

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, November 24, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at the Midland County Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chairman
Jim Hyatt, Vice Chairman
Bruce Clark, Member
Jon Myers, Managing Director
Brenda Gordert, Finance Director/Clerk
Art Buck, Superintendent
Russ Inman, Design Engineer
Bill vonMatt, Weighmaster
Absent: Ashley Hiles, GIS Technician
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager

Public Present: Rita Goul, Hope Township Supervisor; Robert Kelley, Hope Township; Maria Sandow, Larkin Township Supervisor attended virtually.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2021, meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Clark

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

Robert Kelley inquired about the culvert replacement project on Meridian Road south of Saiko. He asked why Hope and Edenville Townships would have to pay for the work. Jon stated the project will be covered by funding from FEMA and NRCS and would have no township participation.

Approval of Open Accounts:

The pre-pay for November 24, 2021, was reviewed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts as presented for November 24, 2021, in the amount of \$818,235.79.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Clark, Hyatt

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

None

Permit listing was reviewed.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Safety luncheon was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Clark and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to hold safety luncheon on December 10th and approve purchase of \$15.00 gift cards for turkeys for all employees.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Clark

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Discussion was held on the reclassification of a route consisting of Gordonville Road between Homer Road and 4 3/4 Mile Road and 4 3/4 Mile Road between the two legs of Gordonville Road located north and south of the Pine River in Homer Township, section 34 and Mount Haley Township, section 3.

Support is for the reclassification of the route from local roads to primary roads.

Moved by Commissioner Clark and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve reclassification of Gordonville and 4 3/4 Mile Roads.

Roll call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Clark

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Jon stated we have received confirmation of a \$125,000 grant from the Midland Area Community Foundation to be used in support of the rehabilitation of the historic Bailey Bridge at Smiths Crossing Road. Grant will go toward the match portion of the TAP grant from MDOT.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve acceptance of grant.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Clark, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous:

Bill vonMatt weighmaster for Midland, Gladwin and Isabella Counties gave an annual report. He is continuing to split his time each week between the three counties as per the agreement.

Staff Reports:

Art stated he is continuing to work on the 5-year plans for the townships for their road projects. All the local construction projects for 2021 have been wrapped up and crews are working on a couple maintenance projects.

The fleet is snow ready and all snow and ice removal equipment has been installed.

Art stated one of our younger crew members has taken another job and today is his last day. It is getting more difficult to retain good employees and compete with the private sector.

Jon stated we received notice in June that funding had been allocated for the 8 Mile Road flood repair project. That project was completed and opened to traffic on Monday, it was the last closure from 2020 flood.

We will be working on the permanent repairs from the flood projects that were temporarily patched or repaired until funding from FEMA and FHWA could be approved.

They had a final walk through on the Coleman Road bridge project. There are a couple touch up items that need to be fixed before final closeout next year.

The pavement marking on Poseyville Road has been completed, we are waiting on completion of signing for ADA requirements on the trail crossing ramps. Closeout for Poseyville Road will be next year.

Jon has been working on employee annual reviews and updating job descriptions.

He stated the 2020 census has been finalized and the county population decreased while the City of Midland increased. We will see a slight decrease in MTF funds on that portion. We will see an increase in the gas tax portion of the MTF funds due to the .9 cents increase in gas tax.

We have made an offer of employment to a candidate for the finance director position. She has verbally accepted and is expected to start on January 3rd.

Brenda stated the payroll and accounts payable banking went smoothly this week with Hunting Bank.

Russ stated the fiber optic line that goes to the county building for our backup server has been repaired after being down for the last couple of months due to squirrels chewing the lines. IT Right has been in working to repair a few computer issues.

He attended a MATS meeting last week, and it went well.

We have finally received authorization from FHWA to proceed with design on the flood repair projects.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:40 a.m. until Thursday, December 9, 2021.

Brenda Gordert, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chairman