

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, February 1, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Midland County Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chair
Jim Hyatt, Vice Chair
Jon Myers, Managing Director
Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator
Russ Inman, Director of Engineering
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician
Travis Havercamp, Design Engineer
Art Buck, Superintendent

Absent: Bill Cozat, Member
Steve Youngs, Fleet and Facilities Manager
Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Maria and Al Sandow attended virtually.

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 17, 2024 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Absent: Cozat

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Open Accounts and Payroll:

The payroll for February 1, 2024 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Atton to authorize payroll for February 1, 2024.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Absent: Cozat

Motion Carried

Open accounts for February 1, 2024 were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Atton to approve open accounts for February 1, 2024, in the amount of \$289,411.49.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Absent: Cozat

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

The Commissioners reviewed the ballot for the CRA Board of Directors election. Jerry Heim of Kalkaska was the only nominee on the ballot.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to vote for Jerry Heim for the CRA Board of Directors.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Absent: Cozat

Motion Carried

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Resolution of Commitment and Support BIP Grant

Jon provided background on the State's bridge bundling process and our application for those funds. This application would be for the structure at Tittabawassee Road over Weeks Drain (SN6972), and the State requires a board resolution from the Road Commission as part of the grant application process.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Atton to approve the Resolution of Commitment and Support of BIP Grant.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Absent: Cozat

Motion Carried

Fahrner Asphalt Sealers Chip Seal bid extension

The board reviewed a letter from Fahrner Asphalt Sealers extending the 2023 Chip and Fog seal pricing for 2024. Jeff spoke about the quality of work Fahrner provided in 2023 and that staff is recommending approval of the bid extension for 2024.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to extend the Chip and Fog Seal bid from Fahrner Asphalt Sealers for one year.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Absent: Cozat

Motion Carried

MCRC Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan update

Jon discussed policy updates to the Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan. There was an update from the Federal Highway Administration on the complaint procedures section. For us to receive federal funding, our plan must include these updates. Jon recommended the board approve the updates to our Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan, effective February 1, 2024.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Atton to approve the updated Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan as recommended.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Absent: Cozat

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous:

Home Depot gift cards – mailbox claims

Art discussed our mailbox replacement policy, which currently states that we will repair or replace a mailbox damaged during snow removal with a standard USPS mailbox. We often have residents who are unhappy because their damaged mailbox was higher quality than the mailboxes we provide. After reviewing the Road Commission cost to replace a damaged mailbox with a standard mailbox, which is \$46.00 plus labor, Art recommended we offer residents a choice between the

Road Commission installing a standard mailbox or offering a \$50.00 Home Depot gift card for them to replace the mailbox with one of their choosing. If they select the optional gift card then they would need to sign a release indicating they will install the mailbox themselves.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the option for residents to receive a \$50.00 Home Depot gift card to replace their own mailbox if they do not want the standard mailbox the Road Commission would replace it with.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Absent: Cozat

Motion Carried

Staff Reports:

Jeff has been working on revising bidding documents.

Russ is preparing for the Open House at the Larkin Township Hall for the Letts Road Connector project.

Ashley is finishing up mapping all the 2024 construction projects and she is also getting ready for a job fair at Central Michigan University, where she hopes to recruit some of our seasonal interns.

Travis is working on plans for culverts and ditches for drainage projects. He is also preparing the documents for the bids for special pavement markings.

Art completed an Aggregate Inspection Testing Certification Course to renew his certification through January 2029. Crews have been working on trees and cleanup after the last winter storm, as well as potholes. Weight restrictions were implemented on January 31, 2024 at 7am and have also been implemented in most of the surrounding counties due to the unusually warm weather we have been having. He reported that we have received and used 500 tons of our backup salt order and he will be ordering another 500 tons soon. Art reported for Steve that the new loader scales will be installed next week on the loaders. The mechanics are reporting that everything is going well in the shop and that there have been no significant problems with any of the equipment.

Jon reported that Donna and Steve are at Reasonable Suspicion training. Next week several of the engineering crew will be going to the Engineering Workshop in Manistee. He stated that there was a precon meeting for the bridge PM project a few weeks ago, which went well. The plan is to start work at the end of April. The precon meeting for the Saginaw Rd project is scheduled for February 13, 2024. Last week Jon attended the Edenville Township board meeting as they discussed their local road plan. There was lots of discussion between Jon, the board and the public about road conditions and repair types. Jon also shared that the Everbridge software will be going live next week. It will be implemented internally first, and then it can be expanded for use with public communication in the future. He stated that there are no updates on the Bailey Bridge project, which is not what he hoped for. MDOT had a February 2nd deadline for the right-of-way documents to be completed and it appears they will miss that deadline. That will more than likely result in a June bid letting at this point.

Commissioner Hyatt and Jeanette had questions about the M-30 bridge in Edenville, which Jon gave an update on.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:36 a.m. until Thursday, February 15, 2024.

Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chair