

Muskegon County
Board of Public Works
May 14, 2020
4:00p.m.
Zoom Meeting

Gary Foster, Chair

Rillastine Wilkins, Vice Chair

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Foster at 4:58p.m.

ROLL

Present: Gary Foster, Muskegon County Commissioner
Susie Hughes, Muskegon County Commissioner
Zach Lahring, Muskegon County Commissioner
Ken Mahoney, Muskegon County Commissioner
Charles Nash, Muskegon County Commissioner
Robert Scolnik, Muskegon County Commissioner
I. John Snider II, Muskegon County Commissioner
Rillastine Wilkins, Muskegon County Commissioner
Leo Evans, Ex-officio Member [arrived at 5:00p.m.]
Jennifer Hodges, Ex-officio Member

Excused: Brenda Moore, Drain Commissioner

Staff

Present: Dave Johnson, Wastewater Director
Matthew Farrar, Public Works Director
Tina Nash, Public Works Coordinator
Mark Eisenbarth, County Administrator
Beth Dick, Assistant Administrator & Finance Director
Kathy Tharp, Administrative Coordinator
Kristin Barnhill, Executive Assistant to the County Administrator

BPW-20-057 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Wilkins, seconded by Commissioner Nash, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOICE VOTE: **Motion carried**

BPW-20-058 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Commissioner Snider, seconded by Commissioner Nash, to approve the minutes of the Board of Public Works meeting held on March 12, 2020.

VOICE VOTE: **Motion carried**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AN AGENDA ITEM

Mr. John Vandenbrink addressed the Board regarding item E. 4, sale of alfalfa.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

BPW-20-059 Create a Hourly Public Works Technician and Appoint Current Full-Time Technician to Position

Moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins, to create an hourly Public Works Technician position and appoint Jeston Swarts to this position at a rate of \$25.00 per hour effective May 18, 2020.

Roll call:

Yes - Mahoney, Nash, Scolnik, Snider, Wilkins, Hughes, Lahring, Foster

No –

Excused - Moore

Motion carried

BPW-20-060 Award Bid for Gap Cell Construction and Cell 2 & 3 Final Cover Project / IFB 20-2385

Moved by Commissioner Wilkins, seconded by Commissioner Scolnik, to award the Gap Cell Construction and Cell 2 and 3 Final Cover Project to Miller Bros. Const., Inc. for the low bid amount with five percent contingency totaling \$5,806,362.27 and authorize the Chair to sign the Agreement.

Roll call:

Yes - Scolnik, Snider, Wilkins, Hughes, Lahring, Mahoney, Nash, Foster

No –

Excused - Moore

Motion carried

BPW-20-061 Reject Proposal for Commodity Futures Brokerage

Moved by Commissioner Snider, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins, to reject the one valid futures brokerage firm proposal on the basis of cost.

VOICE VOTE: **Motion carried**

BPW-20-062 Award Bid for the Sale of Alfalfa / RFB 20-2384

Moved by Commissioner Snider, seconded by Commissioner Nash, to award the bid for RFB 20-2384, Sale of Alfalfa, to den Dulk Dairy at \$34.25/ton for field 19, \$34.11/ton for field 21, \$33.85/ton for field 22, \$33.51/ton for field 23, \$32.75/ton for field 26, and \$33.52/ton for field 34.

Discussion ensued.

Friendly amendment moved by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Chair Foster to award field 19 to Vandenbrink Farms. Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

BPW-20-062 With Amendment – Award Bid for Sale of Alfalfa / RFB 20-2384

Moved by Commissioner Nash, seconded by Commissioner Mahoney, to award the bid for RFB 20-2384, Sale of Alfalfa, to den Dulk Dairy at \$34.11/ton for field 21, \$33.85/ton for field 22, \$33.51/ton for field 23, \$32.75/ton for field 26, \$33.52/ton for field 34 and, to Vandenbrink Farms at \$34.25/ton for field 19.

VOICE VOTE: **Motion carried** [Lahring: No]

BPW-20-063 Informational Items:

The following informational items were placed on file:

1. Public Works Monthly Operations Report, April 2020.
2. Wastewater Monthly Operating Report, April 2020.

OLD BUSINESS

Moved by Commissioner Lahring to forgive 100% the interest due on past debt and pay the balance due without the interest on Vandenbrink Farms' account.

Discussion ensued. Mr. John Vandenbrink informed the Board he would be making a payment of approximately \$48,000 on Monday. Commissioner Scolnik stated he was concerned the motion may set a precedent. Commissioner Mahoney expressed concerns regarding the motion and not following policies. Motion dies due to lack of support.

Dave Johnson informed the Board the two black walnut trees, donated to Heal with a Horse, sold for \$900.00.

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

FINAL BOARD COMMENT

Commissioner Lahring addressed the decision of the Board to not waive the interest amount due on Vandenbrink Farms account and stated his concerns with the bidding process regarding the sale of alfalfa.

Chair Foster thanked everyone for good discussion and stated he learned a lot about hay.

Commissioner Snider referred to Commissioner Lahring's comment and stated we need to review County policies.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board of Public Works the meeting was adjourned at 5:36p.m.

Gary Foster, Chair