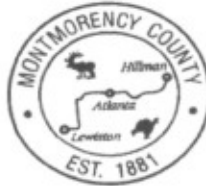


Roger D. Frye, Chairman
SEAT VACANT
Albert LaFleche
Paul Wingate
Zachary Weaver

Robert Goodall,
County Coordinator
Email: montmanage@i2k.net

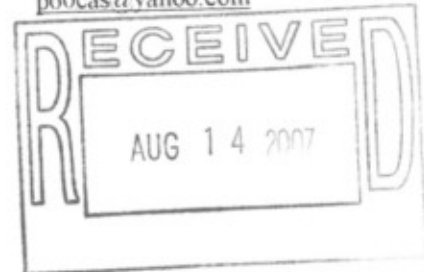


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Candace Stephens,
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**Montmorency County
Board of Commissioners**

Resolution No. 07-17



**Department of Corrections (DOC) Cancellation of Public Works Contracts
/ OPPOSED**

Whereas, certain action was recently taken by the Department of Corrections to cancel public works contracts across the state; and

Whereas, the Department of Corrections has now exercised its rights to cancel their agreements with the respective Road Commissions across Michigan to provide public works crews to these agencies; and

Whereas, a 30-day notice has now been sent to said contracting parties to the effect that the program will conclude Friday, August 17, 2007; and

Whereas, Montmorency County has utilized the DOC public works program(s) for many years now by supplementing labor for certain regular maintenance duties, services and special projects, thereby saving the County many thousands of dollars in contracting fees; and

Whereas, the Department of Corrections Assistant Deputy Warden stated that a principal reason for the decision was "protection of the public", in spite of the fact that inmates are supposed to be reassessed daily as to compliance with the stringent rules set forth by the Department of Corrections regarding supervised work-release; and

Whereas, such continual reassessment ensures that a relatively safe program currently exists in terms of public safety by allowing only those inmates that are considered the least-dangerous, and least-likely to flee custody, the opportunity to leave the correction facility on supervised work release; and

Whereas, a principal goal of this state minimum security program is to productively re-establish the inmate into society, thereby reducing the rate of recidivism, and reducing the subsequent cost of incarcerating these same inmates in the future; and

Whereas, the consensus of public opinion in the State of Michigan is that the People would strongly prefer to see inmates give back to society in a tangible-way by working productively during their incarceration, rather than simply sitting in a cell, eating three square meals-a-day, and receiving free medical-care, etc.; and

Whereas, the Assistant Deputy Warden stated, "the fees charged for the crews simply do not come close to covering the actual cost", yet these same fees have not been adequately increased in some time to offset said increasing costs; and

Whereas, the concept of saving money by arbitrarily canceling this worthwhile program eludes both the contractor and the People alike, without renegotiating said fee-structure with the contracting parties,

Now therefore be it Resolved, that the Montmorency County Board of Commissioners is adamantly opposed to the Department of Corrections arbitrarily canceling this worthwhile program, without first exploring every avenue possible to maintain it at its present level.

Be It Further Resolved, that this body formally requests that the Department of Corrections extend a moratorium on the cancellation of the aforementioned public works contracts until such time as it can be more fully assessed by the contracting Road Commissions, and the State Budget Director.

Be It Further Resolved, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Jennifer Granholm, Senator Tony Stamas, Representative Matt Gillard, the Michigan Association of Counties, the Michigan Department of Corrections, and all contracting Michigan County Road Commissions.

PRESENT:

Commissioner Roger D. Frye / Chairman
SEAT VACANT
Commissioner Albert LaFleche
Commissioner Zachary Weaver
Commissioner Paul Wingate

ABSENT:

None

Offered by Commissioner Bert LaFleche:

On a motion by Commissioner LaFleche, and supported by Commissioner Weaver:

Yeas 4 Nays 0

Motion Approved

I Cheryl Neilsen, County Clerk, hereby certify that this is a true and accurate copy of the resolution adopted by the Montmorency County Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting held on August 8, 2007.

 Cheryl Neilsen, County Clerk