

## Van Buren County Board of Road Commissioners

February 3, 2022 - Regular Meeting

BE IT REMEMBERED: That on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2022 at 5:00 PM, E.D.T., the Board of County Road Commissioners for the County of Van Buren met in regular session at the Administrative Office in Lawrence, Michigan.

### PRESENT:

Road Commissioners Boze, Burleson, Hackenberg and Kinney  
Managing Director Dan Bishop  
Finance and Human Resources Director Linnea Rader  
Operations Director Greg Brucks  
Administrative Assistant-Board Secretary Jill Brien

### ABSENT:

Road Commissioner Askew (excused)

### GUESTS PRESENT:

County Commissioner Kurt Doroh  
County Commissioner Mike Chappell

Chairman Hackenberg called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Motion by Boze seconded by Kinney to approve the Agenda, as presented.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Burleson seconded by Boze to approve the Minutes of the January 6, 2022 Regular Meeting as presented by the Board Secretary.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

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

Managing Director Bishop presented Staff Reports as follows:

1. We continue to have outbreaks of COVID, the flu and head colds. We continue practicing our safety protocols and are limiting interpersonal contact.
2. I continue to participate in the CR 687 Kayak Launch discussions. The County is researching the creation of a Parks Department.
3. The SW Council meets on February 14 in Cass County. I have not received any RSVP from Commissioners who wish to attend.
4. The CRA Highway Conference is March 8-10. I plan on going Wednesday March 9. I have not received any RSVP's from Commissioners. These have some interesting sessions.
5. We held our pre bid meeting with architectural firms on January 20. We had a good turn out of various firms. The bidders know they have competition so they should sharpen their pencils. Deadline for questions-January 26. Deadline for proposals-February 7. Interviews-February 21-25. Anticipated recommendation to VBCRC-March 3.
6. My annual presentation to the County Commissioners has been changed to February 8 at 3:00 at the County Board of Commissioners room. We have received our Road Planning sheets from all 18 townships. Township sealcoat projects are due to our office by March 31. Please remind your townships of this deadline. We will contact the Townships but your

assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated. We will provide program sheets once we get the Townships plans.

7. Our staff has worked hard to keep streets passable during the recent snowstorms. With several drivers out for illness, Greg has been in a plow truck to keep our streets clear. We did remind people who called about side streets not getting plowed on weekends of our general criteria for plowing on weekends.

8. The Van Buren County Supervisors' meeting is February 24, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Van Buren Conference Center, Lawrence. If the Road Commission wants to be on the agenda for any topic, we will need to make that request to Nancy Whaley ASAP.

It was the consensus of the Board that the VBCRC did not have a topic for the upcoming Township Supervisors' Agenda.

A Voucher update was presented by Chairman Hackenberg as follows:

Voucher #2235	\$75,322.20
Voucher #2236	\$166,306.49
Voucher #2237	\$330,002.04
Voucher #2238	\$161,245.24

Some questions were asked by the Board, which were responded to by Road Commission staff.

Chairman Hackenberg discussed the Election of CRA Board member. The open three-year seat represents the Association of Southern Michigan Road Agencies. Motion by Boze, seconded by Kinney to mark the ballot for Brad Lamberg, Barry County.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

The Board reviewed the Title Sheet for CR384 (12<sup>th</sup> Avenue) over the South Branch of the Black River, Geneva Township; preventative maintenance. Motion by Burleson, seconded by Boze to approve the Title Sheet, as presented.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Boze, seconded by Kinney to adopt the following Resolution:

#### **RESOLUTION 2022-02**

**WHEREAS:** On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law, and established the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, which together make up the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds program. This program is intended to provide support to state, territorial, local, and tribal governments in responding to the economic and public health impacts of COVID-19 and in their efforts to contain impacts on their communities, residents, and businesses; and,

**WHEREAS:** Van Buren County received approximately \$14,699,370.00 in ARPA funds, which must be obligated by December 31, 2024; and,

**WHEREAS:** The Van Buren County Road Commission has submitted a Fund Use Proposal in the amount of \$1,200,146.86 to Van Buren County for work on CR388 from CR653 to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street (Van Kal), Pine Grove Township, as follows: trench and widen the existing roadway, crush and shape the existing pavement, and place a new asphalt surface (the "Project"); and,

**WHEREAS:** The surrounding community, as well as the motoring public in Van Buren County will greatly benefit through the improvement of this segment of roadway, which serves as a vital artery for connectivity throughout Van Buren County, and to and from Kalamazoo County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Board of County Road Commissioners of Van Buren County hereby expresses its approval and support for the Fund Use Proposal for the Project, and requests that the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners obligate the funds, as set forth in the Fund Use Proposal.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

