

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 9:04 a.m. at the Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chairman
Don Terwillegar, Vice Chairman
Al Kloha, Commission Member
Sam SanMiguel, Superintendent
Terry Palmer, Managing Director
Russ Inman, Design Engineer
Art Buck, Design Technician
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Sara Iverson, Payroll Clerk
Devin Campbell, Civil Technician
Absent: Brenda Gordert, Finance Director

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Maria Sandow, Larkin Township Supervisor; Laura Dawson, Lee Township Clerk; William Stewart, Lee Township Treasurer

The Pledge of Allegiance was said

Additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2017 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Kloha, Terwillegar, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Open Accounts:

The pre-pay for September 21, 2017 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts for September 21, 2017 in the amount of \$671,779.29.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Terwillegar, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

The special meeting scheduled for Sept. 28, 2017 has been canceled as bids will now be due on Oct. 3rd and awarded at the regular board meeting on Oct. 5, 2017.

The Midland County Road Commission has received a grant from the Midland Area Community Foundation in the amount of \$40,000 for the purchase of a Horizon SQ2 Portable Traffic System.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to accept the grant money and approve the additional expense for the purchase of the Horizon SQ2 Portable Traffic System from Road Commission funds.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Terwillegar, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Permit listing was reviewed

Unfinished Business:

Craig Schripsema analyzed the data from the string gauges placed on the Poseyville Road over Wright Drain bridge and the allowable loads can be increased by 10% which means it will no longer be weight restricted. The Lifespan Technology will also be used on the Laporte Road and Sasse Road over the Fleming Drain bridges with hopes for the same outcome.

New Business:

Terry said that Doug had received a call over the weekend regarding damage to the Letts Road bridge over the Waldo Drain from the June flood. Terry discussed that we have three large drain crossings for the Waldo Drain that need to be replaced, however until the Drain Commission cleans out the Waldo Drain we will be guessing at what the elevations for these tubes will need to be. The projects have not yet been petitioned for.

A public meeting was held in Larkin Township on Sept. 20th, attended by Mike, Russ, Terry and Sam, to discuss drainage issues with the residents of the subdivisions in that area. Doug Enos was also in attendance and explained that to improve that drainage in the area, the residents and/or the township need to petition to have the Waldo Drain and its tributaries cleaned out. Maria Sandow, Larkin Township Supervisor stated that if there is interest from the residents to petition for the cleanout then the township would support the project. Terry and Russ requested that the Road Commission write a letter of support to Larkin Township for the cleanout of the Waldo Drain.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Atton to support Larkin Township in their effort to move forward supporting petitions to clean out the Waldo Drain and its tributaries.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Kloha, Atton, Terwillegar

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Contract Nos. 17-5428, 17-5429, and 17-5430 were received from Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for replacement of the Poseyville Road Bridge over the Jo Drain in Ingersoll Township, section 8 & 9, Shaffer Road Bridge over the Bliss Creek in Warren Township, section 13 & 24, the 9 Mile Road Bridges over NB Carroll Creek in Jerome Township, section 33 & 34, and SB Carroll Creek in Lee Township, section 3 & 4, respectively.

The projects have been advertised and the bids are due Oct. 3rd. Terry will be out of town but will call in for the bid opening and subsequent board meeting on the 5th to discuss the bid awards. The projects require MDOT's concurrence before they can be awarded so the bids will be awarded dependent on MDOT concurrence.

WHEREAS, Federal Funds have been made available for the repair of roads and streets eligible for Federal Transportation Funds which have suffered damage as a result of a natural disaster over a wide area or from a catastrophic failure; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the PROJECTS work qualifies for such funding;

WHEREAS, the projects will be performed as advance construction projects; and

WHEREAS, the reference "FHWA" in PART I and PART II refers to the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration; and

WHEREAS, the PROJECTS, or portions of the PROJECTS at the request of the REQUESTING PARTY, are being programmed with the FHWA, for implementation with the use of Federal Funds under the following Federal program(s) or funding:

EMERGENCY RELIEF

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.

