

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. via conference call due to COVID-19 restrictions.

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

Absent: None

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

**The Pledge of Allegiance was said**

**A moment of silence was observed to honor Commissioner Al Kloha who passed away suddenly last week.**

**Additions to Agenda:**

None

**Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Atton to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2020 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Public Comment:**

None

**Approval of Open Accounts:**

The pre-pay for October 1, 2020 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Atton to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts for October 1, 2020 in the amount of \$1,171,486.74.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Correspondence and Items of Information:**

East Central Council will hold a virtual meeting on Thursday, October 15, 2020.

**Permit listing was reviewed**

**Unfinished Business:**

None

**New Business:**

The actuarial was presented for the MERS Benefit E program, a 2% increase to all retirees.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to adopt the following resolution for the Municipal Employees Retirement System for all retirees:

WHEREAS, as authorized by Section 20 of the Municipal Employees Retirement System Plan document, the Midland County Road Commission adopts Benefit "E" for all retirees and beneficiaries.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, approval of a flat two percent (2%) increase of the amount of each retirement allowance since the last date Benefit E was adopted.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt

Nays: None

Motion Carried

MCRCSIP sent a draft of the changes they are proposing to make to the bylaws regarding membership changes for review. The changes would allow Counties that have taken over their Road Commissions to become associate members of the insurance pool. Associate members would be allowed coverage but would not have voting privileges and may not serve on the Board.

Discussion was held on the proposed temporary repair of Curtis Road and the need for a grading permit or right-of-way purchase. A tentative verbal agreement has been reached with the property owner for mutual benefit.

Moved by Commissioner Atton and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to authorize Jon Myers to negotiate on behalf of the Road Commission to obtain right-of-way by mutual benefit.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

#### **Miscellaneous:**

Governor Whitmer has extended the State of Emergency until October 27, 2020 by Executive Order 2020-186. It was decided to continue board meetings virtually.

Cash flow statement was presented to the Board.

Job posting for laborer position has been advertised in the newspaper, on Michigan Works website and on the Road Commission website. Applications are due October 7.

#### **Staff Reports:**

Art stated summer hours have ended and we have switched back to 8 hour days Monday – Friday. He stated the drainage projects are going good and moving forward.

We received 300 tons of county salt for our early order and we will be getting another 300 tons of state salt, that will fill the salt shed for winter.

The mowing for MDOT has been completed. We were able to do the wide mowing this year.

Mackinaw Administrators is conducting safety training today on forklift and bucket truck.

Jeff stated the construction on Eastman Road has switched to the west side. The majority of the pipe work was on the east side so construction should move along a little faster. Original completion date is October 16<sup>th</sup>.

He is working on survey work for our local drainage projects.

He has submitted permits to EGLE for Curtis Road Bridge and DTE windfarms.

The contractor for DTE has started on the culvert crossings for the windfarms.

Russ stated the City of Midland wastewater department is doing repair work on their tower at the corner of Monroe and Jefferson.

The right-of-way for Freeland/Sasse roundabout has been submitted. Waiting on resolution from Ingersoll Township for approval of farmland agreement.

He is working on the right-of-way required for the Monroe/Waldo roundabout.

A draft of the plans for the emergency temporary repair of Curtis Road were reviewed by Jon, Russ and Jeff. A pre-bid meeting will be held Friday, October 2 and bids are due on Monday. Tentative completion date is November 7.

The repair work has begun on Saginaw Road in Sanford with completion date of October 24.

All the DDIR's for the federal aid projects have been approved with the exception of three:

Poseyville Road, Lake Sanford Road and Grey Road. Further information is needed for these locations.

Jon stated the meeting for the flood projects continue.

He is meeting with FEMA and has 5 field reviews left to do, hoping to finish within the next 2 weeks.

He has been doing reviews with USDA, all paperwork is completed and waiting on final go ahead.

He and Art attended a meeting with Senator Stamas last Friday. It was a very good meeting and they updated Senator Stamas on the status of the flood projects.

Ben stated he is working on his equipment budget for 2021.

Truck #630 has lost the engine and he cannot find company to rebuild it. Used engines run about \$20,000 and a new engine would cost approximately \$40,000. He will make a few more contacts and have a discussion on how to proceed with repairs.

He received communications from Truck & Trailer regarding the swap loader build. Due to COVID-19 shut down and the inability to get parts the swap loader will not be completed until March 2021.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:40 a.m. until Wednesday, October 14, 2020.

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Brenda Gordert, Finance Director

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Mike Atton, Chairman