

**WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS**

555 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

*Minutes of March 1, 2011*

Board Present: Road Commissioners, Doug Fuller, Fred Veigel and Ken Schwartz

County Rep.: County Commissioner Rob Turner

Staff Present: S. Puuri, R. Townsend, J. Harmon, C. Ryan, M. MacDonell, B. Schlack, E. Reed

Others Present: B. Stein, G. Lobdell, L. Allmendinger, B. Fuller, E. Davis

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Douglas Fuller, Chair. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

RC11-054 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded to approve the agenda as presented.  
Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0  
Motion Carried.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the Minutes of the March 1, 2011 Board Meeting.

RC11-055 Schwartz moved, Veigel seconded, the Board hereby accepts the Board Meeting Minutes of March 1, 2011 as presented with noted changes.  
Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

**Ford Boulevard Lane Configuration**

Mr. Ed Davis addressed the Board about the consistency of the official Board actions related to the lane reconfiguration of Ford Boulevard. He also requested that the Board rescind Resolution No. RC08-109 as approved on April 1, 2008. The Managing Director will provide a report to the Board on the timeline that was followed to approve this lane reconfiguration at the next Board meeting.

**Snow Removal/Shoulders**

Gary Lobdell, Road Commission retiree, stated the subdivision roads should be plowed once the main roads are cleared. Jim Harmon will provide a report of the snow removal procedures at the next Board meeting.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were received and distributed to the Board for review:

- A. Issued on February 17, 2011. A Public Information Notice was issued by Aaron Berkholz, Construction Supervisor, to be held on Wednesday, March 2, 2011 from 6:00p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Ypsilanti Township Fire Department-Central Station, regarding review of the impending reconstruction of Holmes Road between Spencer Lane and Michigan Avenue in Ypsilanti Township. A copy of this advisory was provided to the Board for review.
- B. Issued on February 15, 2011. A Media Advisory was issued by Matt MacDonell, Permits and Subdivisions Supervisor, regarding the imposed Seasonal Weight Restrictions effective 6:00 a.m. Thursday, February 17, 2011 until further notice. A copy of this advisory was provided to the Board for review.
- C. Received on February 22, 2011. An email correspondence was received from Mr. Rick Fitzgerald, Office of Public Affairs, University of Michigan, thanking the road crews for doing an incredible job clearing county roads after Sunday's snow event. A copy of this correspondence was provided to the Board for review.
- D. Received on February 8, 2011. A correspondence was received from Karla Knighton-Beatty and a response was issued on February 22, 2011, by Steve Puuri, Managing Director, regarding the road conditions along Maulbetsch Street in Ypsilanti Township during the recent snow storm events. A copy of these correspondence were provided to the Board for review.

**ACTION ITEMS****CONSENT AGENDA**

The items approved on the Consent Agenda are as follows:

RC11-056 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded the approval of the Consent Agenda for the March 1, 2011 meeting, as presented. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Holmes Road, Phase III – Ypsilanti Township Agreement**

RC11-057 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board approves the agreement between the Washtenaw County Road Commission and the Charter Township of Ypsilanti and authorizes the Chair and Managing Director to sign said agreement for the proposed Phase 3 improvements to Holmes Road located in Sections 1 and 2 of Ypsilanti Township. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Holmes Road, Phase III – YCUA Agreement**

RC11-058 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board approves the contract between the Washtenaw County Road Commission and the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority and authorizes the Chair and Managing Director to sign said agreement for the proposed Phase 3 improvements to Holmes Road located in Sections 1 and 2 of Ypsilanti Township. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried

**Dancer Road/Lima Center Road – Bridge Agreement**

RC11-059 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves and authorizes the Chair and Managing Director to sign the cost sharing agreement between the Road Commission and Lima Township for the rehabilitation of the Dancer Road Bridge over Mill Creek located in Sections 26 & 27 of Lima Township and the Lima Center Road Bridge over Mill Creek located in Sections 33 & 34 of Lima Township. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried

**State Road Environmental Assessment – Pittsfield Township Agreement**

RC11-060 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby authorizes the Board Chair and Managing Director to enter into a Township Agreement with Pittsfield Charter Township provide the local matching funds towards the completion of an Environmental Assessment of State Road between Michigan Avenue and Ellsworth Road for the amount not-to-exceed \$35,000.00. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried

