

GENESEE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 08, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Mandelaris called the meeting of the Genesee County Board of Road Commissioners to order at 10:02 a.m. The meeting was held in the Board Room of the Genesee County Road Commission, 211 W. Oakley St., Flint, Michigan 48503-3995.

ROLL CALL

Present: John Mandelaris, Chairperson
Robert Johnson, Vice-Chairperson
Shirley Kautman-Jones, Commissioner
David Arceo, Commissioner
Cloyce Dickerson, Commissioner

Absent: None

Others Present: Fred Peivandi, Anthony Branch, Eric Johnston, Randy Dellaposta, Tracy Kahn, Donna Poplar, Stephanie Jaeger, Bonnie Wood (Genesee County Road Commission Staff), Attorney Tom Derderian (Michael Kluck & Associates), Margaret Perry, Willie Mae Thomas, James O'Shelley, Crystal Ashburn Brown, Elaine Butterford, Debra Sanders, Linda Mayfield, John C. Perkins, John Reaves, Tujunana Reaves, Regina Williams, Jolena Sandersons, Bishop Bernadel Jefferson, Lathom Jefferson, A.C. Dumas, Mary Kenyon, Reverend Harris, Charles Winfrey, Joan Adams, Pastor Griggs, Mattie McElroy, Jolena Sims, May Rankins, J. Freeman, Mr. Hazard, Harvey Phillips (Genesee County residents), Linda Kossak, Secretary of the Board of Road Commissioners.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Mandelaris.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Kautman-Jones requested that Discussion Item A-2 - Purchase Order to Rowe Professional Services for Biennial and Interim Bridge Inspections be postponed to a future meeting so staff may research it more. Chairperson Mandelaris stated that there is also an addition to the agenda, Discussion Item A-8 - Emergency Purchase Order to Ace-Saginaw Paving Company for Bituminous Base/Topping Mix.

ACTION TAKEN – Motion by Mr. Dickerson, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the agenda for October 08, 2019 as amended, with the postponement of Discussion Item A-2 - Purchase Order to Rowe Professional Services for Bridge Inspections and the addition of Discussion Item A-8 - Emergency Purchase Order to Ace-Saginaw Paving Company for Bituminous Base/Topping Mix.

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 10, 2019 – Board Meeting

ACTION TAKEN – Motion by Mr. Dickerson, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the minutes for September 10, 2019.

MOTION CARRIED.

MEETINGS, HEARINGS, PRESENTATIONS, AND INFORMATION

Tuesday, October 17, 2019

GCRC Annual Safety Training – Holiday Inn Flint, 5353 Gateway Centre, Flint

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

9:00 a.m. – Roads & Bridges Advisory Committee Meeting

10:00 a.m. – Board Meeting

PUBLIC ADDRESS THE BOARD

Residents and representatives from various organizations in Genesee County attended this morning’s Board meeting to voice their concerns regarding a list that was requested of the Human Resource Department that included the race of each employee.

Residents addressing this matter included Ms. Margaret Perry, Bishop Bernadel Jefferson, Lathom Jefferson, A.C. Dumas, Pastor Alfred Harris, Regina Williams, Jolena Sandersons and Mr. Gilchrest. The residents also questioned the interview process for the Managing Director position and questioned who determined which candidate was to be interviewed.

GCRC Attorney Tom Derderian addressed the residents present at this morning’s Board meeting, reassuring them that there is no racial profiling being conducted at the Genesee County Road Commission. Attorney Derderian also addressed questions regarding the interview process for the Managing Director position, stating that the consultant hired by the Board determined who was interviewed for the position.

Human Resource Director, Ms. Donna Poplar spoke to the residents regarding these issues and reassured them that the GCRC Human Resource Department insures that every employee here is not discriminated against and that their rights are not violated. Ms. Poplar stated that her department works very closely with Mr. Derderian's firm, which helps insure that GCRC follows fair hiring practices.

A resident asked about the hiring protocol used for the recent employment of the Director of Engineering position. Human Resource Director Donna Poplar stated that this position did go thru the proper process with the Managing Director making the final decision on the candidate chosen.

Bishop Bernadel Jefferson thanked the Board for inviting them to the Board meeting this morning and Attorney Derderian for answering their questions.

