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Important Dates:

July 10
9:00am Board Meeting

July 24
9:00am Board Meeting

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

7:30am – 4:00pm

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Tom Bird
Tom Elhart
Tim Griffith
Jim Miedema
Tom Palarz

Managing Director:
Brett Laughlin

County-Wide HMA Bid Results

The Road Commission recently accepted bids for the 2014 County-Wide Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) Surfacing Program.

The program consists of almost 31 miles of HMA surfacing on projects located in Allendale, Georgetown, Grand Haven, Holland, Jamestown, Olive, Park, Port Sheldon, Robinson, and Zeeland Townships.

The engineer's estimate for the 2014 County-Wide HMA Surfacing Program was \$4,852,336.50.

Rieth-Riley Construction was the apparent low bidder at \$3,902,294.80. That is a bid savings of \$950,041.70.

Some of the projects included in the program are:

Quincy Street: 40th Ave to 24th Ave

New Holland Street: 104th Ave to 96th Ave

Sleeper Street: 168th Ave east to end

100th Avenue: railroad tracks to Riley Street

Mason Street: 112th Ave to 104th Ave

Also included are several subdivision streets within the following townships:

0.36 miles in Allendale Township, 7.11 miles in Georgetown Township, 2.73 miles in Grand Haven Township, 5.00 miles in Holland Township, 1.80 miles in Park Township, and 1.99 miles in Zeeland Township.

Public Road “Names”

The existing Road Commission public street names were set up to help the public to determine direction. For instance, typically the major North/South roads have a suffix of “Avenue” and the major East/West roads have a suffix of “Street”.

There are some exceptions where other allowable suffixes have been utilized.

Proposed new road names are submitted by developers for new roads. Road Commission staff review the names for

duplicates and make sure the names adhere to the established guidelines.

Road names shall not be adopted which may be confused with similarly named roads within the County. New roads that are an extension of or in alignment with existing roads shall bear the name of the existing road.

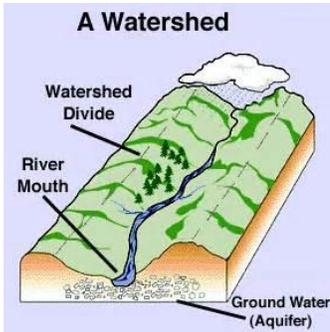
The maximum length of the road name is 10 letters with the space counting as a letter in two-word names. Punctuation or possessive names are not allowed.

Secondary names (suffix) that may be utilized are: Avenue (north/south), Street (east/west), Boulevard (must be one), Court (permanent dead end), Drive, Highway, Lane, Pass, Parkway, Pike, Place, Road, Run, Trail, and Way.

County Rd

A complete street name listing can be found on our website at www.ottawacorc.com.

What is a Watershed?



The picture above shows what a "watershed" is.

A watershed is an area of land defined by topography such as hills and ridges that slopes toward a common body of water such as a lake or stream.

The Road Commission participates in a variety of watershed projects throughout the county including: Lower Grand River, Macatawa River, Deer Creek, Sand Creek, and Bass Creek.

The Road Commission works cooperatively with watershed partners including local government and private property owners) to develop and initiate a Watershed Management Plan (WMP).

The WMP provides an action orientated approach to restore intended watercourse usage such as swimming, fishing, and boating. The

WMP is focused on reducing pollutants and sedimentation that negatively impact the local water bodies.

The Road Commission also participates in the water quality initiatives of the Ottawa County Water Resource Commissioner with regard to construction of water quality facilities that treat storm water runoff from roadways and other property.

Safe Roads for Everyone

Why are "children at play" signs not installed along county roads?

At first consideration, it might seem that a "children at play" sign would provide some safety for youngsters playing in a neighborhood.

Unfortunately, this type of sign encourages parents to believe that children have an added degree of protection; which the signs

do not and cannot provide.

Studies have shown that this type of sign provides no evidence of reducing pedestrian crashes or vehicle speeds. Most drivers become desensitized to the sign's existence over time.

Obviously, children should not be encouraged to play in or near the roadway. The "children at play" sign

is a direct and open suggestion that it is acceptable to do so.

Federal standards discourage the use of this sign, and they are not even recognized in Michigan's traffic sign manuals.

As an alternative, the Road Commission strives to remove vision obstructions to provide a safe roadway for both pedestrians and motorists.



To learn more about Road Commissions, visit the County Road Association of Michigan (CRAM) website at: www.micountyroads.org

What is a Road Commission?

Michigan County Road Commissions were organized by Act 283 by the Michigan Legislature in 1909 to achieve two primary goals:

To provide uniformity in road construction and maintenance across the state;

and to provide cost efficient and high quality road services for local roads.

County Road Commissions have a variety of responsibilities including, but not always limited to, maintaining almost 90,000 miles of

roads, 365 days a year.

Most Road Commissions are legally separate entities from the County, receiving nearly all of their operating funds directly from the state through Public Act 51.