

**Van Buren County Board of Road Commissioners**  
Summary of Proposed Minutes

January 4, 2018  
Regular Meeting - Administrative Office, Lawrence, Michigan

BE IT REMEMBERED: That on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018 at 7:00 PM, E.D.T., the Board of County Road Commissioners for the County of Van Buren met in regular session in the offices in Lawrence, Michigan.

PRESENT: Road Commissioners Askew, Boze, Kinney, Ray, and Svilpe  
Engineer-Manager Lawrence B. Hummel, P.E.  
Board Secretary-Finance Director Linnea Rader

GUESTS: Attorney Patrick White, Varnum Law  
Attorney Luis Avila, Varnum Law  
County Commissioner Richard Freestone

Chairman Askew called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

No additions/deletions to the Agenda.

Motion by Boze, seconded by Svilpe to approve the Agenda.

AYES: 5  
NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED.

Introduction of Attorney Avila and Attorney White by Hummel. Attorneys Avila and White provided background of Varnum's relationship with the Van Buren County Road Commission. They briefed the Board on various upcoming issues they are working on with staff.

Chairman Askew relinquished the Chair to Board Secretary Rader for the purpose of re-organizing the Board.

The Board Secretary called for nominations for the office of Chairman. Askew nominated Svilpe for the office of Chairperson. The nomination was seconded by Ray. There being no further nominations, the Board Secretary closed nominations and asked the members to vote affirmatively or negatively on Svilpe for the office of Chairperson.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAIN: 1 (Svilpe)  
MOTION CARRIED.

Board Secretary Rader called for nominations for the office of Vice-Chairman. Ray nominated Kinney for the office of Vice-Chairman. There being no further nominations, the Board Secretary closed nominations and asked the members to vote affirmatively or negatively on Kinney for the office of Vice-Chairperson.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAIN: 1 (Kinney)  
MOTION CARRIED.

Board Secretary Rader relinquished the Chair to Svilpe.

Moved by Kinney and seconded by Boze to appoint Lawrence B. Hummel, P.E., as Engineer-Manager and Chief Fiscal Officer for the Van Buren County Road Commission.

AYES: 5  
NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED.

Moved by Kinney and seconded by Ray to appoint Linnea Rader as Board Secretary.

AYES: 5  
NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED.

Moved by Kinney and seconded by Boze to appoint Kelly L. Page as Board Attorney.

AYES: 5  
NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Boze, seconded by Ray to approve the Minutes of the December 21, 2017 meeting as presented by Board Secretary Rader.

AYES: 5  
NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED.

Hummel and Rader provided an update for all present on winter operations, staffing and public response. Crews were out and running on Saturday (12/30), Sunday (12/31), Monday (01/01) and Tuesday (01/02) during the weekend and New Year's Holiday. All roads were plowed on Sunday. Monday and Tuesday all Primary Roads were plowed. Saturday all Primary Roads were plowed and, due to the storm event, all roads were plowed in Bloomingdale, Columbia, Geneva and South Haven Townships.

The Chairman opened the meeting to public comment. None was received.

Board Secretary-Finance Director Rader provided a review of the operating budgets and operating fund. MTF check for this month is \$120,000 less than two months ago. Vouchers today include four new cab and chassis trucks for \$530,636.00 that were delivered to Truck and Trailer Specialties for final build-up.

Moved by Ray, seconded by Boze to approve the following Road Commission Vouchers:

Voucher #2009	\$68,832.09
Voucher #2010	\$114,541.73
Voucher #2011	\$621,522.59

AYES: 5  
NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED.

Engineer-Manager reviewed with the Board the Policy on a Snowmobile Route on 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue/67½ Street between Van Buren Trail. Motion by Askew, seconded by Boze to rescind the Policy as it is no longer necessary because the bridge on the Van Buren Trail is in service.

AYES: 5  
NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Ray, seconded by Boze to mark the Official Ballot for Joanna Johnson, Kalamazoo, as the candidate for whom they wish to vote as a member of the CRA of MI Board of Directors.

AYES: 5  
NAYS: 0  
MOTION CARRIED.

### **Road Commissioner's Township Meeting Attendance Report**

From December 21<sup>st</sup> to present:

Askew: No meetings.

Boze: Keeler Township, things are good. Resident asked about why “gravel” applied to road. He explained this was ice control sand.

Kinney: No meetings.

Ray: No meetings.

Svilpe: No meetings.

Finance Director provided an update for the Board and those present. Five of six new drivers are here and working. Last one will be here next week. Plow training is ongoing. Still working on filling Accounting Clerk position.

Engineer-Manager Update(s):

- Service Request Update for month of December
- Reviewed Antwerp Township’s letter regarding 2018 millage allocation. Board received copies. Discussion regarding approval of millage allocation to townships in December 2017.
- Signature on 2018 Compensation Schedule.
- Staff update.
- Red Arrow Highway at CR681 project; easement acquisition update.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue project update; right of way.

A motion was made by Ray and seconded by Kinney to adjourn the Call of the Chair at 8:37 PM.

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED.