

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Midland County Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chairman
Jim Hyatt, Vice Chairman
Bruce Clark, Commission Member
Jon Myers, Managing Director
Art Buck, Superintendent
Russ Inman, Design Engineer
Brenda Gordert, Finance Director/Clerk
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Drew Rogers, Engineering Intern
Jamie Buchner, Engineering Intern
Absent: Jeff Brown, Construction Technician
Ashley Rockefeller, GIS Technician

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Ron Kutchey, Mills Township Supervisor, Bill Simpson, Clare County Road Commissioner, Dewayne Rogers, Manager Clare County. Maria Sandow, Larkin Township Supervisor, attended virtually.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2021 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Clark, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

Ron Kutchey inquired about the construction timeline for Eastman Road. Staff responded repairs will be made on Eastman near city limits and no new construction will take place until 2023.

Jeanette Snyder stated it is nice to get to meet in person again and see everyone.

Approval of Open Accounts:

The pre-pay for May 13, 2021 was reviewed.

Moved by Commissioner Clark and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve payment for the payroll and open accounts as presented for May 13, 2021 in the amount of \$620,874.91.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Clark

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

None

Permit listing was reviewed.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

The permit fees were discussed. In 2016 when the permit fees were adopted it was decided fees would be waived for specific permits for residents of Midland County paying the road millage taxes. Discussion was held on clarification on which fees would be waived:

- Residential driveway approach, Urban and Rural
- Upgrade Residential driveway approach
- Shared residential driveways
- Farm field driveways
- Grading & drainage

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Clark to waive fess on the above-mentioned permits for residents of Midland County paying road millage taxes.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Clark, Hyatt

Nays: None

Motion Carried.

Bids were advertised for front gate replacement and upgrade. Only 1 bid was received, and discussion ensued:

Midland Fence - \$23,850.00

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve Midland Fence bid for front gate removal and upgrade.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Clark

Nays: None

Resolution Adopted.

A letter was received from MDOT regarding reimbursement of engineering costs in the amount of \$10,000 in accordance with Act 51, P.A. 1951.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Clark to request engineering reimbursement in the amount of \$10,000.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Clark, Hyatt

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Discussion was held on the hiring of two hourly employees. Currently there is one opening in the crew and one opening in engineering. A few hourly employees are eligible to retire within the next 6 months. We will hold off filling the engineering position to hire two truck drivers and have adequate time for training before winter.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Clark to hire two hourly employees.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Clark, Hyatt Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous:

None

Staff Reports:

Ben stated he updated the 2-way FCC radio license and renewed for another 10 years. He talked with Truck & Trailer about the swap loader. They currently have 3 of the 4 service bodies completed and will move on to the wing build soon. He is expecting delivery in early June. He talked with Bader and Sons on the new brush cutter delivery date and was not able to confirm. He will get back with them.

Art stated we received 20 applications for the open laborer position and interviewed 4 candidates.

The paving started last week in Ingersoll Township on Brooks Road.
The first round of brine by Michigan Chloride will finish up May 14th.
The chip seal program will start next week with a completion date of June 4th.
The gravel spread for the reconstruction projects will start next week.
The drainage projects are moving along well.
The crews will move to the Orr Road bridge project next week.
All but one of the summer help students have started and he will be start on May 24th.
The dura patcher is going to be running this year on various roads.
We are using the asphalt recycler to make the patch for the cross-tube repairs and having the new roller is a huge benefit.

Jon stated all the FEMA projects from the flood have been signed and the funds have been approved, there will be a final meeting next week.
The EGLE permits and designs for the NRCS projects are being finalized.
There are no new updates from FHWA on the flood projects. We may not be able to make permanent repairs this year until approval is received.
Jon attended the CRA Managers conference last week and said it was really fantastic, had a lot of good ideas, conversations and information.
The Coleman Road bridge is moving along. The contractor is currently removing the north abutment and building up the south abutment.
Poseyville Road project for Gordonville north to city limits is being advertised for a June bid letting.
Our engineering intern Drew Rogers will be leaving on May 20th and our new engineering intern Jamie Buchner started on Monday, May 10th.

Russ and Jon met with the Midland Area Community Foundation and Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail committee on the rehabilitation of the Smiths Crossing Bridge. Fundraising elements will start soon through the Foundation to provide matching funds.
He is encouraging people to download our new Midland Roads App for service requests, road closure information and important notices.
He stated due to some funding changes we will receive an extra \$50,000 to use toward the match money on the 2023 Eastman Road construction project.
The staff attended a meeting with Joe Sova, County Drain Commissioner, this week to discuss projects.
Russ is working on billings to MDOT for the safety projects.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:45 a.m. until Wednesday, May 26, 2021.

Brenda Gordert, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chairman