

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on March 2, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the Midland County Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chair
Jim Hyatt, Vice Chair
Bill Cozat, Member
Jon Myers, Managing Director
Russ Inman, Director of Engineering
Art Buck, Superintendent
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Donna Lowe, Finance Director
Bill vonMatt, Weighmaster

Absent: Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Dan Mieske, Edenville Township; Robert Kelley, Edenville Township; Larry Schuelke, Homer Township; Maria Sandow, Larkin Township, attended virtually.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said

Additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2023 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

Maria Sandow from Larkin Township thanked the road crews for their work to keep roads clear during the several snow storms we have had.

Approval of Open Accounts and Payroll:

The payroll for February 16, 2023 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to authorize payroll for February 16, 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

The payroll for March 2, 2023 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to authorize payroll for March 2, 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

The bills paid for February 16, 2023 were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve bills paid for February 16, 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat
Nays: None

Motion Carried

The open accounts for March 2, 2023 were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve open accounts for March 2, 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat
Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

The Board had previously authorized Donna to request that the Michigan Department of Treasury would remove Midland County Road Commission from the corrective action process, thereby removing the underfunded status of the Commission's retirement system. On February 16, 2023 the Department of Treasury granted that request and a letter was sent to the Commission to confirm.

Permit listing was reviewed

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Bill vonMatt gave an update on Weighmaster activities for 2022. A new patrol unit was placed in service as well as a new pad for him to weigh out vehicles in the parking lot. He also discussed his proactive approach to enforcement; he would rather go do presentations for companies and tell them how to comply with the law before he pulls them over, or to educate a driver on the road prior to issuing a ticket. Bill also stated that he had participated in a presentation by the Michigan State Police Motor Carrier Division and the Clare County Road Commission for local businesses and a Ride Along program with Mid Michigan College. He provided statistics on his hours worked, verbal warnings given, tickets written and fines assessed for 2022 and also career totals for those categories as well.

Ben provided the board with bids for four pieces of equipment; a compactor for the motor grader, a 644P Wheel Loader, a 524P Wheel Loader and an 84" Smooth Drum Roller.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the purchase of a 2023 John Deere 672GP Compactor for Motor Grader through MIDEAL contract number 071B7700090 for \$42,900.00.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat
Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the purchase of a 2023 John Deere 644P Wheel Loader and accessories through MIDEAL contract number 071B7700090 for \$355,326.03.

Roll call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat
Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the purchase of a 2023 John Deere 524P Wheel Loader through MIDEAL contract number 071B7700090 for \$236611.51.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat
Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt, and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the purchase of a Bomag BW211 D-5 Single Drum Roller from Midland Engine for \$164,450.00.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous:

None

Staff Reports:

Other than equipment bids, Ben did not have much else to report. The shop is running well, stock room cabinet assembly is complete and everyone is getting inventory settled into the cabinets.

Art discussed the winter weather we have been having and stated that crews have been putting in lots of extra hours. He attended the APAM conference in Mount Pleasant last week and EGLE had a presentation about plans to tighten brine well usage, which could make the Road Commission's job more difficult in the future. There will definitely be more to come on that issue.

Jon reiterated that the EGLE information was a surprise and that there will certainly be more discussion on the brine well usage issue.

He stated that our rural paving project bid came in 1% over the engineer's estimate and the bid was awarded to Central Asphalt.

Jon had an update on the Recycled Bridge project. It was originally designed for the Alamando Bridge project but the final estimate for that project was too far over the original estimate and the cost was just not able to be justified. He stated he is working with EGLE to transfer the grant to a different location that would be similar in cost to the original estimate for Alamando Bridge.

He also updated the board on the applications we had received for the Engineering Tech position. Seven resumes were submitted and three of those applicants will be interviewed.

Russ announced that all the right of way and consent agreements have been secured for the Waldo/Monroe roundabout. He is hoping for a June letting which would lead to construction beginning sometime in July. He will be attending a Larkin Township meeting for a variance request for this property. He explained the reasons why there is a need for the variance and he created a document that cleared up some confusion and rumors that were going around about the variance and use of the property.

He also stated that one of our urban projects is Waldo to Monroe recon which will make a new road right into the roundabout. This project should be completed before construction begins on the roundabout and will be great leading up to the roundabout.

Russ also discussed the Local Bridge applications that will be applied for through Great Lakes Engineering. Applications are due April 3, 2023.

Safety grant applications are due May 1, 2023 for fiscal year 2025, and he will be submitting for that as well.

Category F grant applications for fiscal year 2025 are also due May 1, 2023. Those grants will allow for construction in urban areas as they currently are.

Russ also updated the board about RFP's for professional services which are currently open.

There is an added one for the Letts Road study, which has been proposed to have the road certification restored. It would be great for the area and open up access to I-75. RFP's are due on March 9th and will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Donna is getting ready for the annual audit which will begin in three weeks, and she is beginning to work on Act 51.

Commissioner Atton discussed the MCRCSIP meeting he attended on February 15, 2023. The budget was approved and they were provided with a claims paid report as well as an update on investments.

He stated that MCRCSIP is looking to purchase a building outside of downtown Lansing. There is a site they are working on an offer for submission, but nothing has been accepted.

He is heading to Orlando this weekend to attend the National Insurance Pool meeting.

Commissioner Atton is also going to be on the ballot to remain on the MCRCSIP board after his partial term ends.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 10:15 a.m. until Thursday, March 16, 2023.

Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chair