

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on December 15, 2022, at 10:00 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; Dan Mieske, Edenville Township; Maria Sandow, Larkin Township attended virtually

**The Pledge of Allegiance was said**

**Additions to Agenda:**

Brush spray contract extension for S. Imperial Services was added to New Business

**Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2022 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Mieske asked for an update on the roundabout at Waldo and Monroe Rd.

**Approval of Open Accounts:**

The pre-pay for December 8, 2022 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts for December 8, 2022, in the amount of \$743,601.89

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Correspondence and Items of Information:**

None.

**Unfinished Business:**

The Board Meeting Schedule for 2023 was reviewed. It had been updated to reflect a few date changes for conferences. It was noted that there were some other conference dates that have not been released yet which may require future changes to the schedule, but that it is as accurate as possible at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to adopt the 2023 Regular Board Meeting Schedule as presented.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**New Business:**

The dates for the CRA annual Highway Conference and Road Show have recently been announced. It will be March 21-23, 2023 at The Lansing Center. Hotel reservations are going to be a little difficult because of some renovations at the hotel, so we will try to book reservations as soon as everyone has checked their schedule for availability.

Jon, Russ and Ben presented their proposed 2023 Capital Outlay Budgets and answered any questions pertaining to them. They will be included in the final budget that is presented on December 22, 2022 for approval at the Budget Public Hearing.

Jon presented the Board with his proposed Administrative Wages for 2023, which included information about a change in Russ's title from Design Engineer to Director of Engineering, as well information about a change in title, job description and job duties for Ashley from GIS Technician to GIS Coordinator. Commissioner Atton also discussed the board's proposed wages for the Managing Director for 2023.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the proposed Administrative Wages for 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Art discussed the contract extension for Dornbos Signs for 2023. He stated they were good to work with and the prices were fair and his recommendation was to extend the contract for another year.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to extend the contract with Dornbos Signs for 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Jeff presented the Commissioner's with a request from S. Imperial Services to extend their brush spray contract for one additional year. Art stated that they had done a very good job this year and the prices would definitely not go down if it was re-bid. He recommended extending the contract out one year.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to extend the contract with S. Imperial Services for 2023 Brush Spray for another year.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Misc:**

None

**Staff Reports:**

Ben's only update was that a new mechanic had been hired from the applications that had been received. Chris Nelson was hired and is expected to begin working on December 27, 2022.

Art has attended several SAM meetings, one of which was hosted here. Eleven or twelve counties were represented at that meeting and it was nice to get different perspectives from other superintendents.

Jon stated that he had received notification that the Shaffer Road over Bluff Creek bridge was selected for critical bridge funding in 2025, for a full replacement of the bridge. He also has been meeting with a number of design consultants for projects to take place next year.

Russ reported to the board that he had presented at the CRA Legal Symposium on December 6, 2022. The topic he covered was Road Millages. He discussed some practical tips to engage the public and some pitfalls to avoid.

He also stated that he attended a presentation at the Legal Symposium about condemnations and how to prepare for them. It gave him good perspective on the process which he may need to go through in future land acquisitions.

Russ also discussed the Smith Crossing/Bailey Bridge over the Tittabawassee River project.

Design is being wrapped up for that project, however funding is still being reviewed.

The Pine River Road drainage outlet issue at the Forbes property, located at 1129 W. Pine River Road, has a proposed design completed and proposed drainage easement drafted. The property line has been staked by SSI. Russ has a meeting with the property owner on Monday to finalize the easement and the project will be scheduled for next year.

Jeff has been preparing the materials and services bids to advertise. The first batch should be ready next week.

He has taken advantage of the weather to get a head start on some survey projects for next year, so he will hopefully be ahead of the game in the spring.

Commissioner Atton announced that he had been appointed to the MCRCSIP board as a Director. It is a partial term which ends in July, at which time he will have to decide whether he wants to put his name on the ballot to continue.

Commissioner Atton also reminded everyone to keep former employee Terry Palmer in their thoughts. His son-in-law passed away last week and his daughter delivered their baby on Monday, just days afterwards.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 11:05 a.m. until Thursday, December 22, 2022.

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Donna Lowe, Finance Director

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Mike Atton, Chair