

HARRY HAGSTROM, CHAIRMAN  
HAROLD FALAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN  
DEAN JURIK, MEMBER  
JIM LEGGETT, MEMBER  
ROBERT HILTY, MEMBER

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# ***WEXFORD COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION***

***OUR MISSION IS TO IMPROVE AND MAINTAIN A SAFE AND EFFICIENT ROAD SYSTEM***

Regular Meeting

September 27, 2023

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Harry Hagstrom, at 7:30 a.m.

Roll Call: Present – Hagstrom, Falan, Leggett, Hilty  
Absent – Jurik

Also Present:

Engineer/Manager: Karl Hanson

Finance and Business Manager: Annie Strom

Asst. Superintendent: Brad Harris

Fleet & Facilities Manager: Travis Smith

Engineer Tech: Keith Moore

Public: Mike McGee, Sandra Marvin, Ann Bronson, Dave VanHouten

Visitor(s): Brian Potter

Pledge of Allegiance

A motion was made by Commissioner Leggett and seconded by Commissioner Hilty to approve the August 31, 2023 minutes as presented. Roll call on the motion: Commissioner Hagstrom, yes; Commissioner Hilty, yes; Commissioner Leggett yes; Commissioner Falan, yes. Motion approved.

Addition to the Agenda: None

Public Comment:

Mike McGee stated would like Bedford Court to be maintained once a home is established on the road. He believes the road is to spec as it was developed by Dave Dunbar.

Sandra Marvin informed the board of Oak wilt and several dead oak trees at property on Arbutus Dr near Berry Lake. She believes the issue was made worse by the Road Commission trimming trees during the April 15 – July 15 time period. She stated trees should not be trimmed during this time period as it aids in the spread of the Oak Wilt.

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Ann Bronson also from Arbutus Drive discussed the Oak Wilt issue. She explained how utility companies send schedule notices when trimming and she would like to see the same courteous from WCRC. She would like to see a public service announcement, informing the public of the issue with directions on how to properly trim and right of way setbacks should be explained. She feels that negligence in the trimming process has caused the spread of the wilt.

Dave Vanhouten, another resident near Berry Lake is concerned with the Oak wilt since his property is approximately 100 yards from the current infected trees. He stated his understanding is the wilt can be spread by machines and encourages WCRC to take this seriously to help stop the spread.

County Board Liaison:

Mr. Potter said it is budget season at the County and that he appreciates the WCRC Board.

Previous Business: None.

New Business:

A motion was made by Commissioner Falan and seconded by Commissioner Hilty to award culvert relining bid to low bidder Pipeline Management Company. Roll call on the motion: Commissioner Hagstrom, yes; Commissioner Falan, yes; Commissioner Hilty, yes; Commissioner Leggett, yes. Motion unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Commissioner Leggett and seconded by Commissioner Hilty to approve the revisions to the Title VI plan as presented. Roll call on the motion: Commissioner Hagstrom, yes; Commissioner Falan, yes; Commissioner Hilty, yes; Commissioner Leggett, yes. Motion unanimously approved.

Title VI training was conducted by Ms. Strom for the Board.

Administrative Reports:

Mr. Smith stated the shop is keeping up with the equipment for the MDOT work that has been ongoing in September and that County trucks are up to snuff for winter and they are working on switching out equipment for the season change.

Mr. Moore explained that Charter permits have slowed down but DTE will be picking up with gas work scheduled in the Mesick and Manton areas. PK Contracting is finishing painting lines this week. The box culverts in Cherry Grove went well. Crack fill will start soon as well.

Mr. Harris informed the board that the crew is doing a great job on the M55 work and that they have put in a lot of extra hours to finish the project before month end and that we should be proud of them. Crew has also been hauling clay for gravel production. They will be moving back to 45 ½ road once M55 project is completed and some of the crew will be heading to a winter rodeo taking place at Grand Traverse Road Commission.

Ms. Strom introduced the new Administrative Assistant and stated she would be heading to the MERS conference.

Mr. Hanson stated everybody has done a really good job working hand-in-hand to make things happen during this busy time of year. WCRC made the Honor Roll Program with CRASIF. Mr. Hanson informed the Board that the jurisdictional transfer funds will be released for this year and MDOT would like to go to Legislation to amend the future payment process. CRA plans to lead the monarch butterfly issue. The meeting with the Amish community went well with representatives from Cedar Creek Twp., MSP, Amish, and WCRC. There was a very good conversation and the group plans to meet again. No update on the 13<sup>th</sup> St. railroad tracks. Gravel production is going very well. Mr. Hanson stated there are new emission standards coming and he would like to look at purchasing new trucks. He also informed the Board of the passing of Ron Vaughan a long time Cherry Grove Township supervisor. Mr. Hanson stated WCRC tries to avoid trimming and brush hogging in areas where the predominant tree type is oak during the restricted period, specifically the southwest and northeast section of the County however our maintenance activities and safety concerns do need to be address and sometimes they may infringe on those guidelines.

Board Comments:


Mr. Falan expressed that he loves hearing that the crew is doing a good job and it seems like things are going well.

Mr. Leggett stated 45 ½ road looks like a little piece of heaven and looks very nice.

Mr. Hagstrom said ditto, keep doing a good job! If we can help don't hesitate to ask.

Payroll	9/6/2023	\$16,147.60
Payroll	9/7/2023	\$69,773.31
Payroll	9/21/2023	\$75,155.04
Voucher	9/10/2023	\$126,636.34

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 a.m.

  
Harry Hagstrom, Chairman

  
Annie Strom, Finance and Business Manager