

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Sagle on Thursday, June 2, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Road Commission office.

Present: Janice Leatherman Sagle, Chairman
Don Terwillegar, Vice-Chairman
Mike Atton, Member
Terry Palmer, Managing Director
Sam SanMiguel, Superintendent
Brenda Gordert, Clerk
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Art Buck, Engineering Technician

Absent: Russ Inman, Design Engineer

Public Present: Al Kloha, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Dan Sagle, MCTOA; Gene Smith, Midland County Planning Commission Chairman, Bird Vincent; Kelsey Allen; Emilie Atton

Additions to Agenda:

Unfinished Business

- West River Road Bridge Payment to Contractor
- Road Commission Sign

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2016 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Terwillegar, Sagle

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

Bird Vincent asked to have brush cut on the east side of Smith Crossing Road and stressed the importance of cutting brush on all primary roads. Sam stated the mowers have started and they are making the rounds on the county roads.

Bird Vincent also asked about the changes in the reflectors and the blinking stop signs at the corner of Freeland and Sasse Roads. Terry stated due to accident history at the intersection these steps were taken to bring more attention to stop signs.

Bird Vincent also commented on the Dow Corning trucks hauling from the Midland Plant to the Hemlock Plant. Bird stated years ago there were a couple accidents and an agreement was made to keep trucks on the state highways. He would like to see that agreement upheld now that Dow is taking over Dow Corning and contracting out some of the trucking.

Dan Sagle commented on the cars running the 4-way stop sign on Coleman and Kent Road. He said he contacted the Sheriff and he is sending cars to monitor intersection more often.

Gene Smith asked if there could be no passing zone signs installed along M-30 at the intersections, especially at Star Road. Sam has talked with MDOT about possible passing flares and will follow up.

Approval of Open Accounts:

The pre-pay for June 2, 2016 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts for June 2, 2016 in the amount of \$354,441.37.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Terwillegar, Sagle

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence & Items of Information:

Notice of a Drainage Board Meeting was received from the State of Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development regarding maintenance and improvement of an intercounty drain

located in Wheeler Township, Gratiot County and Porter Township, Midland County. Meeting was held June 1, 2016.

Correspondence was received from the County Road Association Self-Insurance Fund seeking candidates for three open board positions. Nominations must be mailed by Friday, June 10th.

The annual Tri-County Golf outing will be held July 8th at Twin Oaks.

Permit listing was reviewed

Unfinished Business:

Permit fees were discussed. Terry attended the managers meeting and it was decided to move forward with the uniform permit fees. Fees for signs and the placement of crosses and memorials in the right-of-ways were also discussed. We will schedule a public hearing to discuss these fees and Terry would like to hold a Rural Task force meeting at the same time.

East County Line Road paving from Shepherd Road to Kent Road was discussed. Terry has met with Tony Casali and Pat Gaffney from Isabella County. Work on drainage needs to be completed before paving date can be set. Discussion was held on gravel and drainage for East County Line Road between Brooks and Shepherd. The paving on the first mile must be completed before we participate in the graveling and drainage of the additional mile.

An agreement was received from Gladwin County Road Commission regarding the 2017 Federal Aid Exchange. Gladwin County will transfer all of its 2017 Federal Aid allocation, other than the transit portion, including the State D portion to Midland County. Midland County will pay Gladwin back at 80% of the transferred amounts. Payment is expected to be delivered by May 1, 2017.

Moved by Commissioner Terwillegar and seconded by Commissioner Atton to approve agreement with Gladwin County Road Commission.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Sagle, Terwillegar

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Discussion on temporary employees. It was previously agreed to hire two temporary summer employees. Applications were taken and interviews have been completed. Jason Potts from MDOT talked with Sam and they have requested Midland County to devote an employee to the state roads for maintenance tasks this summer. MDOT will reimburse for labor, equipment and fringe benefits. Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to devote a full time road commission employee to the state roads per MDOT request and hire a third temporary employee for local maintenance for a maximum of six months.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Terwillegar, Atton, Sagle

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Terry discussed payment to Gerace Construction for the West River Road Bridge project.

Adjustments to construction plans were made with an additional cost of \$28,680.20. The final cost still needs to be confirmed with Gerace.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to approve additional cost of \$28,680.20 to be included in the project cap of \$508,313.94.

Roll call

Yeas: Commissioners Terwillegar, Sagle, Smith

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Commissioners and staff were extremely pleased with the efficiency and quality of the entire project.

A proposed design of a new Road Commission sign was discussed. Suggestions were made and Mike will talk with Mitch Art about revised drawings.

New Business:

A letter was received from MDOT regarding reimbursement of engineering costs in the amount of \$10,000 according to Act 51, P.A. 1951.

Moved by Commissioner Terwillegar and seconded by Commissioner Atton to request engineering reimbursement in the amount of \$10,000.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Terwillegar, Sagle, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous:

Discussion was held to change the Board Meeting date of June 16th to June 15th due to scheduling conflict.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to change date of next Board meeting to June 15th at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Yeas: Commissioners Sagle, Terwillegar, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Bird Vincent commented on the potholes on US10 near the Eastman Road bridge and on the ramps at Eastman Road. The staff will investigate maintenance needed and schedule repairs.

Staff Reports:

Art stated the pre-construction meeting was held this week for Gordonville Road at Badour Road. Shaw Contracting has started preliminary work and actual construction and road closures will begin on June 13th after school is out. Crawford Contracting will be starting the Rural paving projects June 6th on Shearer Road and Pine River Road and message boards will be in place.

Ben stated he will be picking up the new used 2010 International Flat Rack today. The one we currently have is 24 years old and will be put up for sale.

Sam stated Fishers will be in on June 13th to start the graveling for the local township projects. The asphalt pavers will be back next week. They are backed up a bit due to plant issues and weather.

Terry presented handouts he will have available to discuss the bridge program, construction program and a 5-year program with the townships at the Township Officials Meeting this evening.

Terry discussed the two safety projects approved for funding for 2017. One is on Eastman Road for approximately \$660,000 of federal funds and the other is at Gordonville and 4 ¾ Mile Road for approximately \$500,000. He is applying for multiple DEQ permits and working on safety grant applications. Terry attended the East Central meeting and discussion was on equipment sharing, permit fees, and road warranties.

Mike inquired about the cutting of dead ash trees that are a safety hazard. Art stated because of the bats it is strongly suggested no cutting take place from June 1 to July 31. However, if the trees are a safety concern they can be cut anytime. Mike would like the ones cut on Eastman Road at Siebert. He would like the foreman to note the locations of other trees that are a safety concern and when time permits have them cut down.

Janice inquired about the roadside mowing and commented on the damage to the equipment when they hit objects down in the bottom of ditch. Ben stated we have three mowers out now and the fourth will be starting next week and occasionally repairs do have to be made when objects buried in tall grass are run over.

Moved by Commissioner Sagle to adjourn meeting at 11:00 a.m. until Wednesday, June 15, 2016.