

Mason, Michigan
August 17, 2009

The Board of Ingham County Road Commissioners met for a regular meeting on Monday, August 17, 2009, at 6:00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Road Commission's Austin E. Cavanaugh Administration Building located at 301 N. Bush Street, Mason, Michigan.

Present: Joseph A. Guenther, Chair, Shirley M. Rodgers, Vice Chair, James G. Dravenstatt-Moceri, Member, Thomas M. Mitchell, Member, and Norman L. Gear, Member.

Also Present: William M. Conklin, Managing Director, Deborah L. Bellows, Secretary to the Board, James M. Benjamin, Director of Operations, and Tina M. Henry, Director of Finance.

Others Present: Thomas J. Doyle, AFSCME Local 1499 President and Eastern District employee, and Will Comstock, Western District employee.

Absent & Excused: Robert H. Peterson, Director of Engineering.

Chair Joseph A. Guenther called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Guenther announced that due to the return of interested parties at 7:00 P.M., the discussion for item #12A, the petition for rumble strips on Hulett Road, will be deferred until 7:00 P.M. Anyone present, who so desires, may address the Board at that time, or during public comment.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT.

1. Arnold Johnson of 2343 Hulett Road, Okemos. Mr. Johnson said that he is in favor of placing the speed humps on Hulett Road. Because of the heavy volumes of traffic and the numbers of pedestrians and children, he feels the roadway is increasingly dangerous and the traffic needs to be slowed down.
2. Linda Anderson of 2338 Hulett Road, Okemos. Ms. Anderson said she has lived here for 30 years and has seen many changes and new subdivisions. With those new subdivisions comes a lot of traffic. The road is already narrow enough, but add pedestrians, bicyclists, children, joggers, etc., with volumes of speeding traffic and it only means ultimate tragedy. Ms. Anderson said she favors the installation of speed humps on Hulett Road.
3. Jaime Green of 2376 Hulett Road, Okemos. Ms. Green said she has lived here for 13 years. She agrees with the previous speakers that the volume of traffic on Hulett Road is heavy and has gotten worse with the new subdivisions. She said there are a lot of walkers along Hulett Road, but she is beginning to see less because of the traffic volumes and speed. The new school has also had an impact on the traffic on Hulett Road. Ms. Green said she is in favor of installing speed humps on Hulett Road.
4. Mary Elizabeth Low of 4646 Ottawa Drive, Okemos. Ms. Low said she has lived in this area since 1982 and does not think that Hulett Road was built for the volumes of traffic using it today. She said she agrees with all the previous speakers and is in favor of installing speed humps on Hulett Road. Ms. Low said she does not believe there is any other way to control the speed.

Managing Director Bill Conklin interjected at this point that there are two concerns with installing speed humps. One is that in many instances, drivers will go around them to avoid the bumps, and drive on private property in so doing. An attempt will be made to place them in such a manner that this won't be possible. But, he said, he wanted people to be aware that this may happen. Second, Mr. Conklin stated that the speed humps pose somewhat of a threat to snow plowing operations. The driver will need to slow down and pick up the blade some, so in most cases the clearing of snow will not be as clean a job in the area of the speed humps as normal. Also be aware this is why the snow plowing may not be as clean a job as previously done.

5. Lynne Page of 3912 Raleigh Drive, Okemos. Ms. Page stated she wished to address the proposed 2009 Okemos Road Enhancement project. She met recently with Meridian Township Manager Gerald Richards and Public Works Director Ray Severy regarding this project, and in particular the decorative street lighting to be placed in the right of way. Mr. Severy reviewed plans prepared by Consumers Energy in May of 2009 which indicate decorative lights approximately 14 feet high and spaced such that they are located on alternate sides of the street. There seems to be a problem with the fixtures in that they are not break-away type fixtures and Consumers Energy does not stock this type of fixture. Ms. Page stated that Mr. Richards indicated they would get a waiver on the type of fixture to use. She asked the Road Commission if it has any update on this project? She asked if the placement of the fixtures would be context sensitive to what is there and by who, and when, will the fixtures be installed?

Mr. Conklin stated he has discussed this with Mr. Severy and the concern is that the desired style of light fixture does not come in a breakaway type; however, the Township has been told that the desired style would be traffic tolerant if tested. They are currently checking with Consumers Energy and the manufacturer to verify this. Mr. Conklin stated he has informed Mr. Severy that Township and Road Commission officials need to sit down and discuss the current plans. He indicated the Township's intent for the lighting is more pedestrian type lighting, not traffic lighting. Thus, the poles could be relocated further back, especially if they are self sacrificing, so that they are not shining directly in residents back yards.

