

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, October 24, 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  
Art Buck, Superintendent  
Donna Lowe, Finance Director  
Steve Youngs, Fleet and Facilities Manager  
Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator  
Travis Havercamp, Design Engineer  
Absent: Russ Inman, Director of Engineering  
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Maria Sandow, Larkin Township appeared remotely

**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 October 10, 2024 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Public Comment**

None

**Approval of Open Accounts and Payroll:**

The payroll for October 24, 2024 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to authorize payroll for October 24, 2024.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Open accounts for October 24, 2024 were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve open accounts for October 24, 2024, in the amount of \$528,355.44.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Correspondence and Items of Information:**

None

## **Unfinished Business:**

### ***Proposed Township Local Road Allocation Changes***

The board reviewed the change to the local road allocations that was recommended by the Midland County Transportation Officials' Road Committee. There was no opposition to the change presented at the Public Hearing held on October 10, 2024, and overall response to the change was very positive. Jon also requested that the board increase the first millage matching funds to \$1,300,000.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the new local road allocation formula and increase the matching funds on the first millage to \$1,300,000.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

## **New Business:**

### ***Pre-approval of purchase of Motor Grader for 2025 budget***

Steve presented the board with a quote from AIS Construction Equipment for a 2024 John Deere 672GP Motor Grader. This equipment will be delivered and paid for in late winter or early spring of 2025 and will be part of the 2025 budget, however the price of the motor grader is increasing 3% in November and Steve can save \$20,099 if he is able to pre-order it by October 25. Steve requested approval to pre-order the 2024 John Deere 672GP Motor Grader at the 2024 price, to be included in the 2025 Road Equipment budget.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the purchase of a 2024 John Deere 672GP Motor Grader from AIS Construction Equipment for a maximum cost of \$382,535.25.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

## **Miscellaneous:**

### ***Retiree position backfill***

Jon discussed the two crew retirements that are planned for December and that he and Art have been working toward filling the positions from people that were interviewed earlier this year for an available position. Jon stated that one position will be backfilled before the end of the year and the other will likely not be hired until after the first of the new year.

## **Staff Reports:**

Ashley has been working on entering data in the MIRE-FDE system. It is a system to report data to the State of Michigan to correct data points from the Road Soft system.

Travis has been working on the Ashby easement. The homeowner was very easy to work with, which was nice for the first easement he has worked on. He is wrapping up design on the last primary drainage project for this year.

Donna reports that she will be attending a meeting in Cadillac for the Finance and HR group on October 29<sup>th</sup>. There will be representatives from MDOT there to discuss ways to maximize reimbursements on equipment rentals to the State. She is also attending a meeting in Port Huron on November 4<sup>th</sup> put on by Precision that will be introducing the new inventory system that will be released in early 2025. She also stated that she has been working on the billing for township local

construction projects. It is going very smoothly, and she feels that the Precision software has made the whole process a lot easier.

Steve stated that he had attended the Winter Operations Conference at Shanty Creek last week and it was very good. He also stated that the two auctions for surplus equipment on GovDeals were finished and he was happy with the final sales prices of those vehicles. Inserts are being prepared to be installed for winter. Steve also said that the generator pad has been poured and the generator is scheduled to be delivered in January some time.

Art started with an update for Jeff who was not present because he is at the Brooks Road bridge site to supervise the beams being set. He reported that the Coleman pavement is being laid today and concrete for the Rail Trail will be completed next week. All the large culvert projects for this year are complete.

For his update, Art stated that he has begun ride-alongs with the townships to plan 2025 local construction projects. He will be meeting today with the contractor who will be completing the Rail Trail approaches in the Village of Sanford. Art stated that there are only three paving projects to be completed this year, and they are scheduled to be completed soon. He also reported that the 2 newest employees went to an orientation in Roscommon that was put on by MCRCSIP. Ken Young and Justin Eastman are in Cadillac at an IMSA sign certification training.

Jon reported that the Poseyville project is advertised for November bid letting. This is the last flood repair project to be completed. He attended a meeting at the MDOT Bay Region last week and received an update on the RTF process. The local county RTF meeting was held last week, and the approved 2025-2029 RTF project plan was presented to the Board. He stated that the regional RTF meeting will be November 4<sup>th</sup> at the Isabella County Road Commission. He also reported that he was asked to speak about millages at the CRA Communications Workshop next week.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:28 a.m. until Thursday, November 7, 2024.

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Donna Lowe, Finance Director

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Mike Atton, Chair