

Van Buren County Board of Road Commissioners

March 13, 2026 - Special Session

BE IT REMEMBERED: That on the 13th day of March, 2026 at 1:00 PM, E.D.T., the Board of County Road Commissioners for the County of Van Buren met in special session at the Road Commission Administrative Office in Lawrence, Michigan.

PRESENT:

Road Commissioners Askew, Boze, Kinney and Nelson
Managing Director Bret Witkowski
Highway Engineer Barry Anttila
Administrative Assistant-Board Secretary Jill Brien

ABSENT:

Road Commissioner Burleson (Excused)

GUESTS PRESENT:

Drew Atwood, NexGen Construction, LLC (Remote)

Vice-Chairman Boze called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Askew seconded by Kinney to approve the Agenda.

YES: 4
NO: 0
ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED.

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

Witkowski led discussion regarding the Board's recent award of the project on Silver Saddle Road in Columbia Township to the lowest qualified bidding contractor, Tree Tech, LLC for the total bid price of \$14,821.25. Following award of the project Tree Tech withdrew its bid. Their certified bid funds in the amount of \$742.06 will be applied towards the cost of the project to reduce the financial impact of Columbia Township who pays for the work to be accomplished on this Local Road.

The second low bidding contractor is J & S Tree Removal, Inc., however, their bid was deemed incomplete. The next low bidding contractor is NexGen Construction, LLC, however, they did not provide a bid bond and are, therefore, not a qualified bidder. K&H Tree Service is the next lowest qualified bidder. Motion by Boze to rescind the Board's award of the project to Tree Tech, LLC, and to award the project to the next lowest responsible qualified bidder, K&H Tree Service, LLC, in the amount of \$33,050.00, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission and Columbia Township.

YES: 4
NO: 0
ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED.

The Board signed the Coversheet for the project on CR687 from CR372 to CR376 in Bangor and Hartford Townships. Anttila advised that MDOT is estimating a June bid letting for this Federal Aid project.

Witkowski discussed drafting a policy for such situations when the awarded contractor withdraws its bid after award by the Board. Staff will work together with counsel to bring a draft to the Board for consideration in May or June. Obviously future implementation of a policy will not affect the current situation.

Motion by Askew, seconded by Kinney to adjourn the Call of the Chair at 1:07 PM.

YES: 4

NO: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED.

Board Secretary

Board Chairman