

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. via conference call due to COVID-19.

Present: Mike Atton, Chairman
Jim Hyatt, Vice Chairman
Jon Myers, Managing Director
Art Buck, Superintendent
Russ Inman, Design Engineer
Brenda Gordert, Finance Director/Clerk
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Ashley Rockefeller, GIS Technician
Absent: Bruce Clark, Commission Member
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Atton to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2020 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Open Accounts:

The pre-pay for January 21, 2021 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Atton to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts for January 21, 2021 in the amount of \$177,572.60.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

The East Central Council meeting will be a zoom meeting on January 28, 2021 at 10:00 am.

Permit listing was reviewed.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

A ballot was received from the County Road Association for a board member from the Northern Michigan Association of Road Commissioners to be on the CRA Board for a 1 year term.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to vote for Jerry Heim of Kalkaska County.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt

Nays: None

Motion Carried

A private road name application was received from Martin & JoEllen Welch for Serenity Way, north off Dague Road in Jerome Township section 1. Road name has been approved by Midland GIS Department and Jerome Township Board.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Atton to approve private road name of Serenity Way.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous:

Russ stated two CRA Impress Awards were submitted this year;

- Operations category for creation of COVID-19 online daily screening questionnaire.
- Collaboration category for Bridging Midland to the Iron Belle Trail with a \$4.6 million dollar project to restore the Smiths Crossing bridge and build the trails. There are over 9 entities working together to provide the connection in Midland.

An Open House will be held for this year's Urban project for the resurfacing of Poseyville Road from Gordonville Road to the City Limits. The Midland Township trail is within the county right-of-way and runs from Overlook Park to the Bullock Creek Elementary School and it will be temporarily closed during construction. Due to the temporary closure of the trail, federal requirements state an Open House must be held. Open House will be held virtually due to COVID the second week of February.

Staff Reports:

Jon stated FEMA has grouped our flood damage locations into four projects and we have received approval for two of them. He is still working with the State Police on the agreement for reimbursement of 75% of the cost totaling approximately \$45,000. He is continuing to work through the two remaining projects that have six combined locations totaling approximately \$300,000. We have not yet received approval for them.

Work is being done on the design for the USDA projects approved last fall hoping for construction to start this spring.

Coleman Road bridge construction is scheduled to start middle of April. If the utilities are relocated timely construction may begin earlier.

The Freeland/Sasse round-about final review will be completed the end of this week.

The contractor is making a few catch-basin repairs on the Eastman Road project from last year.

Art stated the Superintendents Association Board met virtually last week and they are going to move ahead with planning the annual conference for October.

He stated the salt inventory is doing good with the small snow incidents we have been having.

He has ordered another 500 tons of the backup salt we are required to take and MDOT has also ordered 500 tons.

He stated 5 townships have returned signed estimates for the 2021 construction season so far.

He has not received any clear direction on the COVID vaccine yet. He has encouraged employees to sign up on the Health Department website to get on a list.

Russ stated he will be reviewing a site plan for a Dollar General store at the corner of Sandow and M20.

Jon and him attended a design kick off meeting with OHM for three Meridian Road bridge projects for construction next year;

- Bridge deck replacement over the Pine River
- Bridge deck rehabilitation over the Chippewa River

- Prairie Creek bridge will be removed and replaced with a culvert.

He stated the safety grant project for curve signing replacement throughout the county will begin next week. Ashley will be coordinating on the project and updating our sign inventory. Russ has been working with MATS on the non-motorized plans.

Ashley stated she has been working on ESRI and creating a sign inventory app that will work well with the smart phone and tablets.

She has been working with MATS on coordinating data for non-motorized trails.

Ben stated he talked with Truck & Trailer for an update on the swap loader and all the equipment has been delivered and they will start the build middle of February with completion the end of April. He is wrapping up the overhaul on the brush cutter this week and Neil is making a few improvements to the hydraulic hoses.

He is continuing to work on salt calibrations on the snow plow trucks to keep them as accurate as possible.

Commissioner Atton thanked the staff for all the good work during a very tough year and hoping this year is a little easier.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:37 a.m. until Friday, February 5, 2021.

Brenda Gordert, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chairman