

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, August 29, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Midland County Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chair  
Jim Hyatt, Vice Chair  
Bill Cozat, Member  
Jon Myers, Managing Director  
Donna Lowe, Finance Director  
Steve Youngs, Fleet and Facilities Manager  
Travis Haverkamp, Design Engineer  
Russ Inman, Director of Engineering

Absent: Art Buck, Superintendent  
Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator  
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Larry Schuelke, Homer Township; Tom Corbat, Porter Township; Maria Sandow, Larkin Township attended virtually

**The Pledge of Allegiance was said.**

**Additions to Agenda:**

None

**Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2024 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Public Comment:**

Tom Corbat commented on grass mowing, line striping, and resurfacing on the bridge on 9 Mile Road.

**Approval of Open Accounts and Payroll:**

The payroll for August 29, 2024 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to authorize payroll for August 29, 2024.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Open accounts for August 29, 2024 were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve open accounts for August 29, 2024 in the amount of \$754,752.17.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Correspondence and Items of Information:**

The Board reviewed the 2024 CRASIF Board of Trustees Candidate Letters and Official Ballot, and discussion ensued.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to vote for Jesse Campbell, Darrell Cass and Lisa Kleeman for the 2024 Board of Trustees.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat  
Nays: None

Motion Carried

Donna presented the 2023 Act 51 Attest page for Chairman Atton to sign to be submitted to MDOT. The Act 51 report had been submitted, but the attest page was not signed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the 2023 Act 51 Attest page and allow Donna to submit it to the State of Michigan.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat  
Nays: None

Motion Carried

### **New Business:**

#### ***Re-issue of PO#'s 5760 & 5761 – Plow Truck/Semi Tractor***

Steve discussed the purchase orders that had been issued earlier in the year for the purchase of a plow truck and semi tractor to be delivered this year. Due to a fire in one of Daimler's facilities and new emissions laws that are affecting Allison Transmissions in the 26/27 production year that have caused a huge number of pre-orders that Allison cannot keep up with, there is a shortage of vehicles, and we will not be able to take delivery of the vehicles we ordered. Steve requested to re-issue PO's for the 2 trucks that were originally to be ordered this year, plus 4 additional plow trucks to be pre-ordered for 2025, in order to have them built prior to the new emissions deadline date. He will be ordering two plow truck and one semi tractor from D&K Truck and 3 plow trucks from Stoops.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to re-issue one PO to D&K Truck and one PO to Stoops for the pre-order of 5 plow trucks and one semi tractor on September 3, 2024.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat  
Nays: None

Motion Carried

### **Unfinished Business:**

#### ***MCTOA Road Committee Update***

Jon presented the Board with a summary of the ongoing discussions that have gone on with the MCTOA Road Committee regarding township allocations. To allocate funds more fairly to townships that have less population and/or SEV values but higher local road miles to maintain, the committee discussed changing the formula to reflect a higher weight on miles. The committee also presented a scenario where the Road Commission would contribute an additional \$400,000 in allocations to be distributed at the same time as the formula change, to offset the decreases that some townships would realize due to the change of formula. Jon requested that township officials be invited to comment on the proposed changes before calling for a vote of the Road Commission Board. A public hearing should be held on the topic after notification is set to the townships.

### **Miscellaneous:**

None

### **Staff Reports:**

Travis has been participating in the Primary Paser ratings and will be scheduling ratings for the local roads that were not rated last year. He stated that the Asset Management plan has been submitted and is in review. Travis also reported that the remaining drainage projects are all going well.

Russ gave Jeff's report and stated that the Stewart Road over Bullock Creek project is having guardrail installed next week. The bridge crew will be beginning the Brooks Road over Jo Drain

will be starting next Tuesday. The Eastman Road paving project is being paved today and then will begin shoulder gravel and guardrail. He also stated that there is an internet fiber right of way permit project underway in Mount Haley, Jasper and Porter Townships. The Rural Task Force projects are underway. Brush spray in the north half of the county started today and will be continuing.

Russ reports that all passer rating data will be completed within the first half of September. He also discussed work he has been doing regarding abandonment issues on Pioneer Trail. Russ met with the new owners and discussed ongoing issues that they were not aware of. He is working on ways to amicably solve several of these types of problems throughout the county

Steve stated that there is one truck still down. He anticipates it will be back up and running after Labor Day. He and a couple of the mechanics went to computer training in Traverse City, and they all felt it was a great presentation and they brought back a lot of good knowledge. He has been mostly working on trying to lock down the truck deal he discussed earlier in the meeting and that has kept him busy.

Jon and Donna met with our MERS representative to discuss our annual actuarial evaluation. The good news from that meeting is that we have enough funds in our surplus, it has been recommended that next year we not contribute anything additional to the surplus and instead we just budget for our regular contributions. Jon stated he was asked by CRA to be part of the RTF program advisory board, and he is excited for the first meeting in November. He met with the Steering Committee for the MATS non-motorized pilot program. He stated there was a lot of input and a lot of participation in that and it was good. Jon had a kickoff meeting with MDOT for the trial run for their disaster repair mobile application. There will be a live demo soon where he will be able to provide feedback on the software. Jon stated he and Russ been working on the Poseyville Road emergency repair project from the flood. FHWA and MDOT have finally agreed to the repair costs, and he expects it to be bid out this fall for a build next year. He discussed his participation in the presentation to the "Max Loves Midland" group at Northwood University. There was a question-and-answer section on road infrastructure and there were lots of people who participated. Jon attended a precon meeting for the Kent Road over Jo Drain project. That project will start after spring weigh restrictions are lifted. Jon also gave an update on the temporary road foreman position, which will be done at the end of this week. Justin will be going back to the crew, and applications will be accepted for the full-time road foreman position in anticipation of Kevin retiring at the end of the year.

Jeanette thanked Jon for his continuing communication with the townships. She always hears good feedback about his interactions with the townships. She also had a question about a logging project and driveway culvert that had been installed going into state land and wanting to know if the Road Commission was involved in that. Donna stated that a permit was issued to a logging company that had contracted with the State. Jeanette also had concerns about the stop sign at Shaffer and Water Roads and asked someone to go out and look at it.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 10:06 a.m. until Tuesday, September 10, 2024.

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Donna Lowe, Finance Director

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Mike Atton, Chair