Muskegon County
Board of Road Commissioners

Gerald J. Walter, Chairman Jack E. Kennedy, Vice Chair John J. DeWolf, Commissioner

Terry J. Sabo, Commissioner Sue E. Buckner, Commissioner

Regular Meeting **JULY 15, 2026**
10:00 A.M.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Walter. Commissioner Walter asked Commissioner Kennedy to lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chairman then asked for a moment of silence for passing of our former Road Commissioner Lewis Collins.

#2026-106 ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Walter, Kennedy, DeWolf, Buckner and Sabo

Staff: Ken Hulka, Managing Director; Laurita Humphrey, Director of Finance & Human Resources; Scott Saigeon, County Highway Engineer; Andrew Nichols, Maintenance Superintendent; Rachel Huyser, Assistance County Highway Engineer; Jay Feltman, Equipment/Building Superintendent; Connie Erickson, Accountant; Amy Johnson, Executive Secretary.

Others: Township Supervisors Paul Black, Casnovia Township and Steve Patterson, Ravenna Township; and Bruce Gaultney, Fruitport Township business owner.

#2026-107 REVIEW OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 18, 2026

Moved by DeWolf, supported by Buckner, that the Board accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 18, 2026.

Roll Call
Ayes: Walter, Kennedy, DeWolf, Buckner and Sabo
Nays: None

Motion Carried

#2026-108 PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEM ONLY)

Chairman Walter opened the floor to public comment on agenda related items and there were none.

#2026-109 REVIEW ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Moved by DeWolf, supported by Buckner, to approve Accounts Payable #2026-22, #2026-23, #2026-24, and #2026-25, in the amounts of $856,969.32, $870,847.36, $12,769.60 and $1,970,127.84 represented by Vouchers #2434, #2437, #2438, and #2439.

Roll Call
Ayes: Walter, Kennedy, DeWolf, Buckner and Sabo
Nays: None

Motion Carried

#2026-110 REVIEW PAYROLL PAYABLE

Moved by Kennedy, supported by DeWolf, to approve Payroll Payable #2026-13 and #2026-14, in the amounts of $250,595.13 and $363,914.92 represented by Vouchers #2435 and #2436.

Roll Call
Ayes: Walter, Kennedy, DeWolf, Buckner and Sabo
Nays: None

Motion Carried

#2026-111 PRESENTATION OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

The Director of Finance and HR gave a brief presentation of the Monthly Financial Report for the for the past month. She reported briefly on investments and savings with Huntington Bank. She advised the Board that we still haven't received any Neighborhood Road Funds, but we have received a slight increase in monthly MTF compared to last year. She noted that the information was presented for the information of the Board and that no action was required.

#2026-112 RECOMMENDATION FOR EAP RENEWAL

Mrs. Humphrey recommended, moved by Kennedy, supported by Sabo, that the Board authorize staff to renew the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) contract with Pine Rest at a cost not to exceed $1,234.00.

Roll Call
Ayes: Walter, Kennedy, DeWolf, Buckner and Sabo
Nays: None

Motion Carried

#2026-113 REPORT ON MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

The Maintenance Superintendent, Mr. Nichols, gave a report about multiple projects. He updated the Board on the Bard Road culvert in Dalton Township and noted that it was slightly delayed to the first week of August, but our crews have been prepping the area to get it ready for culvert placement. He noted that an agreement has been accepted with the Township and Drain Commission on the Bard Road culvert west of Weber Road in Fruitland Township. He said that he expected construction to start the end of September or October. The timber bridge for Holton Duck Lake Road has been ordered and is anticipated to arrive in mid-September. Crews are now completing gravel upgrades in Moorland Township. Chip seal is 100% completed. API has some Federal Aid projects that they are completing and then anticipate starting on our paving projects about the first week of August beginning in Muskegon Township, then Fruitport Township, then Dalton Township and then last to Fruitland Township. Brush Control started on July 6th with Casnovia, Moorland and Ravenna being completed. Contractor is now in Sullivan Township. Crews are continuing to work on drainage issues including tree removal and ditch cleaning. They have also been prepping roads for next year's chip seal. Heat has been a factor, but we've been keeping crews hydrated and allowing plenty of breaks. Lastly, Blackmer Road is on the schedule. The contractor on Ravenna Road project is going to be grinding the road later this month. Mr. Nichols advised that this information is presented for Board information and that no action is necessary.