Commissioner Mitchell stated he has been involved with this type of lighting structure with the City of Williamston and the style does, indeed, yield to traffic.

6. Cheryl Fritze, of 2207 White Owl Way, Okemos. Ms. Fritze wondered when Mr. Conklin spoke with Mr. Severy? Mr. Conklin said it was this past Wednesday or Thursday. She indicated she also met with Mr. Severy and he told her the same thing he told Lynne, that they plan to install the lights in 2009 and complete the enhancement project in 2010. Ms. Fritze said she is concerned with the proposed location of the lighting poles since there is no right of way left on the east side of the road since the 2005 construction. She said she doesn't know how those poles will be installed outside of the right of way. Ms. Fritze said she recently had a conversation with Dan Troia, who told her he was not sure this project would start in 2009 since the Road Commission has not yet seen final plans, and the Board has not signed off on the project either. Ms. Fritze said she asked Mr. Severy for a copy of the design plans, but he told her it wasn't necessary.

Managing Director Bill Conklin stated the work for the enhancement project will be let through MDOT and even if the final plans were turned in now, the soonest the project would be let would be November. He said he doesn't know how this could possibly start in 2009. Commissioner Mitchell stated if the material has not yet been ordered, it will very likely not be done this year.

Commissioner Rodgers stated this Board has had a number of presentations from Meridian Township regarding this enhancement project. She asked if final plans will be required to be reviewed and approved by this Board prior to submittal to MDOT. Mr. Conklin responded yes. Commissioner Rodgers said she is concerned with the tone of Meridian Township staff that this enhancement project is a done deal, especially in light of the fact that the Road Commission has not even seen, let alone approved, any type of plan. Doesn't the Road Commission have to review and approve (or not) anything that is placed in its right of way? Mr. Conklin replied that nothing is placed in Road Commission right of way that is not first reviewed by Bob Peterson and, when necessary, submitted to the Board for consideration.

Commissioner Rodgers said she thought that this Board had been pretty clear that the Road Commission would cooperate in any way possible with this project, but we do have standards and criteria required to be met. She stated it is very troubling to her that township staff gave Ms. Page and Ms. Fritze the impression that the enhancement project is good to go.

Ms. Page stated her hope that when the plans are submitted, they will be for both the 2009 and 2010 phases so that the project plans can be considered by the Road Commission as a whole. It wouldn't make any sense to approve the work separately for each year.

7. An Unidentified Woman in the audience asked if this was the appropriate forum to talk about Mt. Hope Road? She said the condition of the road is embarrassing because Lansing and East Lansing have repaired those sections in their respective jurisdictions, but why hasn't the portion in Meridian Township been repaired?

Chair Guenther replied that this project has been submitted for funding and will be done in 2010. It would not make good business sense to spend a lot of money repairing it, and then rip it all out next year to perform the reconstruction. We are trying to keep it patched as best we can to get it to next year. Chair Guenther stated the Road Commission has many other roads in the county that are in much worse condition than Mt. Hope Road and those roads get funding first.

The unidentified woman asked when the work would start on Mt. Hope Road. Mr. Conklin replied the work is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2010.

8. Nate Conner, Ingham County Road Commission Employee. Mr. Conner stated he wished to address the AFSCME contract negotiations. He indicated the Union voted to ratify the contract in May. Apparently there are some wording problems regarding health insurance. Mr. Conner said they have been two years without a contract and it needs to get signed and move on, since it expires at the end of this year. Negotiations for the new contract beyond 2009 will be starting pretty soon.

Mr. Conner said they don't know the Board members because none of them ever visit the garages. He invited the Board members to visit the garages and talk with people. Again, he asked that the Board sign the contract and get it done. He stated the insurance is very important to them. Mr. Conner indicated there is no morale among the employees any more and we need to get it back. He asked the Board to sign the contract today, all they are asking is to get the wording right for the health insurance. They understand they will have no health insurance after December 31 and they are all worried about what will happen with the next contract. Mr. Conner said the employees just want to get their raises and move on. He also commented that the Board needs to consider re-instituting the night shift and hiring additional mechanics

for the shop. We are too short on mechanics and the current ones can't keep up with the work and winter is coming on, which will be worse. Mr. Conner said he wanted to congratulate the Board on promoting Jim Benjamin to the Operations Director position. He said Mr. Benjamin knows our operations better than anyone.

Mr. Conner repeated that he thinks the morale here is dead and the employees would like to see the Board members out at the garages meeting and talking with people. He said winter is coming on and things are going to start getting too busy. He said he wants his raise that has been due him for two years.