Brucks provided information to the Board regarding the bids for MDOT 22A Contract Gravel, which were publicly opened on February 1, 2022. Motion by Burleson, seconded by Boze to approve all bidding contractors, with the low bidding contractor, Yerington Brothers, as the primary supplier, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission and the respective townships.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

Rader outlined the as-read low bidders for Motor Fuels following the public bid opening on February 1, 2022. Fleming Brothers Oil offered an option to their bid to lock in diesel fuel prices for the season through a program offered by the company. Questions were asked by the Board and responded to by staff. Possible scenarios were also discussed, including fuel price trends, etc. The Board requested that an option to lock in prices be added to the bid package in 2023 for consideration by all fuel vendors. Motion by Burleson, seconded by Kinney to award Motor Fuels to all bidders, with the primary supplier being the as-read low bidding contractors, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

Brucks presented bid results from Liquid Dustlayer, which bids were publicly opened on February 1, 2022. For the first time since Brucks' tenure, bids were received for three different products: an oil well brine, a mineral well brine, and a manufactured product. Motion by Boze, seconded by Burleson to award to all bidding contractors, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission and the townships.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

Additional discussion was held regarding differences in the liquid dustlayer products. Brucks also discussed preliminary ideas for possible changes to the procedures currently used by the Road Commission for grading and applying dust control.

Hackenberg discussed bid openings for work on CR380 from Breedsville Village limits to the Bloomingdale Township line, Columbia Township; top course paving. Motion by Burleson, seconded by Boze to award the bid to the as-read low bidding contractor, Michigan Paving and Materials in the amount of \$590,275.50, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Boze, seconded by Kinney to award the bid for work on CR374 from Red Arrow Highway to 45<sup>th</sup> Street, Lawrence/Paw Paw Townships; top course paving, to the as-read low bidding contractor, Rieth-Riley Construction in the amount of \$466,216.40, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Hackenberg, seconded by Boze to award the bid for work on 26<sup>th</sup> Street from the Village of Mattawan to Red Arrow Highway, Antwerp Township; clearing and drainage corrections to the as-read low bidding contractor, Brad Thomas Excavating in the amount of \$69,309.25, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission and Antwerp Township **contingent upon approval of the project by Antwerp Township.**

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Burleson, seconded by Boze to award the bid for work on CR380 from Bloomingdale Township line to CR665, Bloomingdale Township; base crushing and shaping, trenching, widening and drainage improvements, HMA leveling course to the as-read low bidding contractor, Michigan Paving and Materials in the amount of \$675,592.10, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

Brucks provided discussion for the Board regarding this season's bid for trap rock (fine aggregate modified for bituminous sealcoat), which was awarded by the Board to Yellow Rose Transport. Supply issues continue this season and Yellow Rose has advised that they will be unable to supply enough trap rock to the VBCRC for planned 2022 work until June, or possibly not at all. There were no other bidders for trap rock this season. This is essentially the same scenario as that which occurred last year: trap rock was to be delivered late spring/early summer due to supply issues; however, it was pushed back until it became obvious that there was not a supply available. After making many calls, Brucks advised that he found a supply of trap rock through Rieth-Riley/Verplank Trucking-Indiana at a cost of \$57/ton. Yellow Roses's awarded bid for the product they now are UNABLE deliver is \$54.00/ton (CST Trap Rock, as available); \$45.50/ton (34CS Trap Rock, as available). At the recommendation of Brucks, it was moved by Boze, seconded by Burleson to accept the quote received from Rieth-Riley/Verplank Trucking for CST trap rock at a cost of \$57/ton as a SOLE SOURCE PROVIDER for the 2022 season, in the best interest of the Van Buren County Road Commission.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.

#### Commissioner Updates and Reports:

- Rick Boze - Went to Keeler Township's board meeting on Tuesday. Questions asked regarding road closure due to tree work on CR687, which was responded to by Brucks.
- Doug Burleson - Attended Columbia Township's board meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Attended Bloomingdale Township's board meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Discussion held regarding line item in budget for tree trimming/removals last year. Rader provided responses.
- Todd Hackenberg - No report. Received a compliment from Porter Township that the Road Commission was doing a good job plowing!
- Greg Kinney - No report. KATS January meeting was canceled.

The Chairman opened the meeting to second public comment. County Commissioners Doroh and Chappell provided information for the Board regarding ARPA funds received by the County. Broadband access is a very big need county-wide, especially in remote areas. Townships also received their own ARPA funds separate from the County.

Motion by Boze, seconded by Kinney to Adjourn the Call of the Chair at 5:56 PM.

AYES: 4  
NAYS: 0  
ABSENT: 1  
MOTION CARRIED.