#2026-114 ENGINEERING PROJECT UPDATES

The County Highway Engineer, Mr. Saigeon, introduced Rachel Huyser, the new Assistant County Highway Engineer to the Board. He then updated those present on projects being overseen by the Engineering Department. On the Farr Road bridge, the

#2026-114 ENGINEERING PROJECT UPDATES
(Continued)

beams are installed along with reinforcement and they're expecting to pour next week. On Ryerson Road bridge, the west abutment is done, finishing up work there and back filling and then on to the east side. Evanston Bridge hasn't started yet due to issues with the contractor supplier issue. We should have drawings for approval by the end of the week and expect work to start at the tail end of the season. Sign upgrades are nearly completed. Contractor is just working on some punch list items. Ravenna Road is being done in phases. The northern phase the base course of HMA is done and on the southern they are still working on crushing and culverts. They are expecting to pave by 7/29/26. Evanston Avenue improvement project between Mill Iron Road and Wolf Lake Road is started and is nearly complete with curbs and HMA down. Contractor is waiting to restore gravel shoulders because of temperatures and is expecting to have lines painted end of week or next. On the Bayne Road bridge, we are soon going to be getting a confirmed set of design plans to order materials, which are expected to be delivered in about 16 weeks or less. We are working with Muskegon River Watershed Assembly on this project. Maple Island bridge is still in design phase. This is a high-level estimate of approximately $1.7 million due to poor soils and deep piles that need to be driven with a 2028 expected construction. Mr. Saigeon advised that this information is presented for Board information and that no action is necessary.

#2026-115 RECOMMENDATION FOR EQUIPMENT PURCHASE
PICK UP TRUCKS

The Managing Director recommended, moved by Kennedy, supported by DeWolf, that the Board approve the purchase of five (5) 2026 Chevrolet 2500 Silverado 4WD Crew Cab from Berger Chevrolet of Grand Rapids, Michigan at a total cost of $236,941.00 in the 2026/2027 Budget.

Roll Call
Ayes: Walter, Kennedy, DeWolf, Buckner and Sabo
Nays: None

Motion Carried

#2026-116 RECOMMENDATION FOR VOTING DELEGATES MERS CONFERENCE

Mr. Hulka recommended, moved by Sabo, supported by Buckner, that the Board authorize the attendance of the Board members and appropriate staff to attend the 2026 MERS Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids, as presented. Further, that the Director of Finance & HR be designated by the Board as the officer voting delegate to the MERS Annual Meeting and that the Managing Director be designated as the alternate voting delegate.

Roll Call
Ayes: Walter, Kennedy, DeWolf, Buckner and Sabo
Nays: None

Motion Carried

#2026-117 RECOMMENDATION FOR EQUPMENT PURCHASE HYDRAULIC BROOM

The Managing Director recommended, moved by Buckner, supported by DeWolf, that the Board accept the quote from AIS Construction Equipment for a new MB 8' TKH-TR hydraulic angle broom with husting hitch for $17,725.00.

Roll Call
Ayes: Walter, Kennedy, DeWolf, Buckner and Sabo
Nays: None

Motion Carried

#2026-118 COMMUNICATIONS

A. Windward Pointe Site Condo / City of Muskegon
B. Willow Creek Preserve Condo / Egelston Township
C. 2027 Legislative Priorities / County Road Association of Michigan

Mr. Hulka advised that the communications were presented for the Board's information and no action was required at this time.

#2026-119 PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEM ONLY)

Chairman Walter opened the meeting to comments from the audience. Mr. Bruce Gaultney was present and noted that he has a business along Airline Road between I-96 and Pontaluna Road. He expressed his frustration with the number of access points for all of the different businesses along that section of Airline Road and the ensuing traffic issues. Some discussion among staff and Board members indicated the possible need for a traffic consultant to make recommendations about access management.

The Chairman asked if there were any further comments from the audience and there were none.

#2026-120 ADJOURN

With no other business before the Board, moved by Buckner, supported by Kennedy, that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

Gerald J. Walter, Chair

Attest

Kenneth J. Hulka, Clerk

/amj