

April 10, 2025
Baldwin, Michigan 49304

Regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Lake was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Commissioner Truxton.

Present - Gary Truxton, *LCRC Commissioner*
Richard Haslock, *LCRC Commissioner*
Don Divis, *LCRC Commissioner*
William VanDyke, *Finance & HR Manager*
Leroy Williams, *Manager*
~~Shawn MacDougall, Road Foreman~~
~~Al Dailey, Road Foreman~~
David Leusby, *Shop Foreman*
Austin MacDougall, *Assistant*
Dennis Robinson, *Engineer Tech*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Divis to approve March 13, 2025, regular meeting minutes.

Supported by Haslock.

Yeas - Truxton, Haslock, Divis. Nays - 0. Absent - 0.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

A motion was made by Haslock to approve March 13, 2025, closed session meeting minutes.

Supported by Divis.

Yeas - Truxton, Haslock, Divis. Nays - 0. Absent - 0.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

APPROVAL OF PAYABLES:

A motion was made by Haslock to approve:

Payroll Voucher	# 5320	\$71,826.83
Payroll Voucher	# 5323	\$80,147.61
Accounts Payable Voucher	# 5321	\$179,862.17
Accounts Payable Voucher	# 5324	\$78,096.00
FSA Voucher	# 5322	\$360.52
FSA Voucher	# 5325	\$925.81

Supported by Divis.

Yeas - Truxton, Haslock, Divis. Nays - 0. Absent - 0.

Motion carried. Roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sargeant Bob Meyers of the Lake County Sherriif's Department explained the details of an ORV demo ride hosted by Can-Am to be held at the ORV Park from May 30, 2025, through June 1, 2025. He also introduced Alex Nelson, manager of the Can-Am Dealership, Fox Motorsports.

Lake County Commissioner District # 6; Jamie Russel, presented information about recent road funding legislation.

REPORTS FROM MANAGEMENT:

FINANCE & HR MANAGER:

Presented the preliminary governance letter from Maner Costerisan (auditing firm) to the Board. This letter discusses the nature, timing, and scope of the 2024 audit.

Confirmed that the questioned possibility of a USFS grant for road improvements is in fact the same funds that we already receive through the forest roads program.

Presented a final draft of proposed policy # 1075 Earned Sick Time Policy for consideration.

Presented an updated lease contract from Xerox through Preferred Office Machines of Big Rapids for consideration.

Presented an estimate from DMC Unlimited to update computers and software to Windows 11 compatibility for consideration.

Discussed plans for the May 22, 2025, regular board meeting as William VanDyke and Austin MacDougall will be attending the annual CRA Finance and Human Resources Conference.

Discussed information learned from attending the Northern Finance and Human Resources Quarterly Meeting.

MANAGER:

Thanked the commissioners for being supportive of efforts to send aid to northern Michigan in response to the ice storm damage. Also recognized the employees Alverta Campbell, Allen Rehkopf, Brian Bartram, Jed VanDyke, Jeff Jurik, James Blue, Jon Hernandez, and Chris Babbitt who volunteered to go if needed.

Received a thank you card and letter from Yates Dial-a-Ride for keeping them informed of road conditions through the winter.

Will be finalizing the MIOSHA Safety Grant by uploading pictures and receipts to their office.

Presented a letter from Lake Township referring to the closed bridge on 64th Street.

The Road Commission sent needed supplies to an emergency relief center in Gaylord, Michigan in response to recent ice storm damage.

The culvert lining of 76th Street over Jenks Creek will be completed on May 5, 2025.

Discussed a request to close Star Lake Drive from the Lake Township Fire Station to the DNR boat launch for a 5k running event. The Road Commission cannot permit this event due to the impact it would have on local traffic.

Lake County Sheriff Rich Martin presented information about an upcoming event sponsored by High in the Pines which may present parking issues along Righteous Road in Yates Township.

The Bid opening for the 24th Street Bridge Project in Cherry Valley Township is today at the Conservation Resource Alliance.

Contract negotiations with the collective bargaining unit will continue tomorrow April 11, 2025.

Discussed the topic of the possibility of turning Drain Commission responsibilities over to the County.

ROAD FOREMAN:

MACDOUGALL -

Absent.

DAILEY -

Absent.

LEUSBY -

Discussed the need to investigate issues with Unit # 917 which handles poorly.

ROBINSON -

Has been working with maintenance issues at the Wolf Lake Drain and some failing culverts around the county.

OLD BUSINESS:

Motion made by Divis to accept Policy # 1075 Earned Sick Time.

Supported by Haslock.

Yeas - Truxton, Haslock, Divis. Nays - 0. Absent - 0.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion made by Divis to accept a lease agreement from Xerox Corporation negotiated through MiDeal for a new printer.

Supported by Truxton.

Yeas - Truxton, Haslock, Divis. Nays - 0. Absent - 0.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

Motion made by Divis to accept an estimate from DMC Unlimited to upgrade computers and software as identified.

Supported by Haslock.

Yeas - Truxton, Haslock, Divis. Nays - 0. Absent - 0.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

Austin MacDougall presented a summary of the snowfall totals for the winter. Three inches of snowfall were recorded in Baldwin for the month of March bringing the total for the winter up to sixty-six- and one-half inches.

Motion made by Haslock to enter closed session at 11:27 a.m. under MCL 15.268(1)(c) to discuss negotiation strategies.

Supported by Divis.

Yeas - Truxton, Haslock, Divis. Nays - 0. Absent - 0.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

Motion made by Haslock to re-open the meeting at 12:50 a.m.

Supported by Divis.

Yeas - Truxton, Haslock, Divis. Nays - 0. Absent - 0.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

Commissioner Haslock would like the Road Commission to issue a letter of support to the Friends of Pere Marquette State Rail-Trail - West End for their ongoing efforts to have the trail paved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Lake County Sherrif Rich Martin discussed ideas to improve safety for school children as they travel to and from school.

Also discussed some changes to street closures that may happen with this year's Blessing of the Bikes event.

COMMISSIONERS PRIVILIGE:

Truxton -

Elk Township is wondering about possibly changing the intersection of 10-1/2 Mile Road and Brooks Road to an all-way stop. Also brought attention to a needed repair to the intersection of 11 Mile Road and N Hamilton Road. They are pleased with last year's improvements to River Road but there are a few isolated areas in some curves that will need to be wider.

Haslock -

None.

Divis -

Has interacted with a logging operation which was questioning the road bonding process.

Dave Bass is pleased with the road maintenance in his area.

Inquired about how township signs are paid for.

Chris Raymond of Dover Township mentioned a point of concern at 7 Mile Road and Raymond Road. Dennis Robinson will inspect that area and follow up with the road foreman.

ADJOURNMENT:

Next Meeting Date: April 24, 2025,

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Motion made by Haslock to adjourn.

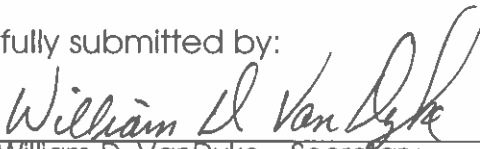
Supported by Divis.

Yeas - Truxton, Haslock, Divis. Nays - 0. Absent - 0.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

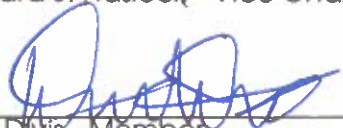
Respectfully submitted by:


William D. VanDyke - Secretary

Approved by:


Gary Truxton - Chairman


Richard J. Haslock - Vice Chairman


Don Divis - Member

