

The regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Newaygo County was called to order by the Chairman Gonyon at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at the road commission offices.

Commissioners present: William Gonyon, Douglas Harmon, and Lee Fetterley
Staff present: Derek Wawsczyk, Manager; Kerry Hewitt, Clerk; and Mike Brege, Superintendent
Others present: David Harrington, Judy Christions, Randy Christensen, Remington Hernandez, Dale Twing, and Rich Houttaman

Motion by Commissioner Fetterley and supported by Commissioner Harmon to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on May 14, 2025. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Harmon and supported by Commissioner Fetterley to approve the following vendor checks, ach vendor payments, and payroll checks:
May 22, 2025
Vendor checks # 66018 - # 66039 and ACH Vendor checks elect. #14486 - #14520 in the amount of \$293,646.80 and Payroll checks # 60156 - # 60171 in the amount of \$135,193.34.
All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Randy Christenson, 2507 N. Grand Blvd.
Mr. Christensen addressed the board with his concerns with the public road of Grace St. and the ability for it to be established as platted.

David Harrington thanked us for the wonderful job we have done on Monroe Ave. and applauded the skills of the grader operator. He said his neighbor got 4 loads of material and asked if he could too. Derek informed him when we do berm removal it helps us to find a property owner willing to take the material versus us having to haul it away.

David Harrington presented the board with pictures of ponding water. He also mentioned that there are piles of 18” of material at the stops signs at Robinson Lake that need to be removed from winter operations.

Dale Twing said the Vista Dr. project looks good. He noted at the public hearings about the lake there were concerns about the lack of guardrail on the west side. Derek mentioned that the location does not meet spec. for guardrail.

Dale Twing mentioned the closing of the recycling center at 56th St. in Sheridan Township. He mentioned checking with MDOT on utilizing the area of Green Ave. and 72nd St. (M-82.)

Dale Twing reported that the Household Hazardous Waste day is this Saturday, May 31st. He thanked the road commission for the utilization of facilities. Dale mentioned he needed more volunteers. Dale reported that they did secure a tire grant, and he will be working with Derek on the details soon.

Dale Twing said that he had been contacted by the residents of Crystal Lake regarding an erosion issue in the area they use for swimming along 24th St. Dale asked if he could have a contractor haul some sand in. The board had no objections.

Kerry presented the board with an updated cash flow, MVHF comparison, and township project spreadsheet.

Kerry requested the board’s signatures on MDOT form 2044, Engineering Reimbursement for \$10,000 for payments made during the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, to licensed professional engineers retained by the Commission. The board had no objections.

Derek informed the board that Brooks Township was wondering when their project on Hess Lake Dr. was going to start. Derek informed them that we have not received their signed contract.
Derek presented our copy of the following contract with **Brooks Township**:

- Hess Lake Dr. from 300 ft. west of Annie Lane and going east to the Brooks/Grant Township line – Wedge and Overlay

Motion by Commissioner Fetterley and supported by Commissioner Harmon to approve and sign the above-mentioned contract with Brooks Township. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion took place regarding the proposed increased funding. Derek was given information at the Paul Bunyan meeting and Kerry was given information at the Finance and HR conference held last week.

Derek informed the board that our new trucks have experienced issues with the suspension leveling valves. He was contacted by a company that is planning to remove the factory kit and install an electronic leveling system at no cost to us.

Derek reported that we have received the signed EGLE permit for the Elm Ave. bridge, and that the project is moving forward with the contractor, the sheet piling, and Krenn Timber.

Derek informed the board that he and Kerry sat down with EPS regarding their access system. We will be moving forward with some upgrades and software that allows us to control the doors ourselves.

Derek provided an update on construction projects.

Derek provided information to the board from CRA regarding a voluntary movement to protect the monarch butterfly.

Derek informed the board that he placed the radar/traffic counter at the Felch Hill to the campground and on Beech Ave. going into Big Bend Park. He will also perform more counts on a non-holiday weekend for comparison.

Derek informed the board that he would like to discuss management wages at our next meeting, which we usually do annually in June.

Commissioner discussion items:
Commissioner Gonyon asked when the 30-day encroachment removal order would expire for Mr. Christensen, and if we should allow more time. Derek is going to contact Mr. Brooks to see if he still wants the permit to establish access on Grace St.

Public Comment: none

With no objections, Chairman Gonyon adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.