

# ORGANIZATIONAL & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

## GOGEBIC COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026, 10:02AM | *Meeting called to order by* Patti Hagstrom

This meeting was held at the Gogebic County Road Commission office

### In Attendance

Barry Bolich	James Estola	John Matonich	Dennis Skinner (via web)	John Zorich
Garth Stengard	Phil Strong	Patti Hagstrom	7 Public Attendees	

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Zorich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Estola; all in favor, none opposed.

### Nominations for Board Seats

With this being the organizational meeting for calendar year 2026, Secretary Hagstrom opened the floor for nominations for Chair. Motion by Estola, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matonich that Barry Bolich be nominated Chair. 2 additional calls for nominations for Chair were made. Zorich moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Estola to close the nominations for Chair and requested a unanimous roll call vote: Ayes ~ Matonich, Estola, Zorich & Bolich, Nays ~ none. Barry Bolich was thereupon elected to serve as Chair for calendar year 2026.

Secretary Hagstrom opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chair. Motion by Zorich that James Estola be nominated Vice-Chair. Zorich moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matonich to close the nominations for Vice-Chair and requested a unanimous roll call vote: Ayes ~ Matonich, Zorich, Estola & Bolich, Nays ~ none. James Estola was thereupon elected to serve as Vice-Chair for calendar year 2026.

Secretary Hagstrom opened the floor for nominations for Secretary to the Board. Motion by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Estola that Patti Hagstrom be nominated Secretary to the Board. 2 additional calls for nominations for Secretary were made. Estola moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Zorich to close the nominations for Secretary and requested a unanimous roll call vote: Ayes ~ Estola, Matonich, Zorich & Bolich, Nays ~ none. Patti Hagstrom was thereupon elected to serve as Secretary to the Board for calendar year 2026.

Motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Zorich; roll call: Ayes ~ Zorich, Matonich, Estola & Bolich, Nays ~ none; to the following:

- Adopt Roberts Rules of Order
- Agenda items must be requested by the end of the business day on the Thursday before the scheduled meeting. This excludes emergency situations.
- Allow the Chair to make motions for new business.
- The Chair will be the last voting member upon roll call votes from the Board.
- Incredible Bank as the financial institution as set through the Gogebic County Board of Commissioners.

- Approve the 2026 schedule for the Finance & Regular meetings.

The meeting was then turned over to Chair Bolich.

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### Approval of Meeting Minutes

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Motion to approve the minutes was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Estola; all in favor, none opposed.

- Finance Meeting of Tuesday, December 23, 2025
- Regular Meeting of Tuesday, December 23, 2025

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### Public Comment

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Dan Siirila commented on the calls he received about the condition of the roads on 12/26/2026.

Roy D'Antonio stated that there was no night patrol on the east end of the county and that on the Sunday before New Years there was a mat on US2 between Marenisco and Watersmeet and on HWY45.

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### Manager Report

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

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### Engineer Report

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

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### Old Business

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NONE

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### New Business

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- a) Letter of Appreciation ~ This letter was passed for signatures.
- b) Winter Maintenance Review ~ Discussion took place regarding night patrol, State Trunkline snow maintenance, employees being off when needed for winter maintenance, emergency contacts not being able to be reached by law enforcement and the public, snow removal and sanding procedures, prioritizing roads for winter maintenance, etc. Motion was made by Matonich, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Estola, with all in favor to have night patrol 7 nights a week. Motion was made by Estola, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matonich, with a roll call taken: Ayes ~ Matonich, Estola, Zorich & Bolich to include in the recorded minutes of the dissatisfaction of the Board on how the recent plowing and winter maintenance has been handled during the last 6-weeks of the 2025-2026 winter season and that it also be noted that improvements have to be made. A workshop will be held in the future to understand the scheduling, routes and procedures of the winter maintenance. Dennis Skinner requested that the emergency contact numbers be on the GCRC web page.

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### Public Comment

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Roy D'Antonio suggested that the single axle trucks be scrapped. He asked why the grader was not out during this warm spell scraping the roads. He thanked Scott Cebolski for operating the front end loader to remove trees during the Thanksgiving storm.

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Adjourn

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Motion to adjourn was made at 11:35AM by Estola, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Zorich; all in favor, none opposed.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

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SECRETARY

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CHAIR