

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Board Clerk Donna Lowe on Thursday, January 29, 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
Art Buck, Superintendent
Steve Youngs, Fleet and Facilities Manager
Donna Lowe, Finance Director
Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician
Travis Haverkamp, Design Engineer
Bill vonMatt, Weighmaster
Absent: Russ Inman, Director of Engineering

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Additions to Agenda:

The Weighmaster Annual Update was added to New Business.

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2026 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of Open Accounts and Payroll:

The payroll for January 15, 2026 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to authorize payroll for January 15, 2026.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

The payroll for January 29, 2026 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to authorize payroll for January 29, 2026.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Open accounts for January 29, 2026 were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve open accounts for January 29, 2026, in the amount of \$605,717.40.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Correspondence and Items of Information:
None**

Unfinished Business:

Revised Safety Policy 200.20

Jon reviewed the revised safety policy, reflecting the addition of the requirement that employees sign an acknowledgment agreement confirming their understanding of and commitment to wearing all required personal protective equipment whenever necessary, as requested by the Board at the previous meeting. He requested the Board approve the revised policy as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to revise Safety Policy 200.20 as presented.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Rescind Safety Glasses Policy 200.09

Jon requested the board rescind Safety Glasses Policy 200.09, which is now covered under Revised Safety Policy 200.20.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Atton to rescind Safety Glasses Policy 200.09.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

New Business:

Weighmaster Update

Officer Bill vonMatt gave the board an update on his patrol activities for 2025. He reviewed his hours worked in the three counties, stating that he had worked 80 hours more in Midland County this year than in 2024, which he attributed to frost law patrols. He discussed the PR presentations he did in 2025 including a new presentation he did at Northeast Middle School that he really enjoyed. Officer vonMatt was glad to report that his Excel spreadsheet project from 2024 was complete and he has made use of it already as a database for frequent offenders.

Walk-N-Roll Retriever Purchase

Steve presented the Board with a quote from AIS Construction Equipment for the purchase of a front mount retriever attachment for the Motor Grader. The crew had used the equipment on load for several months and it was a very useful attachment. The MiDEAL price for the machine is \$23,250.00.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the purchase of a Walk-N-Roll Retriever from AIS Construction Equipment for \$23,250.00.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Bandit Chipper Repair Quote

Steve presented the Board with a quote to repair our 2003 Bandit Brush Chipper. It is in need of repair to extend its life but is in great shape overall. A new machine would cost approximately \$93,000, while this repair can extend the life of the current machine for two-thirds the cost of a new machine.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the repair of the 2003 Bandit Brush Chipper in the amount of \$60,408.53.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

First State Bank Banking Services Proposal

Donna presented the Board with a banking services proposal from First State Bank. Huntington Bank has historically been the Bank of Record for the Road Commission, but in recent years they have struggled to meet the banking needs. They have been unable to keep our account in an account structure that bears interest and/or does not incur service charges. They also have been unable to provide us with a Visa credit card. Donna has met with Meleah from First State Bank twice and been very impressed with the services they are able to offer that will be of benefit to the Road Commission and make banking easier and more convenient for her. She requested that the Board approve the depository of the Midland County Road Commission be changed from Huntington Bank to First State Bank for 2026.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Cozat that the depository of the Midland County Road Commission will be First State Bank for the ensuing year;

And

For investment purposes, the Road Commission may use First State Bank or any other entity, as determined by the Clerk of the Road Commission and the County Treasurer, for the ensuing year;

And

All investments shall comply with Public Act 20, as amended.

Roll call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous:

Primary Road Condition Progression

Travis presented the board with a report of data collected on primary road condition changes, as evidenced by Paser ratings collected from 2021 – 2025.

Staff Reports:

Travis stated that he has been working on the Paser rating information for the road condition report he presented. He's also been working on the Asset Management plan for this year.

Jeff finalized the first round of material bids and placed the advertisement. He attended the First Aid and CPR training last week, and he has a meeting with Pyramid Paving regarding Salzburg Road coming up.

Steve reported on a few equipment issues but stated that considering all the use the equipment has gotten because of the continued winter conditions, it is holding up very well. He announced that we have been awarded the MiOSHA safety grant again this year to purchase new AED Machines for both out-garages and the sign shop. This grant will cover 50% of the cost of the new units. Steve also reported that the office remodeling project started and is expected to take approximately one month.

Art discussed state-wide salt shortages due to the extreme winter storms that have gone on throughout the state. He stated that we have enough salt right now, but we have been mixing salt/sand to reduce our salt usage. He stated that half of the crew participated in a CPR/First Aid training yesterday and the other half is scheduled for next Wednesday, weather permitting. Art has received signed agreements for 2026 local construction projects from all but one township. He discussed a meeting he attended last week in Clare County with the timber industry regarding frost restrictions. He anticipates there will be more information to come on that subject.

Jon stated that he has been finalizing designs for 2026 projects. He attended several meetings since the last board meeting, including the Transportation and the Environment Conference in Mt. Pleasant, a Porter Township board meeting and an MDOT webinar regarding the new bridge inspection contract for local agency bridge inspections. Coming up he has the County Engineers Workshop in Muskegon next week, an MDOT open house here at the Road Commission office on February 10th, and the annual meeting with the DNR on February 11th.

Ashley has been busy with several tech issues that have come up in Russ's absence. She will be starting to work on 2026 local construction project maps now that almost all of the signed township agreements have come in.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 10:05 am until Thursday, February 12, 2026.

Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chair