9. A woman in the audience named Shirley stated she wished to encourage the Board to approve the request and petition for speed humps on Hulett Road (agenda item #12A). She said there are many children who live in this area and there are large volumes of traffic using Hulett Road at high rates of speed.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – CONSENT AGENDA.

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Mitchell, that the following agenda items be approved under consent:

- A. Agenda Item #6, minutes of July 20, 2009.
- B. Agenda Item #7, routine permits.
- C. Agenda Item #9A, accounts payable.
- D. Agenda Item #10A, award of Proposal #1562.
- E. Agenda Item #10C, award of Proposal #1565.
- F. Agenda Item #10D, award of Proposal #1566.
- G. Agenda Item #11A, MDOT contract for resurfacing Holt Road.
- H. Agenda Item #12B, Local Road Agreement with Alaiedon Township.

5 yes, 0 no. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 – Minutes.

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Mitchell, that the minutes of the meeting of July 20, 2009, be approved as presented. 5 yes, 0 no. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #7 – Routine Permits.

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Mitchell, that routine permits be approved as follows:

09-0332	09-0333	09-0334	09-0335	09-0336	09-0337
09-0338	09-0340	09-0341	09-0342	09-0343	09-0345
09-0346	09-0347	09-0339			

5 yes, 0 no. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #9A – Accounts Payable.

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Mitchell, that the accounts payable for the two week period of July 20-August 2, 2009, be approved as follows: check numbers #93535 through #93616, totaling \$615,885.81. 5 yes, 0 no. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #10A – Award of Proposal #1562.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROPOSAL #1562 FOR BITUMINOUS PATCHING MATERIAL.

RESOLUTION #071-09

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Mitchell. 5 yes, 0 no. Resolution carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Director of Operations, the Board authorizes award of Proposal #1562 for bituminous patching material to the low bidder Saginaw Asphalt Paving Company, for its low bid price of \$75.00 per ton for plant pickup.

Agenda Item #10C – Award of Proposal #1565.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROPOSAL #1565 FOR FURNISHING CRUSHED STONE.

RESOLUTION #072-09

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Mitchell. 5 yes, 0 no. Resolution carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Director of Operations, the Board authorizes award of Proposal #1565 for furnishing crushed stone to the low bidder, Stoneco, for its low bid price of \$16.35 per ton delivered to the Western District facility.

Agenda Item #10D – Award of Proposal #1566.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROPOSAL #1566 FOR FURNISHING CM-300 EMULSION MATERIAL.

RESOLUTION #073-09

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Mitchell. 5 yes, 0 no. Resolution carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Director of Operations, the Board authorizes award of Proposal #1566 for furnishing CM-300 emulsion material to the low bidder, Asphalt Materials, for its low bid price of \$3.0393 per gallon delivered to the Western District facility.

Agenda Item #11A – MDOT Contract for Holt Road Resurfacing.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR IMPROVEMENTS ON WEST HOLT ROAD LOCATED IN DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP.

RESOLUTION #074-09

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Mitchell. 5 yes, 0 no. Resolution carried.

WHEREAS, a Contract has been presented to the Board of Ingham County Road Commissioners for approval by and between the Michigan Department of Transportation (herein referred to as the Department) and the Board of Ingham County Road Commissioners (herein referred to as Requesting Party); and

WHEREAS, in said Contract the Department and the Requesting Party agree to the following improvements:

Hot mix asphalt cold milling and resurfacing work along West Holt Road from Heatherton Drive to Thorburn Street; and all together with necessary related work.

WHEREAS, the Requesting Party is fully cognizant of the terms and conditions of the Contract as prepared and presented by the Department.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Requesting Party authorizes its Chair and its Secretary to execute this Contract on behalf of the Requesting Party; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total estimated cost for this project is as follows:

Job Number 196389	Control Section ARU 33400
MDOT Contract No. 09-5437	Project No. ARRA 0933(036)
Federal Item No. JJ 3547	CFDA No. 20.205

ESTIMATED COST

CONTRACTED WORK

Estimated Cost	\$ 759,500
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FORCE ACCOUNT WORK (REQUESTING PARTY)

Traffic Signal Detection Loop Installation Work	\$ 10,000
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GRAND TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	\$ 769,500
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COST PARTICIPATION

Grand Total Estimated Cost	\$ 769,500
Less Federal Funds	<u>\$ 769,500</u>
Balance (Requesting Party's Share)	\$ -0-

NO DEPOSIT REQUIRED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Requesting Party has designated Mr. Richard Phillips as project engineer:

Business Address: 301 Bush Street, Mason, Michigan 48854
Telephone Number: 517/676-9722

Agenda Item #12B – Local Road Agreement with Alaiedon Township.

