

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on November 23, 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
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Ashley Hiles, GIS Technician

Absent: None

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was said

Additions to Agenda:

Tentative dates for 2023 Budget Public Meeting were added to New Business.

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2022 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Open Accounts:

The pre-pay for November 23, 2022 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts for November 23, 2022, in the amount of \$1,065,423.06

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

The 2023 proposed Regular Board Meeting Schedule was discussed. Some of the dates may need to change after the new year based on when certain conferences are scheduled, but as of right now those dates are unknown. All board members will check their calendar and make sure there are no conflicts.

Permit listing was reviewed

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Art discussed the renewal of the pavement marking contract with Michigan Pavement Markings LLC. The contract was bid out last year, and board policy states that a contract can be renewed one time, but must be bid out every two years. Art recommended that the Board renew the contract another year, as he felt the price was still fair and he was happy with the work they had performed.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to renew Michigan Pavement Markings LLC contract for 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Donna discussed the renewal of several Township Private Road Agreements. These are three year contracts which go from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2025. Three of the contracts were from Lee Township; two from Mount Haley, two from Ingersoll Township, one from Mills Township and one from Lincoln Township.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve all Private Road Maintenance Agreements for Lee Township.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve all Private Road Maintenance Agreements for Mount Haley Township.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve all Private Road Maintenance Agreements for Ingersoll Township.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the Private Road Maintenance Agreement for Mills Township.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve the Private Road Maintenance Agreement for Lincoln Township.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Jon suggested that the December 8, 2022 Board meeting be rescheduled to December 15, 2022 at 10:00 AM for a few reasons, including coordinating the meeting with the Safety Breakfast that will be held on the 15th.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to reschedule the December 8, 2022 Regular Board Meeting to December 15, 2022 at 10:00 AM, and to authorize the prepay for December 8, 2022 to be paid.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Jon discussed the need to set a date for the 2023 Budget Public Hearing. Administrative staff are working on a proposed budget and will be ready to submit it for Board approval on December 22, 2022.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to set the date for the 2023 Budget Public Hearing for December 22, 2022 at 9:30 AM, and to publish the meeting in the Midland Daily News.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Misc:

None

Staff Reports:

Jeff reported that the 11 Mile Rd. project was complete. The barricades were being removed today and pavement markings were going to be done by Crawford Contracting.

He also stated that he has been compiling a list of projects that need to be surveyed in the coming year.

He also expects to begin material bids for next year's projects shortly.

Russ stated that a proposed drainage easement for West Pine River Rd. had been drafted. It was being surveyed and hopefully that will be ready in the next few weeks.

Donna commended Jeff for hosting two high school students, one being her son, for the beam setting at the Baker Rd. bridge over High Drain (SN 14048). It was very educational for the students and they enjoyed getting to see the crew in action.

Ben updated the board on the open mechanic's position. It was advertised internally for one week and externally for two weeks. They received 6 external applicants and had three of them scheduled for interviews next week.

He also stated that he had ordered some poly-liners to line the steel boxes to try to extend the life of the trucks by another year or two.

Winter maintenance has begun. We used a fair bit of salt for the first snow. Everything went well and they were able to fine tune some of the equipment for the rest of the season.

Ben also updated the board on the cabinet installation in the stock room and shop. They built a cabinet for the hydraulic parts out in the shop.

He also is working on finalizing the 2023 equipment budget to present to the board.

Ben also announced that his son, who is a senior at Gladwin High School, and his team will be going to the state championship game at Ford Field on Saturday.

Art reported the Baker Rd. bridge project had been briefly put on hold due to weather and staff shortages due to hunting season. It will be opened back up next week. It will be gravel and will not be paved until next year.

He has been working with the townships by driving around and reviewing the projects they would like to get on the schedule for next year. He will be working on estimates for the next few weeks. MCRCSIP held an accident training meeting with the crew yesterday. Charlie Pike was an attorney who now works for MCRCSIP and he gave the crew training on crashes. It was very informative, and included what to do and not do in the event of a crash, from a liability perspective.

Jon stated he is getting close to finishing his NRCS documents, and he is looking forward to being done with that by the end of the year.

He has been following up with the Drain Commission and MDOT about some items related to the jurisdictional transfer of Meridian Road to M-30.

Staff sat down last week for a technology day and discussed some tech upgrades for next year.

Jon also stated that he is starting performance reviews for the Admin staff tomorrow and is hoping to finish them up in the next couple of weeks.

He mentioned there was an issue with the date on the signature page of the Steelworkers union contract that had been ratified back in August, which was brought up by union attorneys in Pennsylvania. It has been worked out and all parties are going to resign the contract to fix it without interruption.

Jon had a request from the owner of the property at the corner of Meridian Road, now M-30, and Freeland Road seeking to discontinue using the property as a park and ride. This owner recently inherited the property and has asked us not to allow parking anymore. Jon will follow up with them and work to close off that property to parking in the spring.

He indicated that management is working on next year's budget and would like to have it wrapped up by the next meeting.

Commissioner Hyatt asked about the maintenance of M-30 to M-46. Art stated we will be taking care of winter maintenance and surface maintenance will be shared with MDOT out of Saginaw.

Russ let the board know that Ashley had updated the Highway Performance Measurement report as well as the right of way and snow route maps which are all online now.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:40 a.m. until Thursday, December 15, 2022.

Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chair