**State Road Environmental Assessment – Professional Services Agreement**

RC11-061 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves authorizing the Managing Director to enter into a Professional Services Contract with DLZ Michigan, Inc. to perform an Environmental Assessment of State Road between Michigan Avenue and Ellsworth Road for the amount not-to-exceed \$120,000.00. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried

**State Road Environmental Assessment – (MDOT Contract No. 11-5005)**

RC11-062 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves and authorizes the Chair and Managing Director to sign the MDOT Contract (No. 11-5005) for the State Road Environmental Assessment. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried

**Textile Road – Ypsilanti Township Road Improvement Agreement**

RC11-063 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves and authorizes the Managing Director to sign the Road Improvement Agreement between the Washtenaw County Road Commission and the Charter Township of Ypsilanti for improvements to Textile Road. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried

**James L. Hart Parkway – Ypsilanti Township Road Improvement Agreement**

RC11-064 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves and authorizes the Managing Director to sign the Road Improvement Agreement between the Washtenaw County Road Commission and the Charter Township of Ypsilanti for improvements to James L. Hart Parkway. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**James L. Hart and Textile Road – MDOT Contract No. 11-5073**

RC11-065 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the MDOT Contract (No. 11-5073) and authorizes the Chair and Managing Director to sign said agreement for the James L. Hart Parkway and Textile Road projects. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**2010 Road Certification**

RC11-066 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves and authorizes the Chair to sign the annual road certification for both the county wide and urban area road certification maps as of December 31, 2010. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Detroit International River Crossing – Resolution of Support**

RC11-067 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded

WHEREAS, the International Border Crossing in Detroit Michigan carries the highest volume of international commercial vehicle trips per day in our nation;

WHEREAS, the Detroit International Border Crossings need to be expanded to adequately handle the current traffic demands in an efficient manner;

WHEREAS, the Detroit International Border Crossings will need to be expanded meet the future international trade activity that is anticipated between Michigan, Canada and the rest of America;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Road Commission fully supports the efforts of Governor Snyder to build a new public bridge to assure that the International Border Crossing continues to serve this vital corridor between Canada and the United States of America. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Bituminous Surfacing Mixture (Patching Material) - Bids**

RC11-068 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded, that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby accepts the bids for 2011 requirements of bituminous surfacing mixture/patching material as submitted by Ajax Materials, Barrett Paving Materials and Cadillac Asphalt. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Asphalt Emulsion Products – Bids**

RC11-069 Veigel moved, Fuller seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby accepts the qualified low bid from Asphalt Materials, 940 N. Wynn Road, Oregon, Ohio 43616 for 2011 seasonal requirements of emulsified asphalts. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**3/8 x #4 Natural Aggregate (Modified) – Bids**

RC11-070 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby accepts the qualified low bid from Aggregate Industries, 822 Schuster Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49001 for 2011 seasonal requirements of 3/8 x #4 Natural Aggregate (Modified). Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Roadside Mowing – Bids**

RC11-071 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board accepts the low bid for 2011 requirements of roadside mowing services on primary and local roads within Saline Township, York Township, and Augusta Township as submitted by KBK Landscaping, Inc., 13653 East US-12, Clinton, Michigan 49236. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Two ¾ Ton Pickup Trucks – Bid**

RC11-072 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the purchase of two 2011 ¾ ton GMC Sierra pick up trucks to replace Truck #102 and Truck #108 for the standard equipped cost of \$19,543.75 each from Red Holman Fleet & Commercial Truck Sales through the State of Michigan MiDeal Purchasing Program. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**ConExpo Conference Delegate**

RC11-073 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded that upon the recommendation of the Managing Director, the Board hereby appoints Commissioner Fred Veigel to represent the Road Commission as a delegate to the 2011 Annual Con Expo Conference March 22-26, 2011. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Payroll & Bills for February 16, 2011**

RC11-074 Veigel moved, Schwartz seconded the Board hereby approves Voucher 9920 totaling \$345,909.87 for payroll of February 16, 2011, and Voucher 9921 totaling \$853,921.17 in payment of bills for February 16, 2011. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**REPORTS****Road Commissioner's Report**

Commissioner Schwartz stated that if the large burr oak tree on Austin Road was to be removed, he would prefer to work with a company that can use the wood for something beyond firewood.

