

**WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS**  
555 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
*Minutes of January 19, 2016*

Board Present: Road Commissioners Douglas Fuller, Barbara Fuller, William McFarlane

Staff Present: R. Townsend, J. Harmon, S. Siddall, J. Myles, C. Ryan,

Others Present: B. Stein, G. Lobdell, R. Jamnick, T. Keen

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

RC16-026 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded to approve the agenda as presented with one item added under Action Items. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES**

RC16-027 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded, the Board hereby accepts the Board Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2016 as presented. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Issued on January 4, 2016. A Public Meeting Notice was issued by Mark McCulloch, regarding a Public Information Meeting to be held on Thursday, January 14, 2016 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Lodi Township Hall regarding the Ann Arbor-Saline Road and Textile Road Intersection Improvement Project; and the Textile Road Surfacing Project from Maple Road to Ann Arbor-Saline Road. A copy of this notice is provided to the Board for review.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The items approved on the Consent Agenda are as follows:

RC16-028 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded the approval of the Consent Agenda for January 19, 2016 as presented. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Technology Access Agreement for Signal Data**

RC16-029 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane 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 Special Technology Access Agreement with Pittsfield Township to access our real-time traffic signal data in exchange for access to their fiber optic lines in areas specified within the agreement. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Countywide Backplates Project – Final Plan**

RC16-030 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the final plans, specifications, and estimate at \$223,543.00 for Countywide Backplates project and authorizes the County Highway Engineer to sign the title sheet. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Countywide Guardrail Project – Final Plans**

RC16-031 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the final plans, specifications, and estimate at \$251,000 for Countywide Guardrail project and authorizes the County Highway Engineer to sign the title sheet. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Resolution of Support – Goss Road and Woodbridge Drive Improvements**

RC16-032 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded

WHEREAS, this Board acknowledges that Goss Road and Woodbridge Drive, located in Sections 24 of Ann Arbor Township, are public roads under the jurisdiction of the Washtenaw County Road Commission and as such all current and future maintenance of Goss Road and Woodbridge Drive is the responsibility of the Washtenaw County Road Commission; and

WHEREAS, this Board recognizes that Goss Road and Woodbridge Drive are designated all-season roads and are a component of the commercial network of the county road system; and

WHEREAS, this Board recognizes that Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing of North America, Inc. intends to expand its current facility, also known as the Toyota Technical Center, for research use; and

WHEREAS, this Board acknowledges that Goss Road and Woodbridge Drive will need to be reconstructed from the Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing of North America, Inc. facility driveway to Earhart Road to accommodate the commercial and passenger vehicle traffic generated by the facility and preserve the designated all-season status of the roadways; and

WHEREAS, if Goss Road and Woodbridge Drive are not reconstructed and the all-season designated status is revoked, the road will be subject to seasonal weight restrictions and create economic hardship to Toyota and other commercial and industrial enterprises during these time periods; and

WHEREAS, this Board recognizes the importance of providing a reasonably safe and efficient road network that will accommodate existing and future traffic; and

WHEREAS, the proposed improvements to Goss Road and Woodbridge Drive is a solution to accommodate the commercial and passenger vehicle traffic generated by the Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing of North America, Inc. facility; and

WHEREAS, this Board is supportive of the Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing of North America, Inc. facility expansion and the Goss Road and Woodbridge Drive Improvements project including the reconstruction of the roadways and other associated work from the facility's driveway to Earhart Road.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board approves the submittal of a Michigan Transportation Economic Development Fund - Category A grant application for the proposed Goss Road and Woodbridge Drive Improvements project with the understanding that the local match for the project will be provided by the Road Commission and/or Ann Arbor Township.

Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0  
Motion Carried.

