

The Manistee Township Board met with the Manistee County Road Commission at the 325 Parkdale Avenue on Tuesday, January 13, 2004 at 7:00 P.M.. Board members present were John W Anderson, Dennis R Bjorkquist, John M Dontz, Darlene Smith and M. Rebecca Dinsen. Also, present were MCRC Manager Jerry Peterson, Foreman Diesing, Road Commissioner Duane Anderson, Dan Shepard of the LRBOI, and citizens Roger & Elmira Smithe.

Road maintenance and improvements made during 2003.

1. Right-of-ways marked on Lake Michigan and Bar Lake.
2. Mathison Road completed
3. River Road right-of-way obtained
4. Working on preliminary for Pomeroy Road

Possible future projects to be considered during 2004

1. Road ends and Public Access on Bar Lake and on Lake Michigan need work, to indicate they are being maintained. The Township asked for brushing out to indicate maintenance on these road ends. (1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003) Dave Rutowski, Rebecca Dinsen, and John Anderson met in August 2001 & went over the work to be done on the road ends, and right-of-ways along Lake Michigan, and Bar Lake.

2. River Road - to grind and re-lay the existing black top portion, then grade and gravel from the end of the black top, up through the hills. (1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003)

Possible Future Projects

3. Grading and graveling of E/W portion of Kemmer Road (4), Falk Road (5), Virgil Johnson Road (4), Asp Road (5), McNeil Road (4), Scott Road (4) and Guenthardt Road (1). All of these roads could cause damage to our fire equipment, because of trees and branches.

4. Pomeroy Road has new home construction on it. What can be done for the future of this road, after Forest Service permits are obtained?

5. Seal Coating in the township? What roads are recommended?

State Issues:

1. US 31 through Parkdale; and rough condition of US-31 from M-22 North. Olsen Hill area north to Coates Hwy will be resurfaced and extended to 4 lanes in 2007. That is the only Manistee Township project scheduled by MDOT until after 2015.

Maintenance Issues:

1. Extended shoulder on Lakeshore Road is obliterated by sand, and potholes in many areas from Kott Road north.

2. Road drains on Lakeshore Road need regular maintenance.

Possible future projects considered during 2004 included:

There was talk of grinding and re-laying the existing black top portion of River Road, then grade and gravel from the end of the black top, up through the hills. (1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003) Concerns on the possible development of the Blacker Airport and the impact on west end of River Road, were discussed. Peterson will provide an estimate on grade, gravel, and black top of the east end on River Road, within Manistee Township.

It was noted Pomeroy Road has new home construction on it. Pomeroy Road is the Manistee Township line with Stronach Township. The MCRC met with Stronach Township, and they agreed to the project. At that point the people on Pomeroy Road were assured that work would be done on the road. Now Stronach Township has backed out. The lone resident of Stronach Township who lives on Pine Creek adjacent to Pomeroy is opposed to the project. There was a great deal of discussion on the project. Jerry will provide us with estimates for Manistee Township to grub, grade and gravel.

Dontz Road is a Primary Road and is scheduled for construction in 2004. There will be no work done on the N/S portion of Suida Road or Kott Road. This will create another primary road with two good ends, and a very rough center section.

Peterson stated the townships will be responsible for ½ of the cost of “preventive maintenance” in the form of seal coating roads. It will cost approximately \$1500.00 per mile to the townships. The SW corner of the county will have seal coating of primary roads in the year of 2006. The local roads will be seal coated in 2007. We need to plan for this maintenance in future budgets.

Elmira Smithe expressed concern for the sharp edges on the Public Assess signs, along Lakeshore Road. She was concerned at the liability being assumed by signing the right of ways, for beach parties, for children left unsupervised, and other activities.

There being no further action the meeting as adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rebecca Dinsen, CMC
Manistee Township Clerk