

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Board Clerk Donna Lowe on Thursday, January 8, 2026, 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  
Russ Inman, Director of Engineering  
Steve Youngs, Fleet and Facilities Manager  
Donna Lowe, Finance Director  
Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator  
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician  
Travis Havercamp, Design Engineer  
Absent: Art Buck, Superintendent

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

**The Pledge of Allegiance was said.**

The Clerk called for the Election of Board Officers for 2026.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to nominate Commissioner Atton for Chairman of the Board of County Road Commissioners, County of Midland, for the ensuing year.

Roll call.

Yea: Commissioners, Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Motion Carried

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Atton to nominate Commissioner Hyatt for Vice-Chairman of the Board of County Road Commissioners, County of Midland, for the ensuing year.

Roll call.

Yea: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

At this time, 9:04 a.m., the Clerk turned the meeting over to Chairman Atton.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt that the Midland Daily News be the official register for its publications.

Roll call.

Yea: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Additions to Agenda:**

None

**Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2025 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yea: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Public Comment:**

Jeanette Snyder commented on the change of leadership at the County Board of Commissioners.

**Approval of Open Accounts and Payroll:**

The payroll for January 1, 2026 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to authorize payroll for January 1, 2026.

Roll Call.

Yea: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nay: None

Motion Carried

Open accounts for December 31, 2025 were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve open accounts for December 31, 2025, in the amount of \$551,091.09.

Roll Call.

Yea: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nay: None

Motion Carried

Open accounts for January 8, 2026 were discussed

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve open accounts for January 8, 2026, in the amount of \$74,228.18.

Roll Call.

Yea: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nay: None

Motion Carried

**Correspondence and Items of Information:*****East Central District Meeting***

Donna reviewed the invitation for the East Central District Meeting being held on January 15, 2026 and got RSVP information from the board.

***CRA Highway Conference and Road Show***

Registration for the CRA Highway Conference and Road Show opened January 7. It will be held in Lansing March 25 – 27, 2025, and hotel rooms will need to be booked early. All three Commissioners stated they would only be attending the conference on Wednesday and did not need rooms.

**Unfinished Business:**

None

**New Business:*****Hanes Geo Material Bid Renewal***

The board reviewed a request to renew the 2025 material bid award from Hanes Geo for Geotextiles and Erosion Control materials for 2026.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to accept the bid renewal from Hanes Geo for 2026.

Roll Call.

Yea: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nay: None

Motion Carried

***Safety Policy and Safety Glasses Policy***

Jon reviewed the existing Safety Glasses and Safety Boot policy and the proposed new policy to include Safety Materials as an annual stipend to replace reimbursement.

The board will review the existing policies and proposed policy and vote on it at a later board meeting.

***Early Union Contract Negotiations***

Jon discussed the opportunity to open negotiations for the next Union Contract one year early to address some items that have come up since the inception of the current contract. The potential new contract would start at the end of 2026 and supersede the final year of the current contract. The Union Committee is receptive to this idea.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat to and seconded by Commissioner Atton to commence union negotiations one year early.

Roll Call.

Yea: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nay: None

Motion Carried

***Purchase of 2 – 1 Ton 3500 Chevy Silverado***

Steve discussed the quote from Garber Chevrolet for two 1 ton 3500 Chevy Silverado Dump Trucks. It is in line with the MiDeal price available through the State of Michigan. Lead time for these vehicles is approximately 13 weeks.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the purchase of 2 new 1-ton trucks from Garber Chevrolet.

Roll Call.

Yea: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nay: None

Motion Carried

***Purchase of used 2024 Finn T120T Hydroseeder***

Steve reviewed the price estimate from Alta Equipment for a used 2024 Finn T120T to replace the hydroseeder that was totaled in an accident last year.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to purchase a used Finn Hydroseeder from Alta Equipment as quoted.

Roll Call.

Yea: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nay: None

Motion Carried

***Purchase of John Deere Mower Tractor***

Steve presented the Board with a quote from Hutson for a new John Deere mower tractor and mower attachment. The lead time for delivery is approximately four months.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to purchase a new John Deere mower tractor from Hutson as quoted.

Roll Call.

Yea: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nay: None

Motion Carried

***Miscellaneous:***

None

***Staff Reports:***

Steve discussed an accident involving one of our plow trucks in late December. We were very fortunate that nobody was injured and damage to the truck was relatively minimal. He reported that all other equipment is up and running.

Travis has been working in Road Soft charting Paser rating information for road condition projections. He's also been learning about our road certifications.

Ashley has been updating ratings on bridge maps. She is preparing Impress Award entries for the CRA Highway Conference.

Jon stated that he is working on updates to the Safety Manual. He has a meeting with Rowe this afternoon regarding 2026 projects. Next week he and Travis are attending the EGLE Transportation and Environment meeting in Mount Pleasant. He also has an appointment with Spicer next week regarding the EGLE MS4 permitting. Jon stated that he is working with Midland County Parks and Rec regarding a joint brush cutting project along the Pere Marquette Rail-Trail. He gave an update on the Bailey Bridge project.

Donna has been finishing up year-end procedures and preparing for the 2025 audit.

Russ has been working on running wiring from the server room to the rest of the building, as part of the network hardware upgrade project, prior to the start of the remodeling in the finance office.

Jeff is working on material bids and hopes to have them advertised next week. He is waiting on townships to finalize their local projects to know how much asphalt and other materials will be needed for the remainder of the material bids.

The board all commented on the job our crew does with the winter maintenance and thanked everyone.

Jeanette stated that the County Board is preparing for Commissioner Atton's retirement and the need to appoint a new Commissioner.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 10:19 am until Wednesday, January 29, 2026.

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Donna Lowe, Finance Director

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Mike Atton, Chair