### **Willis Road Improvements – Final Plan**

RC16-033 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the final plans, specifications, and estimate at \$1,100,000 for the Willis Road Improvements project, located in Sections 4 & 9 of Augusta Township, and authorizes the County Highway Engineer to sign the title sheet. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

### **2016 Matching Program**

RC16-034 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the 2016 Matching Program. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

### **County Line Maintenance Agreement With Lenawee County Road Commission**

RC16-035 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the proposed County Line Maintenance Agreement with the Lenawee County Road Commission. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Operations Department Capital Equipment Purchase – Pickup Trucks**

RC16-036 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the purchase from Red Holman Buick GMC of two (2) new 2016 GMC Sierra 2500HD Double Cab 4X4 pickup trucks for the total cost of \$56,537.00 through the State of Michigan MIDEal Purchasing Program. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Engineering Department Capital Equipment Purchase – Pickup Truck**

RC16-037 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations and the concurrence of the Managing Director and Director of Engineering, the Board hereby approves the purchase from Red Holman Buick GMC of one (1) new 2016 GMC Sierra 1500 Double Cab 4X2 pickup truck for the total cost of \$23,340.75 through the State of Michigan MIDEal Purchasing Program. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Operations Department Capital Equipment Purchase – Column Lifts**

RC16-038 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the purchase from Rotary Lift located at 2700 Lanier Drive, Madison, Indiana, 47250 of a set of four (4) Rotary Mach 418 portable lift systems with weight gauges for a total cost of \$39,078.45 using the National Joint Powers Alliance municipal purchasing program. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Construction Engineering Services – Mooreville, Jerusalem, Maple Road Bridges**

RC16-039 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the Engineering Services Agreement with Tetra Tech of Michigan, PC for Construction Engineering Services at Mooreville Road over the Saline River in Section 28 of York Township, Jerusalem Rd over Mill Creek in Sections 24&25 of Lima Township, and Maple Rd over the Saline River in Section 18 of York Township, at a cost not to exceed \$15,821.82. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Construction Engineering Services – McGregor Road Bridge**

RC16-040 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the Engineering Services Agreement with Tetra Tech of Michigan, PC for Construction Engineering Services at McGregor Rd over Portage Lake Outlet located in Section 1 of Dexter Township, at a cost not to exceed \$121,762.88. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Materials Testing Services – McGregor Road Bridge**

RC16-041 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby authorizes the Managing Director to sign a purchase order with SME for materials testing services at McGregor Rd over the Portage Lake Outlet located in Section 1 of Dexter Township at a cost not to exceed \$33,922.21. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Survey Total Station and GPS System Replacement**

RC16-042 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby authorizes the Managing Director to sign a Purchase Order to Leica Geosystems for a Survey Total Station and GPS system for \$31,026.00. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Whittaker Road at Merritt Road Intersection Improvement Project – MDOT Contract No. 15-5545 Amending Contract No. 15-5434**

RC16-043 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane 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. 15-5545 amending MDOT Contract No. 15-5434 and authorizes the Chair and Managing Director to sign said contract for the Whittaker Road and Merritt Road intersection improvement project located in Ypsilanti Township. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**M-52 at Pleasant Lake Road – Resolution of Support**

RC16-044 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Road Commissioners has been in discussion with both the Michigan Department Of Transportation (MDOT) Officials and Sharon Township Officials regarding the safety concerns at the intersection of M-52 at Pleasant Lake Road, in Sharon Township.

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Road Commissioners has determined that the proposed intersection improvements to include the installation of a four-way stop or traffic signalization at M-52 and Pleasant Lake Road would help to improve the safety at this intersection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Washtenaw County Road Commission supports the potential intersection improvements on M-52 at Pleasant Lake Road, in Sharon Township to help mitigate current safety concerns at this intersection.

Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0  
Motion Carried.

### **Tuition Reimbursement Policy**

RC16-045 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the Human Resources Manager, and with the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the attached Tuition Reimbursement Policy.  
Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0  
Motion Carried.

### **Elimination of Redundant Teamster Policies**

RC16-046 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the Human Resources Manager, and with the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the eradication of redundant Teamster policies.  
Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

### **Annual Leave Policy**

RC16-047 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded that upon the recommendation of the Human Resources Manager, and with the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the attached Annual Leave Policy.  
Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

### **Payroll & Bills for January 13, 2016**

RC16-048 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded the Board hereby approves Voucher 10176 totaling \$278,629.30 for payroll of January 13, 2016, and Voucher 10177 totaling \$2,998,821.71 in payment of bills for January 13, 2016. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **CRA Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws – Proposed Amendment #1**

RC16-049 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded the Board hereby approves the CRA proposed Amendment #1 to set in place a procedure by which CRA board and staff address requests for legal support by county road agencies or other entities.  
Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**CRA Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws – Proposed Amendment #2**

RC16-050 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded the Board hereby approves the CRA proposed Amendment #2 acknowledging a name change from the Association of Southern Michigan County Road Commissions to the Association of Southern Michigan County Road Agencies. Voice Vote: YEAS: 3 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 Motion Carried.

