

# Piecing Together Road Funding With Many Partners

Presented by  
Karl Hanson

Engineer Manager /County Highway Engineer  
Wexford County Road Commission

# How do you fund road improvements in Rural Road Commission with lots of Public Land?



Make lots of friends!

# Townships

- Wexford County is very Anti-Tax
- No road millages
- No county wide millage
- Township internal policies very different
  - Special assessment for some or all
  - General fund
  - Pilt fund and franchise fees
  - Fund through other sources

# Free Services WCRC provides

- Mowing paved roads every year some gravels
- Brine 2 applications
- Spot gravel, shoulders, soft spots etc
- Drift area and drainage work
- Chipseal and spot wedging
- Small culverts
- Brush removal, clearing, tree removals

# TWP Match

- Paving 50% HMA
- Large dirt projects 50%
- Gravel twp buys the gravel
- Brine –Early brine

# Paving

- Twp Pays 50% HMA cost
- WCRC does Tree removals
- WCRC places shoulders
- WCRC does paving prep.



# Large Dirt Jobs

- TWP share 50%
- Building road grades
- Hill cuts and raising low spots
- Drift area and snow storage
- Large slope flattening
- Road widening
- Large drainage projects



# Gravel

- Twp buys the gravel from WCRC
- WCRC
  - Prepares the grade
  - Fix drainage
  - Haul gravel
  - Place grade and compact





# TWP Paid Brine

- If twp interested they can pay for early brine
- After paid brining is completed then start our two rounds of free brine.
- The paid brine twp still get the 2 free applications for 3 total.

# Other Funding Partners

- USFS
- MDOT
- Resource agencies
- Business Partners



# USFS

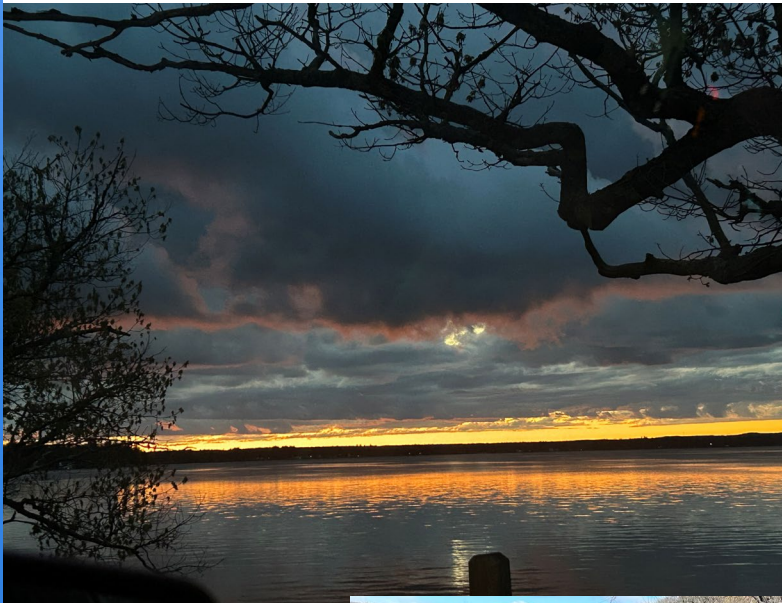
- Road Construction for public access and timber roads
- Road improvements for development
- Culvert replacements
- Fuels mitigation, fire lanes, burn prep fuel breaks
- Campground and access roads
- Tree and brush removal



# MDOT

- Regular Maintenance
- Special projects – rest area work, etc
- Pinch hitter-work where MDOT other counties don't or can't help
- Projects large and small-drainage, trees, slope fills, paving prep, environmental
- Contracting-TWA's paving, parks, cleaning
- Detours- work on our roads
- Special impact projects- RR bridge







# Resource Agencies

- USFS
- CRA
- MDNR
- USFW
- USDA
- Tribal partners
- NCISMA



# Resource Agency projects

- Culvert replacements
- Drainage and erosion mitigation
- Other environmental issues
  - T&E
  - Habitat improvement
  - Invasive species





# Other / Business Partners

- Residents with money
- Developers
- Mega businesses / big box stores
- Loggers / lumber mills
- Aggregate pits, asphalt + concrete plants
- Specialty businesses
- Farms
- Resorts
- Schools



# Make Friends

- Every complaint has chance to be part of the solution.
- Use those issues to drive the conversation for improvement.
- If you see someone making improvements see if you can leverage that for road improvements.
- Say yes, but.....