RESOLUTION APPROVING LOCAL ROAD AGREEMENT WITH ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP.

RESOLUTION #075-09

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Mitchell. 5 yes, 0 no. Resolution carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Managing Director, the Board approves and signs a Local Road Agreement with Alaiedon Township for improvements on Harper Road between Okemos Road and Wolverine Road.

AGENDA ITEM #8 – MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORTS.

A. The Board was informed of the load posting changes for the Columbia Road bridge over the Grand River, located between the two legs of north and south-bound Waverly Road. The Road Commission will be fabricating and welding repairs to the bridge deck. Funding will not be available for the replacement of this structure until at least 2012.

AGENDA ITEM #10B – AWARD OF PROPOSAL 1563.

Director of Operations Jim Benjamin reviewed his recommendation for award of Proposal #1563 for liquid de-icing corrosion inhibited solution. He recommended award to Road Way Solutions Inc. for \$0.65 per gallon delivered to any district.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROPOSAL #1563 FOR LIQUID DE-ICING CORROSION INHIBITED SOLUTION.

RESOLUTION #076-09

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Mitchell. 5 yes, 0 no. Resolution carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Director of Operations, the Board authorizes award of Proposal #1563 for De-icing Corrosion Inhibited Solution to the low bidder, Road Way Solutions Inc. for the low bid price of \$0.65 per gallon delivered to any district.

AGENDA ITEM #10E – AWARD OF PROPOSAL #1567.

Director of Operations Jim Benjamin reviewed his recommendation for award of Proposal #1567 to furnish processed road gravel. He recommended award to three of the four bidders on an as-needed basis.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROPOSAL #1567 FOR FURNISHING PROCESSED ROAD GRAVEL.

RESOLUTION #077-09

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Dravenstatt-Mocerri. 5 yes, 0 no. Resolution carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Director of Operations, the Board authorizes award to Zeitz Farms of Stockbridge, Carrick Gravel & Crushing of Houghton Lake and Carl Schlegel Inc. of Lansing on an as-needed basis for their prices bid.

AGENDA ITEM #10F – AWARD OF PROPOSAL #1568.

Director of Operations Jim Benjamin reviewed his recommendation for award of Proposal #1568 for furnishing a pugmill for production of cold patch material. Mr. Benjamin stated this is for production of our cold patch on site. He said he believes this to be a cost saving measure, and will report back to the Board once we have been able to make the proper comparisons.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF PROPOSAL #1568 FOR FURNISHING A PUGMILL FOR THE PRODUCTION OF COLD PATCH.

RESOLUTION #078-09

Moved by Commissioner Mitchell and Supported by Commissioner Gear. 5 yes, 0 no. Resolution carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Director of Operations, the Board authorizes award of Proposal #1568 for furnishing a pugmill for the production of cold patch material to Asphalt Materials Inc. for its low bid price of \$2.00 per ton.

AGENDA ITEM #12A – HULETT ROAD SPEED HUMP PETITION.

Managing Director Conklin stated a petition for installing speed humps on Hulett Road has been received. This is for the area on Hulett Road between the CSX Railroad crossing north of Bennett Road and Okemos Road in Meridian Township. The petition contains many signatures of residents in that area. Hulett Road is being resurfaced this year as part of the local road program with Meridian Township. Mr. Conklin stated

residents have complained for years about speeding on Hulett Road, particularly by students going to and from Okemos High School at Hulett and Jolly Roads.

Mr. Conklin said that the petition and conditions for speed humps on Hulett Road generally conform to Ingham County Road Commission's Guidelines for Speed Hump installation. A speed study was last conducted in April 2005. The 85th percentile speeds exceeded the 35 mph north of the CSX Railroad tracks and were very close to 35 mph west of Okemos Road. This more or less satisfies items 1 and 2 of the guidelines.

Mr. Conklin said that five speed bumps are requested. Two between CSX Railroad and the bend on Hulett Road, and three between the bend and Okemos Road. This will allow the spacing required by items 3 and 5 of the Road Commission's guidelines. Hulett Road is not on a normal transit route (item 7 of the guidelines).