**Resolution of Support to Public Act 269**

RC16-051 B. Fuller moved, McFarlane seconded

WHEREAS, Governor Snyder signed into law, with immediate, effect Public Act 269 (Senate Bill 571) despite wide spread calls for a veto of this bill, including from members of his own party; and

WHEREAS, both the Michigan Senate and the Michigan House of Representatives passed Senate Bill 571 late into the night of December 16, 2015, just prior to recessing for the year; and

WHEREAS, one of the last minute amendments made to Senate Bill 571, without the knowledge of the County Road Association of Michigan or other local government organization, and approved without any public testimony or awareness, was the new language inserted into Section 57, subsection (3); and

WHEREAS, this new law prohibits a public body, or a person acting for a public body, from using public funds or resources for the purpose of communicating any information to the electorate regarding a local ballot question that is to appear on the ballot, within 60 days of an election, and WHEREAS, this law places an immediate gag order on entities with ballot questions on the March 8 ballot and every election thereafter; and

WHEREAS, county elected and appointed officials have a civic and legal duty to the residents of their communities to fully inform them regarding the issues placed before them, upon which they may exercise their constitutional right to vote; and

WHEREAS, existing laws, including the former language in Section 57, and decades of guidance from the Michigan Secretary of State, already prohibit the use of public funds to advocate for or against ballot issues; and

WHEREAS, existing laws already provided for an allowance for elected and appointed officials to express their views without fear of violating the act; and WHEREAS, because the new law bans only communication on local ballot issues, it creates inconsistent treatment of statewide ballot questions versus local initiatives; and

WHEREAS, there are substantial questions regarding the constitutionality and legality of the new law, including a possible ban on freedom of speech;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Road Commission/Department/Agency of Washtenaw County calls for an immediate repeal of the new language in Section 57, subsection (3) of PA 269 of 2016; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the county's state representatives in the Michigan House of Representatives and the Michigan Senate.

Voice Vote: YEAS: 3      NAYS: 0      ABSENT: 0      ABSTAIN: 0  
Motion Carried.

## **REPORTS**

### **Road Commissioner's Report**

Commissioner Bill McFarlane attended the Lodi Township meeting regarding the Textile Road Roundabout project and said that it was very well attended. Commissioner McFarlane also met with Ken Schwartz, Superior Township Supervisor.

Commissioner Barbara Fuller attended the Sharon Township Board meeting on January 7<sup>th</sup> and the Lodi Township meeting regarding the Textile Road roundabout project on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Fuller reported that there are funding issues with the East Side Recreation Center. The Parks and Recreation Commission is concerned that this site may not be a clean site which could raise the cost of building a recreation center in this location. The Parks and Recreation Commission has closed on purchasing Watkins State Park & Reserve, a 1,400 acre state park in Manchester Township, 405 acres are in Washtenaw County.

Commissioner Doug Fuller stated that the Lodi Township Roundabout meeting for the Textile Road Roundabout was very well presented and well received.



**MANAGING DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**STAFF REPORT OF 12-18-16 to 1-10-16**

Jim Harmon, Director of Operations provided a review of salt usage. From November to present, the Road Commission has used slightly over 6,400 tons of salt. The average for the same three month time frame is 12,000 tons. We are below average to date on salt usage due to more mild winter conditions to this point.

**Frost Index Update**

Jim Harmon reported that the frost level is currently one third where it was a year ago. The Road Commission watches the Frost Index carefully to establish when to initiate yearly frost laws on the roads.

**Engineering Update**

Sheryl Siddall, Director of Engineering provided an update of Engineering Projects:

- Jan 8<sup>th</sup> – bid opening for McGregor Road Bridge. This project is scheduled to start in March.
- A tentative preconstruction meeting date has been set pending a progress schedule for the three preventative maintenance bridges, Mooreville, Jerusalem, Maple Road Bridges.
- April letting – Final plans for Willis Road by Lincoln Consolidated Schools, County Wide Traffic Signal Backplate project, Countywide Guardrail Locations
- Several grade inspection meetings have been held.

**ADJOURNMENT**

RC16-051 McFarlane moved, B. Fuller seconded to adjourn the January 19, 2016 meeting at 1:44 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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Roy D. Townsend, Deputy Clerk

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