

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the Midland County Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chair
Jim Hyatt, Vice Chair attended virtually
Bill Cozat, Member
Jon Myers, Managing Director
Russ Inman, Director of Engineering
Art Buck, Superintendent
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Donna Lowe, Finance Director
Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician
Travis Havercamp, Design Engineer

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Larry Schuelke, Homer Township; Kim Heisler, Ingersoll Township; Maria Sandow, Larkin Township, attended virtually.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said

Additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Atton to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2023 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Open Accounts and Payroll:

The payroll for March 30, 2023 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Atton to authorize payroll for March 30, 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

The payroll for April 13, 2023 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Atton to authorize payroll for April 13, 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

The open accounts for April 13, 2023 were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Atton to approve open accounts for April 13, 2023 in the amount of \$1,297,279.06.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

The April East Central Council Meeting will be held at Buck’s Country Cookin’ on April 20th. RSVP’s are due today. Commissioners Atton and Cozat stated they will attend, Commission Hyatt will not.

Permit listing was reviewed

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Ben presented information on a used 2020 MAC Rock Dump Trailer for sale at Weiland in Saginaw. It is in very good, almost new shape and priced below what he had budgeted to purchase a new one this year. He requested the Board approve the purchase of the 2020 MAC Rock for \$78,000 plus \$15.00 for the title transfer.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the purchase of the 2020 Mack Rock Dump Trailer as presented.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

A construction contract for MDOT JN 215711 was received from the Michigan Department of Transportation regarding a project categorized as a Surface Transportation Program and programmed with the FHWA, for implementation with the use of Federal Funds under the Surface Transportation Program.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Atton to offer the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Contract No. 23-5108, consists of hot mix asphalt overlay, aggregate shoulders and permanent pavement markings along Waldo Road from approximately 1,200 feet south of Wackerly Road to approximately 265 feet south of Monroe Road; and all together with necessary related work

WHEREAS, the parties hereto have reached an understanding with each other regarding the performance of the project work and desire to set forth this understanding in the form of a written contract.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Road Commissioners, County of Midland, authorizes Jon Myers, Managing Director, and Art Buck, Superintendent, to sign Contract 23-5108.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Resolution Adopted.

Miscellaneous:

None

Staff Reports:

Jon introduced Travis Havercamp as our new Design Engineer who started on Monday, April 10, 2023 and everyone welcomed him aboard.

Jon has also been working with the Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail group sorting through funding for the Bailey Bridge project. The cost has gone up since the estimate was done and he plans to submit a request for additional funding to the MDOT TAP program.

There have been some meetings with ITC, which is the company that is installing electric transmission lines along Coleman Road. There has been a right-of-way dispute on that issue, but it looks like it will be resolved.

Art and Jon are meeting with State Representative Schutte tomorrow to welcome him and give him a tour of our facility.

There are several conferences coming up this spring. Jon was selected by MDOT to receive a complimentary registration to attend the Transportation Research Board Conference in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in July.

Jon is working with the Drain Commission to coordinate culvert replacements, as that worked out well last year.

The EGLE brine permitting rule changes have been paused for now. The changes would classify and treat Mineral Brine the same as Oil Brine. There were significant concerns raised about the potential impact it would have on road commission maintenance operations. CRA is working with legislators to address the entire situation.

Jon has officially signed a modification to the EGLE grant for the Recycled Bridge Project. They granted a change in location for the grant so it will now be applied to work at Kent Road over Jo Drain, using the same technology that was part of the original project.

Art let everyone know that we had gone to our summer schedule early and it was going well.

He had a good turnout of applicants for student summer help. He held interviews and has filled 8 positions, starting at the beginning of May through the beginning of June.

There are 2 people retiring in the next two weeks. Dave Rossow is retiring, and his replacement started on Monday. Dan Welke is a mechanic who is retiring, and we have started the process of posting the position to hire his replacement.

The Road Commission hosted a Traffic Workzone Safety meeting last week which was put on by MCRCSIP. Mike Phillips presented a new program, and it was a great training.

There have been a ton of drainage issues for Art to investigate over the last two weeks. There was lots of rain and water issues but now that is giving way to dust control phone calls. Dust control is starting in the 2nd week of May, weather dependent. Michigan Chloride will be doing main routes and we will pick up the ends.

Ben has started the spring process of cleaning up all the snow plowing equipment. V boxes are out of the trucks and the cleaning and lubrication has started. It won't be finished until we know we are out of the woods for snowfall.

Several maintenance trucks are set up and ready to go for construction season, while there are still a few trucks that could go out and plow if it is needed.

Mowing tractors are almost ready to go when the time comes.

Stock room and inventory is done. The stock room will eventually be outfitted to work electronically with bar codes and a scanner gun. We have the equipment, but it won't be up and running until after the seasonal transition is done.

Jeff conducted survey training for the crew and foremen last week. It included some classroom time and some outside hands-on training.

There will be a pre-construction meeting next week for the 2022 RTF paving program that was obligated and bid in 2022. Construction will begin in June and includes segments of Shaffer Road, Stark Road, and Jefferson Street in the City of Coleman.

Jeff and Travis have been working on several drainage design projects.

Russ will be sending a McNitt right-of-way letter for Magruder Road between Gordonville and Bradford Roads and for a portion of Gordonville Road west of Castor Road. The DNR Conservation Officer brought to our attention that there are issues with intentional obstruction of the right-of-ways. Art looked at it and took pictures.

There will be interviews for the engineering and GIS intern positions next week, with the desire to have people hired by the next board meeting.

Russ is hopeful that he will be ready by the next meeting to seek resolutions in support for Category F and Safety Grant funds for FY2025. There may be penalties to our safety grant application due to the delays we had in obtaining the additional road right-of-way for the Waldo/Monroe Roundabout Safety Project which were unavoidable.

Donna has been busy with the beginning of our annual audit with Tom Smith. He was overall pleased with what he saw. There were a few things to finish up and Tom will return for that. He may come speak to the board when he finishes his report, which he has done in the past and is willing to do so again.

Ashley has been doing research for some potential new and useful maps for staff. She is mapping guardrail damage and helping with interviews.

Travis has been busy his first week working with collected survey data, importing it into our AutoCad Civil 3d software and setting up design templates, which has been one of our goals for many years.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:45 a.m. until Thursday, April 13, 2023.

Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chair