**Board Minutes**

**February 27, 2025**

**DRAFT**

The regular meeting of the Crawford County Board of Road Commissioners was held at their office at 500 Huron Street on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 4:30 p.m., Present: Chairman Halstead, Commissioner Hanson, Commissioner Jones, Vice Chairman Summers, Absent Commissioner: Larson. Administrative staff present: Managing Director, Don Babcock, Clerk of the Board, Kaitlyn Carlson. Public Attending: Lovell Dave, Tom Coors, Maple Forest Township Supervisor, Jeremiah Williams, St. Regis Culvert, Jim Nuthall, Jensen Bridge and Supply, Duncan Gray.

It was moved by Commissioner Jones and supported by Commissioner Hanson to approve the February 27, 2025; Crawford County Road Commission Agenda as presented. Roll Call: Larson absent, Halstead yea, Hanson yea, Jones yea, Summers yea. Motion Carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Hanson, supported by Commissioner Jones to approve the February 13, 2025, Board Minutes as presented. Roll Call: Larson absent, Halstead yea, Hanson yea, Jones yea, Summers yea. Motion Carried

Accounts Payable Voucher #11 in the amount of $214,062.44 was moved to pay by Chairman Halstead and supported by Vice Chairman Summers. Roll Call: Larson absent, Halstead yea, Hanson yea, Jones yea, Summers yea. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Hanson inquired on the check register being in the amount of $198,612.44, while the voucher is in the amount of $214,062.44. Clerk of the Board, Kaitlyn, informed Commissioner Hanson that the voucher includes the cashiers’ check for $26,471.00 to pay for two trucks won through MI Bid; the check register only includes the amount of checks printed in office.

Accounts Payable Voucher #11-1 in the amount of $1,363.00 was moved to pay by Chairman Halstead and supported by Vice Chairman Summers. Roll Call: Larson absent, Halstead yea, Hanson yea, Jones yea, Summers yea. Motion Carried.

Accounts Payable Voucher #11-2 in the amount of $104,660.25 was moved to pay by Commissioner Hanson and supported by Chairman Halstead. Roll Call: Larson absent, Halstead yea, Hanson yea, Jones yea, Summers yea. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Hanson inquired if accounts payable 11-2 was coming out of the grant money received for Industrial Drive, Managing Director, Babcock explained engineering costs for Industrial Drive will come from either or both, the $2.8 million from MEDC or the $200,000.00 from Stoops Western Star.

**Cash Flow:** None

**Accounts Receivables:** None

**Blade and Brine Report:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Tom Coors, Maple Forest Township Supervisor thanked the employee that fixed the spelling of the Donnybrook street sign.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

It was moved by Chairman Halstead and seconded by Commissioner Jones to accept all bids for Culverts and to authorize the staff to purchase in the best interest of the Road Commission. Roll Call: Larsen absent, Jones yea, Hanson yea, Summers yea, Halstead yea. Motion Carried.

It was moved by Chairman Halstead and seconded by Commissioner Jones to accept all bids for Cold Patch, Hot Mix, Hot Melt Cracker Filler, and Emulsions, and to authorize the staff to purchase in the best interest of the Road Commission. Roll Call: Larsen absent, Jones yea, Hanson yea, Summers yea, Halstead yea. Motion Carried.

It was moved by Chairman Halstead and seconded by Commissioner Jones to accept all bids for Aggregates, and to authorize the staff to purchase in the best interest of the Road Commission. Roll Call: Larsen absent, Jones yea, Hanson yea, Summers yea, Halstead yea. Motion Carried.

**MANAGING DIRECTOR COMMENTS**:

**Industrial Drive:** Managing Director Babcock is waiting for contracts to be completed. Bid opening will take place on March 27th, 2025, regular meeting. Bids will then be tabulated and sent to MDOT for review. MDOT will issue a Notice to Proceed order, then the Road Commission can award the contract to the successful bidder.

**Grayling Watermain:** Managing Director, Babcock explained there may be a conflict in the construction Industrial Drive and the Watermain Project, even though there are coordination clauses in both contracts, a meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 5th, 2025, between engineers for both projects to address these concerns early and before construction begins on either project.

**Twin Bridge Road:** Plans are moving forward, the finalization of permits is still in process, a permit hearing will be held next week for the Natural Rivers permit needed to go further. Citizens are concerned with the sediment loading upstream of the existing culverts, migrating downstream both during the construction phase and after the bridge is completed.

Consumers Energy has initiated a lawsuit against DTE, Crawford County Road Commission, and several others with interest in property on 4 Mile Road and Old 27. Consumers Energy is trying to condemn property for an easement, located at the southeast corner of I-75 and 4 Mile Road. The Road Commission is named in the suit because of Statutory Right of Way (by User) it has under its jurisdiction.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Under 15.268 of the Open Meetings Act; Closed sessions; Sec. 8. (1) permissible purposes; © For strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement Union Negotiations, it was moved by Chairman Halstead at 5:00 p.m. to enter into Closed Session to discuss union negotiation counter proposal. Supported by Vice Chairman Summers. Roll Call: Larson absent, Hanson yea, Jones yea, Summers yea, and Halstead yea. Motion Carried.

It was moved by Chairman Halstead at 5:30 p.m. and supported by Vice Chairman Summers to move back into regular session. Roll Call: Larson absent, Hanson yea, Jones yea, Summers yea, Halstead yea. Motion Carried.

It was moved by Chairman Halstead and supported by Vice Chairman Summers to approve the Tentative Bargaining Agreement between Crawford County Road Commission and Teamsters Local 214 as presented, with the following exceptions.

1. Including the Turkey Gift Cards that are given to employees near Thanksgiving added to the contract language,
2. declined the establishment of Health Savings Accounts,
3. requiring bargaining unit employees currently under the MERS B-4 plan to contribute an additional 0.3% to the MERS plan. Currently paying 5.3%, thus increasing to 5.6% to their Mers B4. Managing Director Babcock shall contact the Union’s Business Representative regarding the proposal, so that they may move forward with a ratification vote. Roll Call: Larson absent, Hanson yea, Jones yea, Summers yea, Halstead yea. Motion Carried.

**COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Larson – Absent.

Vice Chairman Summers – None

Commissioner Hanson– Inquired if Managing Director, Babcock had the chance to meet with SAAB and The City of Grayling. Erich Podjaske, City of Grayling Manager, had the chance to meet with SAAB. Don and Lacey Stephan were not included in that meeting.

Commissioner Jones – Good job keeping the snow off the roads.

Chairman Halstead – None

There being no further business to come before the Board Chairman Halstead declared the meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

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**Ryan Halstead, Chairman Kaitlyn Carlson, Clerk of the Board**