Ms. Mary Kenyon, Gaines Township resident addressed the Board regarding the recent temporary traffic control order controlling parking passed by the Board on August 06, 2019, on Seymour Road at Jewell Road in Gaines Township. Ms. Kenyon asked the Board and staff to investigate this matter further before making this a permanent action.

Genesee County resident, Ms. Margaret Perry commented that it is very difficult to hear the comments by the Board in the back of the room. Chairperson Mandelaris stated that he would consider this during future meetings.

CORRESPONDENCE

INCOMING

Letter Correspondence from Bishop Bernadel Jefferson regarding claims of racial profiling – In a letter dated September 24, 2019, Bishop Bernadel Jefferson, 2814 Lewis St, Flint MI, voiced her concerns of racial profiling at the Genesee County Road Commission, regarding a list that was requested of the Human Resource Department that included the race of each employee. Bishop Bernadel Jefferson requested the Board investigate her concerns and report their findings at the October 08, 2019 Road Commission Board meeting. (Copy filed with official minutes.)

OUTGOING

Letter Correspondence to Bishop Bernadel Jefferson in response to her concerns regarding racial profiling – In a letter dated October 03, 2019, Chairperson John Mandelaris responded to Bishop Bernadel Jefferson's letter regarding her concerns of racial profiling at the Genesee County Road Commission and invited her to attend the October 08, 2019 Board meeting to discuss her concerns. (Copy filed with official minutes.)

INTERNAL

Memorandum to GCRC Employees regarding Annual Safety Day Training on Thursday, October 17, 2019 – In a memorandum dated October 01, 2019, Human Resource Director, Ms. Donna Poplar informed the employees of the Genesee County Road Commission that the annual safety training will be held at the Holiday Inn Flint, 5353 Gateway Centre, Flint, MI on Thursday, October 17, 2019. (Copy of memorandum filed with official minutes.)

INFORMATION

None.

Request to Approve Correspondence:

ACTION TAKEN - Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Dickerson, to receive and file the presented correspondence as printed.

MOTION CARRIED.

BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS' DECISIONS

DISCUSSION

MDOT Contract No. 19-5461 – Ground Mounted Solar Flashing Beacon, Dodge Road at Saginaw Road, Thetford Township – In a memorandum dated October 01, 2019, staff requested the Board approve the MDOT Contract No. 19-5461 – Ground Mounted Solar Flashing Beacon on Dodge Road at Saginaw Road, in Thetford Township. (Copy of contract filed with official minutes.)

ACTION TAKEN – Motion by Mr. Dickerson, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve MDOT Contract No. 19-5461 – Ground Mounted Solar Flashing Beacon on Dodge Road at Saginaw Road, Thetford Township with the funding as follows:

Federal HSIP	\$ 22,474.24
GCRC Local Share	\$ <u>2,497.14</u>
Total Project Cost	\$ 24,971.38

MOTION CARRIED.

Issuance of a Purchase Order to Rowe Professional Services for Biennial and Interim Bridge Inspections, County at Large – In a memorandum dated October 02, 2019, staff requested the Board approve the issuance of a Purchase Order to Rowe Professional Services for performing fiscal year 2019-2020 Bridge Inspections for the County at large. (Copy of memorandum and proposal filed with official minutes.)

ACTION TAKEN - Motion by Ms. Kautman-Jones, seconded by Mr. Dickerson, to postpone this agenda item to a future Board meeting so staff may get more clarification on the number of structures being inspected.

MOTION CARRIED.

Bid Results and Award of Contract for the 2019 Drainage Structure Repair DS-1 located in various Townships - In a memorandum dated October 02, 2019, staff requested the Board accept the low bid submitted by Lois Kay Contracting for the 2019 Drain Structure Repair, Proposal DS-1 Project. (Copy of memorandum and 2019 DS-1 Catch Basin location sheet filed with official minutes.)

ACTION TAKEN – Motion by Mr. Dickerson, seconded by Mr. Arceo, to accept the low bid of \$122,789.00 and authorizes the award and signs the construction contract after staff has received and accepted the contract, bonds and insurance submitted by Lois Kay Contracting for the 2019 Drain Structure Repair, Proposal DS-1 Project.

MOTION CARRIED.

Extension of Unit Bid Prices and Issuance of a Purchase Order to C&S Motors for HD Equipment Repair Services and Parts – In a memorandum dated September 19, 2019, staff requested the Board approve the extension of unit bid prices and the issuance of a Purchase Order to C&S Motors for HD Equipment Repair Services and Parts. (Copy of memorandum filed with official minutes.)

