

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, August 31, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the Midland County Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chair, attended virtually  
Jim Hyatt, Vice Chair  
Bill Cozat, Member  
Jon Myers, Managing Director  
Russ Inman, Director of Engineering  
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician  
Travis Havercamp, Design Engineer  
Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Absent: Art Buck, Superintendent  
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager  
Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator

Public Present: Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners

**The Pledge of Allegiance was said.**

**Additions to Agenda:**

MERS Impact Award was added to Correspondence and Items of Information

**Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2023 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Public Comment:**

None

**Approval of Open Accounts and Payroll:**

The payroll for August 31, 2023 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to authorize payroll for August 31, 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

The open accounts for August 31, 2023 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve open accounts for August 31, 2023, in the amount of \$757,268.17.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

**Correspondence and Items of Information:**

***NMARC 2024 Board Member Election***

The board reviewed the ballot for NMARC 2024 Board Member nominations for trustees to the CRA board.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to vote for the two incumbent candidates on the ballot.

Roll call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton  
Nays: None

Motion Carried

***CRASIF Annual Membership Meeting***

The CRASIF 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting, which is taking place on Wednesday September 13, 2023 was discussed. It requires a separate registration from the Northern Michigan Conference. Jon and Donna will be the only two attendees to the CRASIF Meeting.

***MERS Impact Award***

Jon announced that the Midland County Road Commission has won a MERS Impact Award which will be presented at this year's annual MERS Conference on September 28, 2023. It has not been revealed which place MCRC won, but we have won an award of some sort. Brenda will be joining our staff at the awards ceremony to accept the award for our municipality, due to the fact that she was instrumental in developing the changes that won us the award.

**The Permit Listing was reviewed.**

**Unfinished Business:**

None

**New Business:**

***Amendment of Policy Number 100.04 – Township Cost Sharing***

Jon reviewed the policy on Township Cost Sharing and discussed changes that should be made to the Township Cost Sharing for Brine applications and Culverts under Public Roadways. He will be drafting an amendment for the board to consider at the September 12, 2023 meeting.

***Private Road Name Request – Lee Township – Compass Way***

Russ discussed an application for a private road name that had been received for a proposed private gravel road in Section 13 of Lee Township. It has been approved by the County and Lee Township and the Midland County Road Commission Board would be the final approval needed. He recommended approving the application for the Road Name of Compass Way in Lee Township. Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the road name Compass Way.

Roll call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

***Consumers Energy Lighting Contract for Waldo/Monroe Roundabout***

A contract was received from Consumers Energy for the installation of the lighting system for the Waldo/Monroe Roundabout.

**RESOLUTION**

RESOLVED, that it is hereby deemed advisable to authorize Consumers Energy Company to make changes in the lighting service as provided in the Standard Lighting Contract between the Company and the MIDLAND CO RD COMM, dated 9/1/21, in accordance with the Authorization for Change in Standard Lighting Contract dated 8/31/23,

HERETOFORE submitted to and considered by this board and RESOLVED, further, that the Finance Director/Clerk be and are authorized to execute such authorization for change on the behalf of the board.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to accept the lighting contract.

Roll call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

***Letts Road Connector Study – Public Open House – September 12: 3-5 pm***

Russ discussed an open house taking place at the Larkin Township Hall on September 12, 2023 from 3-5 pm to discuss the study being conducted for the Letts Road Connector Project. He will be sending out letters to interested parties later this week.

**Miscellaneous:**

None

**Staff Reports:**

Jeff discussed the Waldo/Monroe Roundabout. It will be open this Friday for the holiday weekend.

Russ stated that Kody had finished his internship for the summer, and he will be missed. He also discussed an issue going on with a resident on Neiner Road regarding right-of-way in Jerome Township. It is not a Road Commission issue at this time, but Russ has been working with the Midland County Director of Equalization to explain the right-of-way to the resident. Russ also reported that the Village of Sanford has finished up their repair work and have reopened Saginaw Road bridge over Tittabawassee River.

Donna gave an update on what is going on with the conversion to Precision Accounting software.

Travis is working on drainage designs. The local projects are winding down for this year. He has also begun a traffic data safety study for Freeland/Sasse intersection.

Jon stated that there will be a pre-construction meeting for the Tittabawassee Road project, which is scheduled to start on September 18, with an end date of the beginning of November. He also updated the board on the Bailey Bridge project. The TAP program has agreed to shift the approval to 2024, which is great because he previously thought funding would be lost. Jon is working with OHM to try to find new designs for the Stewart Road over Bullock Creek project. If they cannot work something out, he may explore the Road Commission building it ourselves. Jon also spoke on behalf of Ben, who had a doctor's appointment he could not miss, to inform the board that Ben had accepted a new job and that he would be working with the Road Commission to stay on long enough to wrap up all of the projects he is working on. He doesn't know his last day but is thinking it will be sometime in the end of September to the beginning of October.

Mike discussed the MCRCSIP meeting he attended in Marquette last week. Investments are stable, but the analysts are not sure if there will be a downturn. He also gave an update on the case with the VanBuren County Road Commission employee who was killed in the work zone. The driver in that case is fighting the charges and the co-workers of the employee are very hesitant to deal with depositions and reliving the incident all over. Everyone is hoping for the employees' sake that it will not go that far. Mike also discussed the MDOT accident in Saginaw County last week and encouraged everyone to always remember safety first.

Jeanette had some questions about the lighting for the roundabout and how much the lighting costs, which Russ answered, and she also had some comments about the upcoming Letts Road Connector Study Public Open House.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 10:15 a.m. until Tuesday, September 12, 2023.

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Donna Lowe, Finance Director

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Mike Atton, Chair