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*“Employee Safety and Workers’ Compensation Specialists”*

## **For Immediate Release**

# **Montmorency County Road Commission Earns an “A” for Workers’ Compensation**

## **Gets on Honor Roll**

Lansing, September 22, 2020. The Montmorency County Road Commission was recognized for having one of the lowest employee injury rates among road commissions in the state. The announcement was made at the County Road Association Self-Insurance Fund’s (CRASIF) virtual Annual Membership Meeting on September 16, 2020.

“Road commission workers are constantly putting their life on the line for the motoring public.” says Jim deSpelder, CRASIF Administrator. CRASIF provides safety training and workers’ compensation coverage for road commissions. “Seventy-five percent of the roads in the state are maintained by road commissions and their roughly five thousand employees. We remind the workers that they come within a foot of death many times during the day when working in traffic,” commented deSpelder. He added “The risk of injury is higher than normal when working for a road commission.”

Mary Sholander, Chairperson of CRASIF’s Board of Trustees and the Director of Finance and Administration with the Marquette County Road Commission, stated “CRASIF’s Honor Roll recognizes member road commissions which make safety an integral part of their culture. Emphasizing safe operations and managing the risks of injury is a never-ending challenge.” She pointed out, “lower injury rates also help Michigan taxpayers. Lower injury rates reduce workers’ compensation premiums which allows more of the taxpayer dollars to go directly to maintaining Michigan’s county road system.”

“Road commissions that have lower than average injury rates qualify to be on our Honor Roll,” commented Jim deSpelder. “They should be publicly acknowledged for their achievement. Low injury rates benefit the employee, the taxpayer and the road commission. It is a win-win-win situation!”

The award was given by the County Road Association Self Insurance Fund otherwise known as CRASIF. CRASIF is a Michigan based self-insured group fund that provides disability management and workers’ compensation to road commissions. CRASIF services 69 out of the 76 road commissions in Michigan.

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