commission to clear the road to the full width. Ms. Cusino reported that after the next winter weather event, she was very pleased to see that the section of road was plowed to the full width. Ms. Cusino added that the Road Commission has done a wonderful job for many years and was thankful for the work that is done. She requested the compliment to be shared with all of our MCRC crews.

12. Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Kipf – Mr. Kipf reported reading an article by Monroe News which received many negative comments on social media regarding the State building new terminals. Some people were still confused about what entities take care of what roads and others pointed out that the State could not pay the Road Commission what it costs to complete the job but yet they could build new terminals.

Commissioner Jacobs - Mr. Jacobs reported he had the opportunity to test our online service request process to report a pot hole, adding that it worked great and the immediate response was very friendly.

Commissioner Thayer – Mr. Thayer reported he also ready the article which Commissioner Kipf reported on adding that the State had trouble finding the funding when Monroe County needed it but clearly there is money out there.

Commissioner Minton – Mr. Minton welcomed Mr. Jacobs to the Board of Road commissioners and in reference to the article in Cross Roads (by the County Road Association), stated he is very proud to have the first African American female to be managing director and congratulated the recognition in the magazine.

Commissioner Minton requested an update on the new building. Ms. Hawkins-Freelain reported that \$600,000.00 was put into the budget to start the preliminary design work however no movement has been made at this point. Commissioner Minton stated that the new building was a commitment we made to employees and he does not want it to become a placeholder in the budget. Ms. Hawkins-Freelain reported that this year we are getting back to completing many capital improvement items and we have also found many issues within our existing buildings. There are many projects underway right now and we will fulfill our commitment.

Commissioner Stewart – Mr. Stewart thanked Ms. Cusino for her compliments to the Road Commission adding that the people here are heros; when the weather hits, they are our first responders and he would like them to know that we are now getting more compliments instead of complaints.

13. Closed Session

13.1) Closed session for the purpose of discussions relative to collective bargaining negotiations.

Commissioner Minton moved, seconded by Commissioner Thayer to enter into closed session at 5:55p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

William Kipf	Yes	
Dan Minton	Yes	
Jack Thayer	Yes	
James Jacobs	Yes	
Greg Stewart	Yes	Motion Carried

Commissioner Minton moved, seconded by Commissioner Thayer to reconvene the regular open meeting at 7:06p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

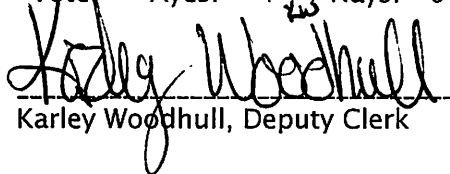
William Kipf	Yes	
Dan Minton	Yes	
Jack Thayer	Yes	
James Jacobs	Yes	
Greg Stewart	Yes	Motion Carried

14. Adjournment -

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Kipf moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs to adjourn; the meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Vote: Ayes: ~~4~~⁵ Nays: 0 Excused: ~~1~~⁰ Motion carried.


Karley Woodhull, Deputy Clerk