



CALHOUN COUNTY

Board of Commissioners

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May 4, 2012

Mr. Christopher Vreeland, Chair
Calhoun County Board of Road Commissioners
13300 – 15 Mile Road
Marshall, MI 49068

Dear Mr. Vreeland:

I am following up with this letter to reiterate my verbal request made at last night's Board of Commissioners meeting during my update report on the Calhoun County Road Commission Task Force. I respectfully ask that the Board of the Road Commission not renew or extend any long-term contracts - employment or otherwise, not revise or create policies that have long-term financial impact, and not enter into new long-term obligations until the task force has completed its work and the County Board has decided what action to take.

As I reported at last night's Board of Commissioners meeting, the Task Force met yesterday in open session and received several public comments from CCRC employees, vendors and others. The response could be summarized as one of deep concern over the poor condition of our roads, and also alleged financial and managerial issues including the Road Commission's failure to pay vendors timely.

We then appreciated hearing from County Administration that Managing Director Kevin Henning and Assistant Managing Director Mary Jo Crumpton were extremely helpful in providing requested materials and even creating informational binders for the Task Force members. We did not review the documents in any detail, however, before or at the meeting, simply because we had just received them.

After the Task Force meeting, I reviewed some of the materials and after discussions with County Administration, became convinced that it would be in the best interests of the citizens of this County for the Road Commission Board to hold off on long-term financial commitments during this Task Force's deliberations on whether to eliminate the Road Commission as recently authorized by HB 5125 and 5126. This type of requested "holding pattern" is reasonable due to the potential for transition and to minimize associated negative impacts on Road Commission's staff, its business partners and its overall operations.

I would appreciate your cooperation in this regard as well as in the broader Task Force process, and I hope that you'll consider this request as one that is beneficial to both of our organizations and the public.

Sincerely,



Art Kale, Chair
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Cc via email:

Board of Commissioners
Road Commissioners
Kevin Henning, CCRC Managing Director
Kelli Scott, Calhoun County Administrator/Controller
Richard Lindsey, Calhoun County Corporation Counsel
Road Commission Task Force