**County Commissioner's Report**

County Commissioner Rob Turner asked for an explanation of how it is determined when the seasonal weight restrictions are imposed and removed. Roy Townsend, Director of Engineering, responded that weight restrictions are imposed based on a number of considerations. The Road Commission closely monitors the weather conditions, we utilize a nationally recognized frost depth estimating method, we rely on the visual observations of our Foremen and Weighmasters and we consider what other surrounding counties are imposing. Mr. Townsend also stated that the road system is in a very fragile state, so weight restrictions are imposed on the side of caution.

Commissioner Turner also stated that County Commissioner Chair, Conan Smith, would like to extend an invitation to meet with the Board of Road Commissioners and County Commissioner Turner to explore methods to continue to improve the relationship between the County and the Road Commission. Road Commissioner Schwartz advised that any meeting taking place between the County and the Road Commission on improving relationships, shall not deliberate on any kind of policy decisions

**MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT****Southeast Council Meeting – Update**

Steve Puuri, Managing Director, provided an update on the SE Council Meeting held on Monday, February 21, 2011. Mr. Puuri stated that this meeting included the typical reports and updates in addition, a time sensitive decision is required to reaffirm the Committee Assignments. Mr. Puuri sent out mailings to all SE Council Members to confirm interest in the CRAM committee appointments. John Neimela, CRAM Director, provided an update on legislative actions and the Governor's budget speech. Applications for the local bridge program have been moved up by one month.

**Staff Report of 2-21-11 to 3-06-11**

Steve Puuri reported that our road crews continued to do an outstanding job of winter maintenance activities.

Commissioner Veigel asked if anything can be done to improve the timing of the traffic signal at the intersection of Washtenaw Avenue/Hewitt Road. Staff will forward this concern to MDOT, as this is an MDOT signal. Also, MDOT is scheduled to be present at the next Board meeting on another matter so they will be available to discuss this concern.

**Dexter Alley Maintenance**

Jim Harmon, Director of Operations, stated that staff met with representatives from the Village of Dexter to consider the village request for assistance from the Road Commission to improve the alleys within Dexter. It was concluded that the WCRC equipment is too large to maintain their alleys.

**Michigan Transportation Fund Receipts**

Steve Puuri provided an update on the Michigan Transportation Fund Receipts (MTF), stating that the MTF was up 2.2% for January 2011.

**MERS Retirement**

Steve Puuri provided an explanation of an inadvertent MERS retirement benefit diminishment resulting from employee transfers/promotions from one employee group to another. Mr. Puuri stated that MERS has been working on a policy correction to enable employees to transfer to another employee group and retain their retirement benefits of the previous group. Staff will provide a proposed MERS policy change at the next Board meeting to address this matter.

**Energy Grant Application – Update**

Steve Puuri stated that a Federal Energy Grant/loan opportunity was presented to the Road Commission by Washtenaw County. Mr. Puuri stated that this program works similar to a loan program in which any cash outlay to improve or replace electrical fixtures would be 100% reimbursed immediately, and the Road Commission would repay this loan at a rate of 80% of the energy savings. Mr. Puuri stated that staff has proposed to install LED lighting on intersection overhead lighting for a limited number of signals and changing out building lighting on the Administration building, the main yard and the SE Service Center. The total cost of this program is \$128,744 and the project energy savings would be \$33,632. County Commissioner Rob Turner stated that he was involved in a similar project at a nearby warehouse and the payback on energy from changing to new high efficiency fluorescent fixtures was approximately 1 ½ years. Roy Townsend stated that the savings realized from the replacement to LED traffic lights that has been accomplished previously was approximately \$40,000/year.

**Plowing Subdivisions – What to Expect During and After Winter Storms**

Jim Harmon provided a review of the new Plowing Subdivisions brochure.

**Presentation to Representative Rick Olson**

Steve Puuri provided a review of a meeting with State Representative Rick Olson, SEMCOG and the Road Commission for Oakland County regarding Asset Management and the need for road funding.

**ADJOURNMENT**

RC11-075      Schwartz moved, Veigel seconded to adjourn the March 1, 2011 meeting at 2:00 p.m. Voice Vote:   YEAS: 3   NAYS: 0   ABSENT: 0   ABSTAIN: 0  
Motion Carried.

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Douglas E. Fuller, Chair

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Steven M. Puuri, Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_