ACTION TAKEN - Motion by Mr. Dickerson, seconded by Mr. Arceo, to approve the extension of unit bid prices and the issuance of a Purchase Order to C&S Motors for HD Equipment Repair Services and Parts on an as needed basis in an amount of \$140,000.00.

MOTION CARRIED.

Extension of Bid Prices and Issuance of a Purchase Order for Item #44 Hydroseeding – In a memorandum dated September 25, 2019, staff requested the board approve the extension of unit bid prices and issuance of a Purchase Order for Item #44 Hydroseeding from Melching, Inc. (Copy of memorandum filed with official minutes.)

ACTION TAKEN - Motion by Mr. Arceo, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the extension of unit bid prices and issuance of a Purchase Order for Hydroseeding on an as needed basis to Melching, Inc. in an amount of \$300,000.

MOTION CARRIED.

Amendment of Purchase Order #82473 to Alta Equipment for Equipment Rental – In a memorandum dated October 01, 2019, staff requested the Board approve the amendment of Purchase Order #82473 to Alta Equipment for Equipment Rental. (Copy of memorandum filed with official minutes.)

ACTION TAKEN – Motion by Mr. Dickerson, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the amendment to Purchase Order #82473 to Alta Equipment reflecting an increase of \$5,000.00, raising the total amount to \$27,000.00.

MOTION CARRIED.

Voucher #V-40507

ACTION TAKEN – Motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Dickerson, to ratify Voucher #40507 in the amount of \$503,936.61.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Yes: Kautman-Jones, Arceo, Dickerson, Johnson, Mandelaris,

No: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Issuance of an Emergency Purchase Order #83268 to Ace-Saginaw Paving Company for Bituminous Base/Topping Mix – In a memorandum dated October 03, 2019, staff requested the Board ratify the actions taken by Managing Director Fred Peivandi, approving the issuance of an emergency Purchase Order #83268, to Ace-Saginaw Paving Company for Bituminous Base/Topping Mix. (Copy of memorandum filed with official minutes.)

ACTION TAKEN – Motion by Dickerson, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to ratify the action taken by Managing Director Fred Peivandi, approving the issuance of Purchase Order #83268 to Ace-Saginaw Paving Company for Bituminous Base/Topping Mix in an amount of \$520,000.00.

MOTION CARRIED.

CONSENT

None.

MANAGER-DIRECTOR REPORT

Maintenance Director, Mr. Anthony Branch addressed the Board regarding an issue he would like to discuss with the Board that occurred last week during a paving project. Mr. Branch stated that one of his Maintenance Supervisor's was very upset when the Managing Director, Director of Engineering and Operations Director showed up at a paving project she was supervising and questioned her actions on the project. Mr. Branch asked why he was not contacted prior to the directors showing up at her project. Managing Director Peivandi commented that he goes to many GCRC projects to check on their progress.

Chairperson Mandelaris requested a meeting be held with himself, Attorney Tom Derderian, Human Resource Director Donna Poplar, Maintenance Director Anthony Branch, Commissioner Dickerson and Managing Director Fred Peivandi so they can discuss this matter further.

COMMISSIONERS CONCERNS

Mr. Dickerson commented that he was very upset when he heard about the list of employees that was requested from the Human Resources Department. Mr. Dickerson stated that he is sensitive to employees being treated differently due to their race or gender.

Employee Training Dates - Commissioner Kautman-Jones asked that staff consider conducting employee-training sessions during those months when employees are not performing critical operations at the Road Commission. Ms. Kautman-Jones suggested March might be a better month to conduct training sessions.

Veteran's Day Holiday - Chairperson Mandelaris commented that Veteran's Day observance would be held on the actual holiday this year, Monday, November 11, 2019 for most administrative and AFSCME employees. The equipment operators and mechanics (SEIU) will observe October 28, 2019 as their holiday, due to the union contract agreement.

Chairperson Mandelaris thanked the residents that attended the board meeting today to voice their concerns to the Board.

Motion by Ms. Kautman Jones, seconded by Mr. Dickerson, to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

With no objections, Chairperson Mandelaris adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

JOHN J. GLEASON
Clerk/Register

Linda B. Kossak, Secretary of the
Board of Road Commissioners

lbk

10/08/19