

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, August 3, 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
Donna Lowe, Finance Director
Art Buck, Superintendent
Russ Inman, Director of Engineering
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician
Travis Havercamp, Design Engineer

Absent: Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Charlotte Atton

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Additions to Agenda:

Correspondence & Items of Information – East Central Council Meeting August 17, 2023.

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2023 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

Mike introduced his wife, Charlotte.

Approval of Open Accounts and Payroll:

The payroll for August 3, 2023 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to authorize payroll for August 3, 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

The open accounts for August 3, 2023 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve open accounts for August 3, 2023, in the amount of \$610,779.61.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

CRASIF Board of Trustees Election

The County Road Association Self-Insurance Fund Board of Trustees Election was discussed. There are three candidates and three positions to fill.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to vote for the three incumbent candidates.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

MCTOA Meeting – September 7, 2023

The Midland County Township Officials Association meeting is September 7, 2023. We will need to provide them with a head count by August 28, 2023.

CRA Northern Conference

The County Road Association Northern Conference is September 13-15, 2023 in Manistee. Hotel reservations need to be made as soon as possible; Commissioner Atton and Commissioner Hyatt will attend, and Commissioner Cozat needs to check his calendar to be sure.

Department of Treasury Budget Corrective Action Plan

Donna discussed a Budget Corrective Action Plan that was submitted to the State Department of Treasury. It was required because after the finalization of the 2022 budget following the audit this spring, our expenditures exceeded the amount budgeted. After checking with Tom Smith, the Road Commission auditor, this is very common and not of concern. Tom helped Donna draft the Corrective Action Plan and it has been submitted.

Unfinished Business:

Jon reviewed the MATS TAP pilot program that he had discussed at the previous board meeting. He requested a resolution to commit MCRC to the local match portion for the program.

Midland County Road Commission
Midland County, State of Michigan

RESOLUTION:

For Grant Application to the Transportation Alternatives Program regarding the MATS TAP Pilot Program and Feasibility Analysis

Whereas the Midland Area Transportation Study has proposed a TAP Pilot Program of Planning and Feasibility Analysis; and

Whereas the TAP Pilot Program includes 5 projects from a number of local agencies including the Gordonville/N. River Road Connector; and

Whereas the Midland Area Transportation Study is submitting an application to MDOT for a federal Transportation Alternatives Program grant in the amount of \$240,000 with a total local match of \$48,000.00; and

Whereas the Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS) has recommended that the local match contribution be distributed as a percentage of the total project miles for each implementing agency; and

Whereas the proposed projects for the Midland County Road Commission amount to 3.60 miles out of a total of 10.35 miles for all projects, or 34.78%; and

Whereas the Midland County Road Commission portion of the total local match is \$16,695.65.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Midland County Road Commission supports the planning and feasibility analysis pilot program, and agrees to participate in the funding of the local match costs for this TAP Pilot Program by providing \$16,695.65 to the Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS) by October 1, 2023; and

FURTHER RESOLVES to take all actions necessary to provide this match funding for the Transportation Alternatives Program grant application to MDOT in connection with the TAP Pilot Program of Planning and Feasibility Analysis, as outlined in the application.

AYES: Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

New Business:

Precision Accounting Software Quote

Donna and Jon presented the board with a quote from Precision Computer Solutions, Inc. to convert the Road Commission Accounting Software to their service. Precision had given a demonstration to Jon, Donna, Michelle and Russ in July and everyone was very impressed with how intuitive and user-friendly the system was, as well as the greater capabilities it had over the software currently being used. Russ reported that the conversion is something that had been wanted for several years and now seemed to be the time to move forward with it. A request was made for board approval to accept the quote.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the acceptance of the quote from Precision Computer Solutions, Inc. to convert programs beginning in September 2023, with an overall cost of \$60,333.00 over three fiscal years.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Stewart Road over Bullock Creek Construction Project Bids

Jon discussed the bid opening for the Stewart Road over Bullock Creek Construction Project. The low bid came in approximately 68% over the Engineer's Estimate and that is not economically feasible. Jon would like a chance to reevaluate the plans and get them in line with the previously estimated costs. Jon recommended the board reject the bids.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to reject all bids and review for potential bidding with a different plan at a later time.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

ROW for the Bailey Bridge at Smiths Crossing Project

Russ stated that the Bailey Bridge at Smiths Crossing Project may require some temporary and permanent acquisitions to be secured for the project to be constructed to current standards. Russ presented the board with the following request: Designate the Director of Engineering as the official with authority to negotiate for required acquisitions and approve administrative settlements on behalf of Midland County Road Commission for the Bailey Bridge at Smiths Crossing Project.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to designate the Director of Engineering as presented.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous:

None

Staff Reports:

Travis discussed his internal design projects. He is teaching the interns to use CAD.

Art summarized the many construction projects that are ongoing. The Pine River Road/Forbes Drainage Outlet project is going well and everyone is happy with the way it is proceeding. There are 8 roads pulverized that are being prepped for paving currently.

He had a meeting yesterday with Spicer about the Four Lakes Task Force projects and the culvert upgrades EGLE is requiring, which will involve us.

Art also met with Emergency Management regarding Hazard Mitigation planning.

Jon updated the board on FY2023 Urban Projects with plans that are being finalized to turn in for MDOT obligation. The projects will be bid this fall with construction to follow in spring 2024.

The intersection signage project will not start until fall because the contractor could not get sign posts for nine weeks, which will delay the start time.

The Tittabawassee Road construction project is out for bids, which are due August 14th.

Jon also discussed the Pine River Road over Pine River project which is the second to last flood repair project. It will be bid out in the fall.

MDOT is working on the M-30 bridge replacement project at the Edenville Dam in Gladwin County. The detour route goes through Midland County on Curtis Road, so MDOT has agreed to fund the paving of the detour route.

Jon attended the TRB Low Volume Roads Conference last week. It was interesting to see how they treat roads all over the world, not just throughout the United States.

Jeff gave an update on the Waldo/Monroe roundabout. The contractor completed the storm sewer work. They are starting to remove the ground up asphalt to begin the grading work.

He also gave an update on the RTF paving project at Jefferson/Stark/Shaffer Roads. That is all complete.

Russ stated that next week PASER road ratings will be done by MATS and MCRC staff. It has been on the calendar for some time.

The following week is the Midland County Fair, which the Road Commission always has a booth set up in Merchant Building 25 – booth 35. Ashley ordered some color-changing pencils with MCRC branding to pass out at the booth and they will also be hosting the kids coloring contest again this year.

Russ also met with the Precision group to see what they can offer for IT services. He has been looking for better long-term solutions. He has two other companies that were recommended that he is going to set up meetings with.

He also discussed the Bailey Bridge at Smiths Crossing project, which needs to be obligated yet this fiscal year. Spicer is doing the design work and there is still a lot to be done.

Russ is still working with Consumers for the lighting contracts at the Roundabout project. He also needs to amend a consent to grade agreement for the southwest parcel. Plans changed after it was submitted for bidding and the agreement needed to be updated.

Russ also commented on how well the Gordonville drainage project turned out. It really looks great.

Mike attended a Parks and Recreation meeting this week and Jeanette was there as well. They discussed a bicycle accident that had occurred on a trail in Averill.

Mike will not be at the next meeting, as he will be on vacation. He may call in remotely.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:45 a.m. until Wednesday, August 16, 2023.

Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chair