

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, November 1, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chairman
Don Terwillegar, Vice Chairman
Al Kloha, Commission Member
Terry Palmer, Managing Director
Brenda Gordert, Finance Director
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Russ Inman, Design Engineer
Devin Campbell, Civil Technician
Ashley Rockefeller, GIS Technician
Absent: Sam SanMiguel, Superintendent
Art Buck, Design Technician

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Laura Dawson, Lee Township Clerk; Maria Sandow, Larkin Township Supervisor, Janice Sagle, Jasper Township.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said

Additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Terwillegar and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2018 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Terwillegar, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Open Accounts:

The pre-pay for November 1, 2018 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts for November 1, 2018 in the amount of \$873,930.61.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Kloha, Terwillegar, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

A thank you letter was received from the Bullock Creek School District for the installation of guardrail on Badour Road between Gordonville Road and Stewart Road.

Correspondence was received from Tom Corbat, Porter Township Supervisor, inviting staff to Quad Meeting on November 8th.

Permit listing was reviewed

Unfinished Business:

Discussion was held on the Midland Area Community Foundation grant application for an asphalt recycler with two hot boxes. Staff met with a representative from the foundation this week to discuss further details.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to approve the \$100,000 grant application to the Midland Area Community Foundation for an asphalt recycler and two hot boxes.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Kloha, Atton, Terwillegar

Nays: None

Motion Carried

New Business:

The annual safety luncheon will be held December 14, 2018.

Moved by Commissioner Terwillegar and seconded by Commissioner Atton to purchase \$15 gift cards for turkeys for all employees.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Kloha, Terwillegar, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Discussion at the last East Central Council Meeting to adopt a resolution regarding Wetland Mitigation sites. As projects arise the council will decide how credits will be shared with other counties. The first request came from Livingston County to borrow .44 acres. They are creating their own wetlands of 117 acres and will pay it back when completed. Midland County will be able to tag Livingston Counties wetland bank for future local projects.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to support Livingston County on their wetland mitigation project.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Terwillegar, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Discussion was held on SB 396 Transporting Forest Products. The bill allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when damage can become extreme very quickly. It will also allow the hauling of forest products and transporting of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits at any time of the year.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Terwillegar to offer the following resolution and forward a request for support to the County Board of Commissioners and the Townships:

**MIDLAND COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
RESOLUTION ON SENATE BILL 396**

WHEREAS, Roads are the backbone to the social, cultural and economic stability of Midland County and our region; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018, allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (also known as "frost laws") to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and

WHEREAS, It is a fact in Midland County and throughout all Northern states that roads become soft in the spring as frost melts, and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading and traffic on soft roads, whether paved or unpaved, is poor public policy that defies common sense when it comes to

road preservation, and will lead to significant damage to the road system, economic damage in Midland County and increased risk to drivers in our region; and

WHEREAS, SB-396 also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of SB 396 *will result in costly damage to the public road system which is the opposite of what the Michigan Legislature and the people of Michigan called for in the 2015 Michigan Transportation Package*; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of SB 396 *will negatively impact the traveling public* accessing the road system, burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs, as well as increased county and township contributions to maintain the public road system; and

WHEREAS, the provisions in SB 396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system will negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of Midland County residents and the traveling public; and

WHEREAS, the Midland County Road Commission and the other county road agencies work closely with the logging industry to accommodate this valuable contributor to the Michigan economy, while also continuously monitoring road conditions and permitting the logging industry to move equipment and material on roads when the roads can structurally support such loading without negatively impacting the road system and the traveling public;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Midland County Road Commission hereby **strongly opposes** SB 396 (S-5); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a vote hereon be taken by aye and nay and spread at large on the minutes of the Board.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Terwillegar, Atton, Kloha

Nays: None

Resolution Adopted

Miscellaneous:

None

Staff Reports:

Terry stated the 7 Mile Road Bridge in Porter Township is almost complete. Paving will be done in 2019.

Eastman Road at Shaffer in Mills Township is completed. The crews will do some cutting on the tree limbs.

Poseyville Road

Road projects for 2019:

Pine River and Shearer reconstruct – the crews are working on the private tile crossing on Pine River Road.

Saginaw Road with the Village of Sanford reconstruct

Saginaw Road and Waldo Road reconstruct
11 Mile Road south of Pine River reconstruct
Poseyville south of Gordonville safety project reconstruct
Eastman Road south of Schneider Ct reconstruct

Bridge projects for 2019:

Castor Road over Salt River replacement
Sturgeon Road over Newell Drain replacement
Saginaw Road over Salt River – CPM project
Magruder Road over Pine River – CPM project

County wide patching from Flood:

Coleman Road at School – erosion
Letts Road at Waldo – structure repair
Homer Road at Chippewa River Road - erosion
Monroe Road at Newell Drain bridge replacement
Redstone Road at Bush Creek – bridge replacement
Meridian Road at Bullock Creek – erosion

Local Funded Projects:

Orr Road bridge at Weeks Drain
11 Mile Road bridge at NB Carroll Creek
Kent Road bridge at Bullock Creek

Russ stated he is working on a press release to go out today thanking the governor and state representatives for the additional road monies.

The weighmaster started full time today. He will be set up with a tablet for field work and record time.

Staff is working on a new logo for his uniform to be used for all three counties.

Russ is working with Jerome Township and Three Rivers on the Sanford Senior Center site.

Devin stated he is continuing to work on automating the daily worksheets logs for scheduling the crews.

Ben stated he has started winter prep for the snow plow trucks.

The brine containment pit platform and catwalk are completed.

Ben and mechanic helper Neil Sharpe attended a couple training sessions on engines at Detroit Diesel and were able to tour the factory.

The LED updates are complete at the Jasper garage.

Ashley stated she has been updating the GPS maps for the snow plow routes.

November 15, 2018 meeting was canceled.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 10:00 a.m. until Thursday, November 29, 2018.

Brenda Gordert, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chairman