

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on September 29, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at the Midland County Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chair  
Jim Hyatt, Vice Chair  
Rod Kloha, Member  
Jon Myers, Managing Director  
Russ Inman, Design Engineer  
Donna Lowe, Finance Director  
Art Buck, Superintendent, attended virtually  
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician  
Absent: Ben Mead, Facilities Manager  
Ashley Hiles, GIS Technician

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

**The Pledge of Allegiance was said**

**Additions to Agenda:**

None

**Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2022 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Public Comment:**

Jeanette Snyder commented that she was glad to be able to attend after the last few weeks of conflicting meetings.

**Approval of Open Accounts:**

The pre-pay for September 29, 2022 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts for September 29, 2022, in the amount of \$708,352.01.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Correspondence and Items of Information:**

None

**Permit listing was reviewed**

**Unfinished Business:**

None

**New Business:**

None

**Misc:**

None

**Staff Reports:**

Jeff reported that he had attended the MiCamp GIS conference in Boyne City last week and is attending the SAM Conference in Frankenmuth next week. He also stated that the Baker Road bridge crew was going to need survey assistance and he has plans to help with that.

Russ stated he has also attended a lot of conferences recently as well, including the Northern Conference, MiCamp, MERS and TAMC.

He also has a follow up meeting with Mr. Tom Forbes about a drainage issue by his house. The existing drain is a county drain commission line from the early 1900's and is not working properly. The preliminary design is done and there will be meeting with Mr. Forbes soon to discuss the plans.

Russ also reported that the easements for Ridge Drive have been filed with the Register of Deeds.

Donna has also been to several conferences including the Northern Conference and the MERS conference. Both were very informational and very interesting.

Art stated that it is a very busy time of year between conferences and trying to finish up all projects while weather is still good. He reported that the Meridian Road over Prairie Creek bridge removal/culvert installation was completed in 5 days.

Gravel spread is beginning soon, hoping for less rain for that.

He also let the board know that our new employee started on Monday. Art will be sending him to new employee orientation in October.

Art is also attending the SAM conference in Frankenmuth next week.

Commissioner Hyatt asked about some settlement on Meridian Road, and Art stated he had noticed it. He is watching it and going to let it settle before anything is done with it.

Jon discussed how impressed with how well the Meridian Road project went. Crews put in a lot of work to get it done. He also has noticed the dip, and agreed it needs to be watched for settlement before deciding what to do. The MDOT transfer date has not been made official yet, but he was glad to have the project finished before the transfer.

He also attended the Northern Conference and the MERS Conference. He is also planning to attend the Commissioner's Conference in Frankenmuth in two weeks as well.

Jon reported on several legal issues the Road Commission is facing including a lot of right-of-way issues.

There have been several discussions with the designers for the Bailey Bridge project with regard to the preliminary design set. They are still hoping to be able to bid let in March.

Jon and Russ have also been working on review of the Engineering Tech Position that has been unfilled for several years, they will be doing adjustments to the job description and hope to advertise in the fall.

Commissioner Hyatt asked about the problems with right-of-ways. Jon discussed that there have been a variety of issues around the county which staff have been reviewing and addressing as they come up. He also stated that staff have been proactive in making sure to obtain and record easements for all projects that need them, which will alleviate some of the problems due to past practices.

Russ also discussed that all the right-of-ways are mapped now, thanks to Ashley and the interns, which makes keeping track of them much easier for all staff.

Moved by Commissioner Atton at 9:21 am to go into closed session for discussion of the union contract and Wage Adjustment.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Atton to reconvene the regular meeting at 10:20 am.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha  
Nays: None Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the Union contract as negotiated.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha  
Nays: None Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve the proposed administrative wage adjustments effective October 22, 2022.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha  
Nays: None Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the creation of the MERS Health Care Savings Plan for the divisions that are currently not enrolled.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha  
Nays: None Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve the addendum for the MERS Health Care Savings Plan adjustment to allow the rollover of employees excess PTO hours.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha  
Nays: None Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the addendum for the MERS Health Care Savings Plan employer contribution to \$1,500 annually for employees hired after 12/01/2014.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha  
Nays: None Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve the creation of the MERS Defined Contribution Hybrid Plan for employees hired after 12/01/2014.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha  
Nays: None Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the addition of an employer contribution match in the MERS 457 plan for employees hired after 12/01/2014.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha  
Nays: None Motion Carried

Jon stated that the effective date for the contract will be 10/22/22. He will now be moving forward with getting signatures and sending the contract off to the USW local chapter.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 10:24 a.m. until Thursday, October 13, 2022.