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Motion by Taylor, seconded by McKellar, to adopt the following resolution

**RESOLUTION 2014-07-02
PERMANENT ROAD FUNDING SOLUTION**

WHEREAS, State, County and Municipal roads are deteriorating at a record pace due to under funding for maintenance for the last 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the longer quality maintenance is deferred due to lack of funding, the more it will cost to bring our county and state road network back into quality condition; and

WHEREAS, our state and county are still suffering from the effects of the 2008 single worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, and business development is less likely to occur if our road and highway infrastructure is failing; and

WHEREAS, investment in our road infrastructure will provide needed improvements and provide good paying jobs in our state and these wages will be spent in Grand Traverse County and Michigan to further assist our economy; and

WHEREAS, The Grand Traverse County Road Commission has experienced declines in its Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF) road maintenance revenue over the last 10 years, and is projected by the Michigan Department of Transportation to increase by no more than 1% in 2014 and remain at that level into the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Traverse County Road Commission has seen its costs for critical road maintenance materials and fuel rise; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Traverse County Road Commission has instituted agency-wide efficiencies to deal with the detrimental effect of revenue reductions and increasing costs, including a reduced work force through attrition of approximately 30%; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Traverse County Road Commission has also found it necessary to reduce services, including patching, mowing and paving gradually being reduced, plowing on residential roads only done dependent upon conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Traverse County Road Commission has one bridge with reduced legal load limits due to deterioration and a number of bridges with poor ratings that need major rehabilitation or replacement soon that cannot be funded under current conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Traverse County Road Commission currently has 150 miles (or 59%) of the primary road system under its jurisdiction as of June 2014 with a PASER rating of 3 or below, indicating poor condition. The Grand Traverse County Road Commission has been without a county-wide primary road program that can keep up with deterioration which repaired, rehabilitated or reconstructed the overall primary road system to keep them in good PASER ratings of 6 or above;

WHEREAS, the state and other county road commissioners in the state have either laid people off, reduced employment by attrition, shut down operations, or restricted maintenance schedules, such as snow removal to weekdays; and

WHEREAS, when compared to other states, Michigan's state and local transportation funding has ranked 42nd or worse, for more than four decades (statistics derived from the County Road Association of Michigan); and

WHEREAS, gas tax revenues generated in 1999 were virtually the same as those in 2011 further verifying road funding has not kept pace with material cost increases or inflation; and

WHEREAS, the current Governor Snyder Administration and past administrations have all concluded that Michigan is short in excess of \$2.1 billion a year to address highway and road issues in the state, and in addition, numerous newspapers, labor and trade associations, municipal and county associations, and chambers of commerce have also expressed that Michigan must invest more dollars into road maintenance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Road Commissioners for the County of Grand Traverse, this 24th day of July 2014 hereby requests that the Governor and the Michigan Legislature retain the current Income Tax Rate and direct the generated funding surplus to solely improve Michigan roads, bridges and highways, especially at the local Road Commission and Township level while working to develop a permanent, long-term funding solution for Michigan roads; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be forwarded to Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, members of the State Legislature, the Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners, each of the 83 road commissions, and each of the 13 Townships in Grand Traverse County.

CARRIED Unanimously

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of a resolution made and adopted by the Board of County Road Commissioners of Grand Traverse County at their regular meeting of July 24, 2014.



Debra J. M. Hunt
Clerk of the Board