

August 8, 2024  
Baldwin, Michigan 49304

Regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Lake was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Commissioner Haslock.

Present - Richard Haslock, *LCRC Commissioner*  
Gary Truxton, *LCRC Commissioner*  
~~Jean Runnels, LCRC Commissioner~~  
William VanDyke, *Finance & HR Manager*  
Leroy Williams, *Manager*  
~~Shawn MacDougall, Road Foreman~~  
Al Dailey, *Road Foreman*  
~~David Lousby, Shop Foreman~~  
Austin MacDougall, *Assistant*  
Dennis Robinson, *Engineer Tech*

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Truxton to approve the July 25, 2024, regular meeting minutes. Supported by Haslock.

Yea - Haslock, Truxton. Nays - 0. Absent - Runnels.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

#### APPROVAL OF PAYABLES:

A motion was made by Truxton to approve:

Payroll Voucher	# 5269	\$90,958.12
Accounts Payable Voucher # 5270		\$204,622.11
Accounts Payable Voucher # 5270A		\$5,305.50
FSA Voucher	# 5271	\$3.39

Supported by Haslock.

Yea - Haslock, Truxton. Nays - 0. Absent - Runnels.

Motion carried. Roll call vote.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Don Divis announced that he is grateful for all the support from voters during the primary election for road commissioner. He offered congratulations to Jim Fri for his success in the primary and is hopeful, as he looks forward to the general election, stating that either result will leave the road commission in good hands. Don also stated that during his campaign he received a lot of positive feedback regarding the road commission.

## **REPORTS FROM MANAGEMENT:**

### **FINANCE & HR MANAGER:**

CRASIF audit has been completed.

The quarterly meeting of the Northern Michigan Road Commission Finance & Human Resources Association was attended by William VanDyke and Austin MacDougall. Wendy Hardt of MCRCSIP presented information on developing policies to protect first amendment rights.

The annual CRASIF safety refund was \$6,256.91.

The annual MCRCSIP refund was \$65,215.00.

### **MANAGER:**

Discussed the condition of faulty spillways on S. Branch Road in Sweetwater Township. Work to reconstruct the spillways will need to be performed by the road commission to correct the problems as the contractor J & N has refused to return.

Presented a solution to make repairs along M-37 in conjunction with MDOT due to an erosion issue that is affecting a property owner.

Manager Williams explained new legislation pertaining to paid time off for part-time employees.

Presented a public hearing notice from Pleasant Plains Township regarding an increase of taxable values by ten percent.

Discussed a complaint from N. Astor Rd. in Eden Township.

ROAD FOREMAN:

MACDOUGALL -

Absent.

DAILEY -

The second brine application will start next week.

Discussed a culvert failure on 10 Mile Road in Dover Township due to being plugged by beavers.

The triple seal projects are progressing and should be completed next week other than the fog seal which will come later.

Chasing washouts and trees that have been falling onto the roads regularly due to frequent rains.

Re-gravel projects are on schedule and progressing well. Currently working on Shepherd Road in Sweetwater Township and River Road in Elk Township.

LEUSBY -

Absent.

ROBINSON -

Absent.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by Truxton to amend the agenda adding Bruce Reed.  
Supported by Haslock.

Yea - Haslock, Truxton. Nays - 0. Absent - Runnels.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

Bruce Reed requested a closed session to discuss personnel matters pertaining to his employment.

A motion was made by Truxton to enter closed session at 9:07 a.m. to discuss personnel evaluation pursuant to MCL 15.268 1a.

Supported by Haslock.

Yea - Haslock, Truxton. Nays - 0. Absent - Runnels.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

A motion was made by Truxton to re-open the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Supported by Haslock.

Yea - Haslock, Truxton. Nays - 0. Absent - Runnels.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

A motion was made by Truxton to grant Bruce Reed personal leave for two weeks if needed.

Supported by Haslock.

Yea - Haslock, Truxton. Nays - 0. Absent - Runnels.

Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

A discussion was held on West Velt Ave. in the platted subdivision of Chain-O-Lakes # 1, and if legal action should be taken to recuperate remediation costs from damage caused by adjacent property owners Mr. Robert Snedeker and Ms. Joan Runnels.

A motion was made by Haslock to proceed with legal action against Mr. Robert Sneedeker and Ms. Joan Runnels to recuperate remediation costs from damage to West Velt Ave. in the platted subdivision of Chain-O-Lakes # 1. Supported by Truxton.

Yea - Haslock, Truxton. Nays - 0. Absent - Runnels.  
Motion carried. Roll Call vote.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

#### **COMMISSIONERS PRIVILEGE:**

Haslock -

Expressed concerns over commercial driver's license (CDL) training for new hires.

Truxton -

Will be absent from the September 12, 2024, meeting, hopes that the meeting will not need to be cancelled, and he will be returning for the September 26, 2024, meeting.

Runnels -

Absent.

ADJOURNMENT:

Next Meeting Date: August 22, 2024, Time: 9:00 a.m.

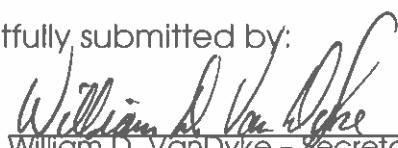
Motion to adjourn made by Truxton.

Supported by Haslock.

Yea - Haslock, Truxton. Nays - 0. Absent - Runnels.

Motion carried 11:13 a.m. Roll Call vote.

Respectfully submitted by:



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William D. Van Dyke - Secretary

Approved by:



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Richard J. Haslock - Chairman



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Gary Truxton - Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Runnels - Member

# WHITE LAW OFFICE P.L.C.

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July 31, 2024

Mr. William L. Hess  
HENN LESPERANCE, PLC  
32 Market Avenue SW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Re: Lake County Road Commission V Snedeker/Runnels

Dear Mr. Hess:

The undersigned represents Mr. Snedeker and Ms. Runnels regarding the above matter involving the issue to West Velt Ave.

I have talked with my clients and reviewed the video which you provided. As you are aware, although the roadway is a public roadway, it is not maintained by the Lake County Road Commission. The ruts in the roadway got so bad that my clients could not access their property. Mr. Snedeker used the equipment only to remove the ruts and smooth the roadway so that they could obtain access to their property.

Also, the roadway has never had guardrails and they have no idea why they would be necessary.

My clients have indicated to me that they are willing to defend any action brought by the Road Commission and will file a jury demand if any action is filed.

Sincerely,



James R. White

JRW/shm