Mr. Conklin said that Meridian Township's Board of Trustees is also going to consider this petition at its meeting on August 18th. The cost of the five speed humps is estimated at a total of \$13,000, which we have asked Meridian Township to cover as our local road match for 2009 has already been fully allocated for the township. Meridian Township has also discussed this with its emergency service providers. Mr. Conklin stated we assume that Township Board approval on August 18th will satisfy items 6 and 9 of the Speed Hump Guidelines; i.e., number 6 reads "speed humps should not be installed on streets that are defined or used as a primary or routine emergency vehicle access route." Number 9 reads "The Ingham County Road Commission will pay 50 percent of the cost to install speed humps on local residential streets. The other 50 percent will be required to be contributed from another source, i.e., township, residents, etc."

Mr. Conklin stated that snow and ice removal over the speed hump is possible using normal methods, per the City of Lansing, which has humps on several of its city streets. Plows will need to reduce speed and lessen the scraper angle to avoid damaging the humps. We will also need to locate the humps near natural features that discourage or prevent drivers from driving around the humps on adjacent lawns as Hulett Road does not have curbs.

Mr. Conklin said that given the petition and conditions on Hulett Road satisfy the Road Commission's Guidelines, he would recommend the Board approve installing the five requested speed humps subject to Meridian Township's final approval and payment of the total cost.

Chair Guenther stated that considering the current state of the economy and ever declining MTF revenues, the Board should consider revising the guidelines as they pertain to payment. Mr. Conklin agreed, stating that Township Manager Gerald Richards, is aware there is no Road Commission funding for these proposed speed humps. Commissioner Mitchell asked if a revised policy on speed hump installation could be presented at one of the December meetings.

Jim Carter, 2296 Hulett Road, Okemos. Mr. Carter stated originally years ago, the residents requested the road be closed off at the railroad tracks. He said he agrees that the speed is quite high on Hulett Road and the vehicles have difficulty maneuvering the curve. He said he believes the speed humps will slow traffic based on studies he has seen. He said statistics show that accidents can be reduced by up to 60 percent. Mr. Carter said he is in favor of the installation of the speed humps on Hulett Road.

Jean Doss, 2276 Hulett Road, Okemos. Ms. Doss stated they have been working on this for four or five years now and it seems the rules have been changed on them. She said they were originally told that Hulett Road met all of the requirements for speed humps and that the Road Commission would pay for half of the cost. She said she appreciates staff recommendation to approve the installation of the speed humps and realizes they don't really want them installed. She said she does not think that people will drive around them onto their lawns, as stated earlier by the Manager. Ms. Doss stated this is a cut through area and once the speed humps are installed, she thinks the traffic will find another route. She thanked staff for being accessible to the residents.

Nancy Ridley & Camala Riessinger, 4355 Hulett Road, Okemos. These residents were not present and Chair Guenther read a prepared statement signed by both residents in which they voiced their support for the installation of speed humps on Hulett Road, citing high traffic volume and speeds.

Commissioner Rodgers stated that Mr. Carter sent a well documented and researched letter dated July 2008. She asked if this request has been sitting at the Road Commission for a year? Mr. Conklin stated this request did come in last August, but he had asked Mr. Carter for additional signatures and the petition has just recently been resubmitted.

RESOLUTION APPROVING INSTALLATION OF SPEED HUMPS ON HULETT ROAD IN ACCORDANCE WITH INGHAM COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION INSTALLATION GUIDELINES.

RESOLUTION #079-09

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Gear. 5 yes, 0 no. Resolution carried unanimously.

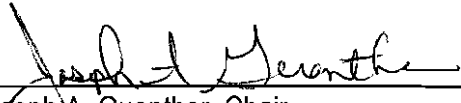
BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Managing Director, the Board approves the installation of five sets of speed humps on Hulett Road located at intervals between the CSX Railroad crossing north of Bennett Road and Okemos Road. This approval is conditional upon approval by the Meridian Charter Township Board of Trustees that it will pay the total cost of installation of the speed humps.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – MEETING WITH LABOR COUNSEL.

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Gear, that the Board enter closed session with the Managing Director and its labor counsel at 7:15 P.M. for the purpose of discussing upcoming labor negotiations and AFSCME fact finding. Roll call vote: Commissioner Guenther, no, Commissioner Mitchell, no, Commissioner Rodgers, yes, Commissioner Dravenstatt-Moceri, yes, Commissioner Gear, yes. 3 yes, 2 no. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Rodgers and Supported by Commissioner Mitchell, that the Board return to open session at 8:05 P.M. Roll call vote: Commissioner Guenther, yes, Commissioner Mitchell, yes, Commissioner Rodgers, yes, Commissioner Dravenstatt-Moceri, yes, Commissioner Gear, yes. 5 yes, 0 no. Motion carried unanimously.

No public comment was offered. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.



Joseph A. Guenther, Chair



Deborah L. Bellows, Board Secretary