

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2019 4:03PM | *Meeting called to order by* Roy D'Antonio

In Attendance

Roy D'Antonio	Dan Peterson	John Matonich	Kevin Haustein	Dennis Skinner
Barry Bolich	Patti Hagstrom	Phil Strong	9 Public Attendees	

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Motion to move OB e. Duck Lake Road Culverts to follow X. Public Comments and approve the agenda was made by Haustein, 2nd by Skinner; all in favor, none opposed.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Peterson, 2nd by Skinner; all in favor, none opposed.

- Finance Meeting of Monday, September 23, 2019
- Regular Meeting & Public Hearing of Monday, September 23, 2019

Public Comment

Dino Giannola, along with his wife, Roberta requested clarity on the timber cut as it is noted in the meeting minutes of September 9, 2019 that 10 acres of timber will be clear cut and an additional 80 acres will be select cut. The GCRC only owns 77 acres. An additional concern is that the gate that was installed may be on his property. He asked if any permits have been obtained. He also commented that his pools are considered part of the Ontonagon watershed and would like the GCRC to research this.

Peggy Tuttle commented on the roadway as it is twisty and winding for truck operations.

Manager Report

This report was presented, discussed and will be made part of the recorded minutes. No action was taken.

Engineer Report

This report was presented, discussed and will be made part of the recorded minutes. No action was taken.

- a) Thousand Island Lake Road Phase III Memorandum of Agreement ~ Motion to accept and approve the signatures of Chair D'Antonio and Engineer Phil Strong on the MOA was made by Matonich, 2nd by Peterson; roll call: Ayes ~ Peterson, Matonich, Haustein, Skinner & D'Antonio, Nays ~ none.
- b) Forest Service 8500 Plowing ~ This road is not a certified road under the jurisdiction of the Gogebic County Road Commission and will not be plowed.
- c) OPEB Trust Board of Trustees ~ Motion to name the Chair of the Board, Manager & Office Administrator as trustees for this board was made by Matonich, 2nd by Haustein; all in favor, none opposed.
- d) PIT 602 Update ~ Phil Strong discussed the email update sent to the Board and Watersmeet Township. He also responded to Mr. Giannola's concerns from the previous public comment. He advised that the location of the gate is being researched by Coleman Engineering. Matonich suggested moving the gate on designated GCRC property and not on the ROW. Phil added that John Gustafson, EGLE, will be contacted to research the watershed concern.
- f) Retirement Multiplier Actuarial Study ~ The GCRC Committee and members of the union met to discuss the possible increase to the retirement multiplier. The union members advised the GCRC Committee and the Manager that they would not pursue increasing the multiplier if the employees had to fund it themselves. Discussion took place and no change will be made to the current multiplier.
- g) Iron Belle Trail Phase 3 Resolution ~ Motion to adopt the following resolution was made by Matonich, 2nd by Peterson; roll call: Ayes ~ Peterson, Matonich, Haustein, Skinner & D'Antonio, Nays ~ none.

RESOLUTION

*Phase 3 Gogebic County Iron Belle Trail
Local Match Reimbursement & Maintenance*

WHEREAS, the Phase 3 Gogebic County Iron Belle Trail is planned to be constructed along the former railroad grade, abandoned roadbed and around the Bessemer Township sewage lagoons in the City of Bessemer and ending in Ramsay in Bessemer Township; and

WHEREAS, the estimated total cost of construction for this project is \$1,242,208 with \$745,324.80 in Federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds, \$260,865 in Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, and \$236,018.20 from Michigan's Western Gateway Trail Authority; and

WHEREAS, the \$236,018.20 from Michigan's Western Gateway Trail Authority is coming from donations of \$200,000 from Gogebic Range Health Foundation and \$36,018.20 from Western Upper Peninsula Convention and Visitors Bureau; and

WHEREAS, the TAP funding requires a 40 percent local match participation; and

WHEREAS, the Gogebic County Road Commission is the MDOT TAP grant recipient and will sponsor the project as the Act 51 Transportation agent; and

WHEREAS, the County of Gogebic and Gogebic County Road Commission have signed Project Agreements dated December 27, 2017 and November 30, 2017 to sponsor the respective grants for this trail; and

WHEREAS, the Gogebic County Road Commission will make installment payments to MDOT for the 40 percent local match requirement during the construction of the trail with an understanding that the County shall reimburse the Road Commission within 30 days of notice that payment has been submitted to MDOT; and

WHEREAS, the County reimbursement to the Road Commission shall be subdivided requiring the County to pay 21 percent of the 40 percent and the Trail Authority paying the remaining 19 percent of the 40 percent installment payment; and

WHEREAS, the County's 21 percent reimbursement to the Road Commission shall be submitted to the MDNR for repayment to the County at 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% project completion milestones; and

WHEREAS, the Gogebic County Road Commission has signed a construction easement with MDNR dated August 29, 2019 where MDNR agrees to provide Operation and Maintenance of the trailway in its perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, MDNR has signed a 20-year lease with Michigan's Western Gateway Trail Authority (MWGTA) dated May 28, 2019 where MWGTA agrees to Operate and Maintain the trailway for that term; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gogebic County Board of Commission and the Gogebic County Road Commission supports the Bessemer to Ramsay Iron Belle Trail and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners attests and commits to the matching funds necessary to carry out the project in accordance with the Project Agreement dated November 30, 2017 between the Michigan's Western Gateway Trail Authority and Gogebic County Road Commission and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners attests and commits to owning operating and funding/implementing a maintenance plan/program in accordance with the construction easement with MDNR dated August 29, 2019 over the design life of the facility constructed with Transportation Enhancement funding,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: the financial responsibilities to each entity (County and Road Commission) for this construction project shall be insignificant.

New Business

- a) John Oliver ~ Mr. Oliver had submitted a permit to build a garage in the GCRC ROW. Upon research it was found that GCRC does not have ROW or certification of said location.
- b) Ethelwood Grade-Gogebic Area Grooming ~ A request from Gogebic Area Grooming was received to utilize a portion of the Ethelwood Grade for a snowmobile trail. Upon research it was found that GCRC does not have certification of said location.
- c) Survey Equipment ~ A sales quotation was presented to the Board for the purchase of a robotic total station to be used by the Engineering Department. Discussion took place. A motion to purchase the equipment from Seiler Geospatial Division in the amount of \$38,280.17 was made by Matonich, 2nd by Peterson; roll call: Ayes ~ Peterson, Matonich, Skinner, Haustein & D'Antonio; Nays ~ none.

Public Comment

Matonich commented on how good Dunham Road looks after the additional ditching, tree cutting and gravel. D'Antonio commented on how good Cisco Lake Road looks after the brush cutting.

Old Business

- e) Duck Lake Road Culverts ~ Motion to move into closed session at 4:53PM was made by Matonich, 2nd by Peterson; roll call: Ayes ~ Peterson, Matonich, Haustein, Skinner & D'Antonio, Nays ~ none. Motion to move into open session at 5:15 was made by Haustein, 2nd by Matonich; roll call: Ayes ~ Matonich, Haustein, Skinner, Peterson & D'Antonio, Nays ~ none.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made at 5:15PM by Matonich, 2nd by Peterson; all in favor, none opposed.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

SECRETARY

CHAIR