

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on November 10, 2022, at 9:05 a.m. at the Midland County Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chair
Jim Hyatt, Vice Chair
Rod Kloha, Member
Jon Myers, Managing Director
Russ Inman, Design Engineer
Donna Lowe, Finance Director
Art Buck, Superintendent
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Ashley Hiles, GIS Technician

Absent:

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Maria Sandow, Larkin Township; Dan Mieske, Hope Township.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said

Additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2022 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Open Accounts:

The pre-pay for November 10, 2022 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts for November 10, 2022, in the amount of \$1,449,681.50.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

None

Permit listing was reviewed

Unfinished Business:

The Midland County Township Officials' Association Holiday Membership Dinner Meeting was discussed. Commissioners Atton and Kloha and their wives will attend; Commissioner Hyatt will not.

New Business:

Jon discussed the Stark/Shaffer/Jefferson MDOT Agreement for this year's RTF construction projects. It is set for bid letting soon, but he needs board approval to sign the contract. Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve Jon to sign the MDOT agreement for Stark Rd./Shaffer Rd./Jefferson St.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Jon requested an increase in the amount of the Meijer gift cards that the Road Commission provides for the employees to purchase a holiday ham or turkey. It has always been \$15, but due to inflation and rising grocery costs, he requested an increase to \$25.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to purchase Meijer gift cards in the amount of \$25.00 for each employee.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Jon suggested that the annual Safety Luncheon be held on Thursday, December 15th at noon. Plans are still in the works, but that is the day that he is planning on.

Misc:

None

Staff Reports:

Jeff updated the board on the progress of the Baker Road Bridge. Beams are to be set tomorrow and the road will be built next week. Hopefully by the time it is ready to be paved, the pavers will still be working.

He also discussed the 11 Mile Road project from Redstone to Laporte. There were some issues with density of the shoulder materials, so Crawford Contracting will be working on shoulder compaction in order to meet project specification.

He stated he has enough projects to get him through the end of this year and is looking forward to beginning next year's projects.

Russ had been off so he did not have much to discuss. He brought up whether there needed to be a board motion to schedule the budget meetings. Donna will look at last year's meeting minutes to see if a motion is necessary, but everyone thought it would not be.

Ben notified the board that winter prep was all complete. The equipment is ready for an event at any time.

He also gave an update on the stock room project. Inventory is being moved onto the new shelving. Ben and Brian are both impressed with the quality of the materials and are confident it will work really well.

Ben is also listing some auctions for a few old trucks on gov deals.

He reported that Al Roden from Mackinaw Administrators had been in to do some training. It covered several subjects but mostly focused on JHA – Job Hazard Awareness – to minimize employee injuries. He also stated that, as a result of this training, it was decided to purchase a recovery rope that would safely get trucks unstuck in the snow.

Art reported that projects are still on going, as long as the weather holds out. Ditching projects are being done, gravel projects are done and paving is 99% done. The asphalt company was going to shut down the plant but with the good weather they are planning to keep it open at least a little while longer to hopefully get the Baker Road Bridge paved.

Salt has all been delivered including State Salt as well as County Salt.

Art has begun his drive arounds with the townships to talk about what projects they would like to work on for 2023.

Jon stated that Art and Jeff had joined him on his Primary Road ride arounds. They are working on a plan for how they want to schedule their repairs in future years.

He also updated the board on the Rural Task Force meetings he had gone to. The RTF had gotten an additional amount of money specifically for 2023 projects but we had used our 2023 funds for the Federal Aid Buyout. He reached an agreement with Isabella County to use the additional money allocated for 2023 and they will return it to us for our 2024 projects.

He also had to find a solution for the MPO money that became available, which resulted in a complete revision of the project schedule for the next 4 years. The solution includes obligating the planned 2024 projects in FY2023, although they will still be built in 2024. Doing this created an extra project in 2026 which will be Prairie Road, Homer to Woodcock.

He also attended the CRA policy workshop, which has renewed his desire to go through some of our policies.

Jon also attended the design meeting for the Midland NMT Trail. Most of this project will occur outside of the road right-of-way but will involve the Road Commission in some areas.

He will be attending multiple meetings on the 14th of November, including the Bay Region Bike and Pedestrian Meeting.

He indicated that management is working on next year's budget and would like to have it wrapped up by the next meeting.

Commissioner Atton asked about the Waldo Rd/Monroe Rd. Roundabout project. Russ hopes to have an agreement for two of the properties by the next meeting.

Jon updated the board on the Urban projects near the city limits for 2023.

Commissioner Atton announced that he is submitting a letter to MCRCSIP to be on the ballot for the board.

Jeannette announced that the County Board of Commissioners had a new member elected and they are looking forward to meeting her.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:45 a.m. until Wednesday November 23, 2022.

Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chair