

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chairman  
Al Kloha, Vice Chairman  
Jim Hyatt, Commission Member  
Art Buck, Superintendent  
Russ Inman, Design Engineer  
Brenda Gordert, Finance Director  
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager  
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician  
Ashley Rockefeller, GIS Technician  
Absent: Jon Myers, Managing Director

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

### **The Pledge of Allegiance was said**

#### **Additions to Agenda:**

New Business: Lee Township Private Road Maintenance Agreements

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2020 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

#### **Public Comment:**

Ron Kutchev discussed the road work along Eastman Road over the past couple years and continuing for the next couple years. He is concerned about the loss of business he and other small businesses are experiencing when the road is closed due to construction for multiple years. He discussed doing the projects in one or two years instead of spreading them out over 4 or 5 years. Russ and Art replied the majority of the funding is from federal and state funds and comes with time restraints. The Road Commission does not have the funding to complete the projects all at once but is looking into combining the next two miles to shorten the construction time.

#### **Approval of Open Accounts:**

The pre-pay for January 23, 2020 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts for January 23, 2020 in the amount of \$407,362.57.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Kloha, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

#### **Correspondence and Items of Information:**

The Michigan Road Preservation Association (MRPA) annual Pavement Preservation Best Practices workshop will be held on February 26<sup>th</sup> in Mt. Pleasant. Townships have been invited to send two individuals and the Road Commission will cover the registration fee of \$30.00.

#### **Permit listing was reviewed**

#### **Unfinished Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Private road maintenance agreements were received from Homer Township for January 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2022 for:

- Gay Lane – snow removal
- Country Creek Drive - snow removal

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve Homer Township private road maintenance agreements.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Kloha, Hyatt

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Private road maintenance agreements were received from Lee Township for January 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2022 for:

- Sian Drive – snow removal, grade and brine
- Oakridge Drive – snow removal
- Kellogg – snow removal, grade and brine

Moved by Commissioner Kloha and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve Lee Township private road maintenance agreements.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Kloha, Hyatt

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Discussion was held on authorized contacts for the Road Commission credit cards.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to remove Terry Palmer from the account and approve Jonathan Myers and Brenda Gordert as authorized contacts.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Kloha

Nays: None

Motion Carried

A ballot was received from the County Road Association for their Board of Directors. No action was taken.

Discussion was held on wages for student help and engineering help. A survey was taken of surrounding counties and it was recommended by Manager Jon Myers to increase student help to \$12.50 for first year and \$13.50 for second year. Engineering help to increase to \$15.00 first year and \$16.00 for second year.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Kloha to approve Manager recommendation.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Kloha Hyatt

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Miscellaneous:**

None

**Staff Reports:**

Jeff stated he attended a concrete recertification class last week.

He is working on utility ROW permits.

He is setting up field manager to work on the local agency projects.

The contractor should start laying block on Redstone Road bridge over Bush Creek today.

Monroe Road bridge concrete deck will be poured when the weather permits.

Russ stated he met with Eric Cozat of the City of Coleman to discuss the rural paving project in Coleman this year. The City of Coleman has equipment for videoing sewers and we may exchange services in the future.

He stated he is dealing with Lansing on the Eastman Road project to get 2 miles completed this year.

He stated we had to put weight restrictions on four of our local bridges this week:

Shaffer Road over Buff Creek

Stewart Rd over Little Salt

Orr Road over Jo drain

Prairie Road over Pine River

Ben stated the new pickups are being built this week.

He is continuing to work with Morbark and Bandit on chipper demonstrations.

He is working on purchasing a new 1 ton dump truck.

He discussed the truck roll over accident on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. Not much physical damage to truck #628 but water damage to electrical components.

The mechanics are finalizing the customizing on the sign boom truck.

Ben stated Jeff came in and worked with him on the snow weekend and rode in a snow plow truck to get familiar with the overtime process.

Art stated he met with Michigan Chloride last week about staff changes and upcoming work.

Art, Jon and Jim Lillo from Bay County will be on radio talk show with Art Lewis on Friday morning.

The SAM executive board meeting will be held in Midland County next week.

The County Engineer's workshop will be the first week of February.

Salt usage has been down this year but we are required to take at least 1200 tons of our backup salt and we have received 500 tons so far.

Art stated he is starting to work on the bids for 2020 and is targeting mid February for advertising.

He went over to the MDOT garage with the foreman to observe their pre-wet system and is going to give it a try by pre-wetting a large pile of salt.

He is waiting on a couple more townships to get 2020 projects estimates back from.

He stated we have received a couple dozen applications so far for the open positions.

He stated Jason Potts from MDOT would like us to supply asphalt for a patch project in St. Louis.

Ashley stated she applied for three CRA Impress awards last week.

She is working on the construction map for this summer.

Commissioner Kloha commented on the news about human trafficking. He would like to contact someone at the state police regarding training for things our drivers could be on the look out for.

Commissioner Atton commented on the hard packed ice on Monroe Road from Sturgeon to City Forest.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 10:05 a.m. until Friday, February 7, 2020.

A MERS health insurance representation gave a presentation on retiree healthcare after meeting.

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Brenda Gordert, Finance Director

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Mike Atton, Chairman