Moved by Commissioner Terwillegar and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve MDOT Contract Nos. 17-5428, 17-5429, and 17-5430 and authorized Chairman Atton and Managing-Director Terry Palmer to sign contracts.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Terwillegar, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Russ discussed the issues with finding a qualified and interested applicant for the Civil Technician position. After a failed search, he encouraged Devin Campbell, Engineering Aide, to apply for the position. The decision was made that because of his experience at the Road Commission, and with the addition of some continuing education courses he would be an excellent fit. He was offered and accepted the position at \$20/hr., \$41,600 annually with benefits.

Moved by Commissioner Terwillegar and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to hire Devin Campbell for the position of Civil Technician.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Terwillegar, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous:

An email from Denise Donohue, CRA and legal counsel for CRA, Michael Levine was shared with the board regarding remote participation in meetings using a passcode protected polycom phone or video conferencing device. The official decision at this time from CRA and legal counsel is that a physical presence is required to meet quorum and participate in voting.

Staff Reports:

Terry discussed a letter of praise he wrote and sent to the ACEC (American Council of Engineering Companies) commending OHM for their assistance to the Road Commission in assessing damages from the flood using an unmanned aircraft system.

Terry emphasized the importance of awarding the bids on Oct. 5th so that the contractor can order the pre-cast concrete structures and work can begin as soon as possible but no later than Oct. 16th. He mentioned that our crews had applied paving fabrics to sections of the Rail Trail for Parks & Rec and that Central Asphalt was applying the ultra-thin applied today.

Sam discussed that the crew working on the Rail Trail, Justin Eastman and Aaron Hill, had also been working on painting bridges and their work boots had been damaged by the paint so the Road Commission had purchased them each a replacement pair of steel toed boots. Sam brought up how much help Ashley, an Engineering Aide has given him, she produces maps that are helping Sam keep locations of projects in order as well as allow him time to do township estimates.

Terry pointed out that Ashley has also produced the latest county map and that they can be revised and printed annually as needed instead of in large quantities all at once as the Road Commission has done previously.

Ben discussed that the shop crew is almost completely moved back into the shop after the floor replacement. The hoists are finished and the entire shop crew is very happy with the capabilities of the new shop. New LED lights will arrive the first of next week for installation in the shop parking lot. The new sign out front has been installed and all agreed that with the addition of some landscaping and lighting will look very nice.

Art stated that Pine River Road was being hydro seeded today and tomorrow, mailboxes are back up and that project will be complete once that is finished. The deck on the Orr Road bridge north of Laporte Road will be installed next week, hoping to be reopened to traffic in a few weeks. Terry brought up that the painting looked very good considering what they had to work with and the amount of rust on the bridge.

Russ talked about the public meeting in Larkin Township regarding drainage issues, he was pleasantly surprised how well the meeting went and felt it was very educational for the public. Commissioner Atton stated that what he thought was very helpful was when Doug Enos, Drain Commissioner, explained to the residents that county road ditches are not to drain water from private property. He felt that took a lot of pressure from the public off the Road Commission. Maria Sandow, Larkin Township Supervisor, said that it was also eye opening to many in attendance of the meeting that Woodland Estates drainage as well as some of Waskevich Sub, are not under the Road Commission's jurisdiction, they are under the jurisdiction of the County Drain Commission.

Commissioner Atton asked Terry and the other staff about the fatality that occurred at Baker and Sturgeon Road and whether there were any additional traffic control measures that could be taken to prevent another accident like that. Terry said that staff had gone out and taken pictures, that there are double stop signs, double stop ahead signs and rumble strips in place. He mentioned that she was heading west at around 7 pm, and at that time of day at this time of year the sun is directly in your eyes and he felt that had something to do with the driver not seeing the signs. All rumble strips were planned to be updated this year.

At 9:45 a.m. Lee Township board members William Stewart, Treasurer; Laura Dawson, Clerk; joined the meeting to discuss road projects for 2018. Lee Township left meeting at 10:30 a.m.

At 10:30 a.m. Porter Township board members Tom Corbat, Supervisor; Marianne Corbat, Clerk; John Girvin, Treasurer; and Donald Anger, Trustee; joined the meeting to discuss road projects for 2018. Porter Township left meeting at 11:15 a.m.

At 11:15 a.m. Greendale Township board members Jim Leviere, Supervisor; Jeremy Screws and Sandi Schumacher, Trustees; joined the meeting to discuss road projects for 2018. Greendale Township left meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 12:15 p.m. until Thursday, October 5, 2017.

Sara Iverson, Payroll Clerk

Mike Atton, Chairman