

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on January 18, 2023, 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
Russ Inman, Director of Engineering
Art Buck, Superintendent
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator

Absent: Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Public Present: Larry Schuelke, Homer Township; Kaleigh Kyser, Michigan Chloride; Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners

The Pledge of Allegiance was said

Additions to Agenda:

None
Hiring Policy Draft was removed from the agenda.

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2023 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Atton, Hyatt, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Open Accounts and Payroll:

The payroll for January 19, 2023 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to authorize payroll for January 19, 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

The open accounts for January 19, 2023 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve payment of open accounts for January 19, 2023 in the amount of \$369,791.31.

Correspondence and Items of Information:

The Midland County Township Official's Association meeting scheduled for March 2, 2023 was discussed. RSVP for meal count is required by February 20, 2023. Commissioners will check their calendar and decide if they will be able to go by the next board meeting.

Ashley and Russ discussed the three Impress Award submissions that will be submitted to the County Road Association to acknowledge ideas our road commission has implemented in the last year that are noteworthy. Collaboration, Communication and Operations are the subjects of our three submissions this year. The Midland County Road Commission has been successful in the past with our submissions and these are very strong submissions, so Russ and Jon are hopeful for more success this year.

Permit listing was reviewed

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Jon discussed our recruitment for summer help for 2023. Ashley will be heading to job fairs soon and Jon requested an increase in the wages for summer help. He requested seasonal employee wage rates be increased to \$14.50 per hour for first year workers and \$15.50 per hour for return employees. He also requested an increase for Engineering Intern wages to \$16.50 per hour for first year and \$17.50 per hour for returning employees.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to raise the seasonal employee wages as recommended.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Atton, Cozat

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Bids were received on January 17, 2023 for the following and discussion was held;

- Corrugated Metal Pipe and Plastic Pipe
- Geotextiles & Erosion Control
- Guardrail
- Dust Control and Anti-Icing Product
- Precast Concrete Deck Panel System
- Cold Patch

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to accept all bids and authorize staff to award in the best interest of the Road Commission.

Miscellaneous:

None

Staff Reports:

Ben reported on items he has listed for auction on Govdeals. Bidding is scheduled to end on 1/26/23.

He also discussed how he, Art and Jon have been working on a better way to complete pre- and post-trip inspections. MCRCSIP has encouraged us to mirror the actions that private sector businesses follow, even though we are technically exempt. Jon created a Google Docs form the employees can use on their phone, using a QR code Ashley and Russ are working on for each vehicle, to complete documentation in a quick and easy way.

Ben updated the Board on the new Western Star trucks that will be coming within a week or two. He also reported that the tanker is done, paid for and ready for pickup. Once it is here we will be doing the outfitting in house.

Art stated that MDOT had ordered another 500 ton of backup salt that should come in this next week.

Crews are working to keep busy with the lack of snow so far this winter. They were able to work on some drainage and tree trimming projects that would normally not be able to be done at this time of year and are staying very productive.

He reports that the township estimates are coming in. 12 of the 16 townships have turned in their signed estimates. Once they are all in, Jeff can work on the second round of material bids. After township projects are all set, Art will work with Jon to finish up the primary road project schedule.

Jon stated that federal aid design work is being finalized for 2023.

He also reported that he has updated the RFP's for consultants for the upcoming year, which will be posted soon.

He submitted the final reimbursement requests for the USDA/NRCS projects. The total amount of work done was around \$375,000, and the amount reimbursed will be approximately \$287,000. The FHWA Flood Repair projects have been turned in and Jon is waiting for EGLE to complete their part.

Jon also gave an update on FEMA projects. All are complete, except for one. That one is to be bid out later this year, and all work should be complete by the end of this year.

Jeff has been busy with bids, which were due yesterday. He is getting ready to advertise the rest of the materials soon. In the meantime he is working on drainage design work. He has 4-5 of them done, just waiting to be built in the spring.

Russ gave a status update on the roundabout right of way issues. He will be turning the documentation in to MDOT soon for approval.

He also reported that there are 11 federal aid projects slated for this fiscal year. This will make for a very busy construction season.

Ashley has been working on job flyers, construction maps and the Impress Awards discussed earlier.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:30 a.m. until Thursday, February 2, 2023.

Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chair