

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Thursday, October 26, 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
Art Buck, Superintendent
Steve Youngs, Facilities Manager
Donna Lowe, Finance Director
Ben Mead, Facilities Manager
Bill vonMatt, Weighmaster
Absent: Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician
Russ Inman, Director of Engineering
Travis Havercamp, Design Engineer

Public Present: Heidi Pitt, Lee Township; Laura Dawson, Lee Township; Larry Schuelke, Homer Township; Jeanette Snyder, Midland County Board of Commissioners; Maria Sandow, Larkin Township attended virtually.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the minutes of the October 12, 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 October 26, 2023 was discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to authorize payroll for October 26, 2023.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Open accounts for October 26, 2023 were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve open accounts for October 26, 2023, in the amount of \$921,104.70.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

MCTOA Holiday Party

The Midland County Township Officials Association December Holiday Membership Dinner Meeting will be held on Thursday December 7, 2023. RSVP is required by November 30th.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

MERS Service Credit Purchase – Bill vonMatt

Weighmaster vonMatt requested a resolution to allow him to make a service credit purchase from MERS to purchase 5 years of service credit.

By resolution of its Governing Body, moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt at its meeting on October 26, 2023, as provided by the MERS Plan Document, and in accordance with the employer's policy, the employer hereby authorizes the participant named above to make a service credit purchase from MERS as described above. The employer understands this is an estimated cost, calculated using actuarial assumptions approved by the Retirement Board. Any difference between the assumptions and actuarial experience will affect the true cost of the additional service to the employer. The calculation assumptions are outlined above and the employer understands and agrees it is accountable for any difference between estimated and actual costs.

Safety Glasses Policy

Jon reviewed the safety glasses policy which he requested to be revised to provide for reimbursement to the employee for up to \$200.00 for the cost of prescription safety glasses. This revised policy would be similar to the safety boot allowance, and it would provide for employees to purchase safety glasses from any provider they want, instead of having to purchase them exclusively through Hoya Vision.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to revise the safety glasses policy as requested.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioner Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous:

None

Staff Reports:

Bill gave a brief update on what he has had going on. He had not been to a board meeting since his new weighmaster vehicle was completed and he is very pleased with it.

Ben stated that the new ¾ ton pickup that will be Jeff's new vehicle had arrived and was being prepped. He also took delivery of the new 1 ton, which will be going to Monroe for the dump body. The remaining ½ ton pickup will not be delivered until close to the end of the year. The last update from AIS on the new loaders is that they will not be in until mid-December. Ben also updated the board on several projects going on around the Sanford garage. The air quality shop project is going to bid; there have been quotes requested to repair stucco on the outside of the building which will be a 2024 project; the roof repairs on the truck storage building have been completed. He also reported that winter maintenance prep has begun.

Steve introduced himself and gave a brief update on what he has been reviewing with Ben.

Art reported that the construction projects are going very well and are almost all completed. He attended the Winter Operations conference at Shanty Creek last week and is now beginning his ride arounds with the townships to determine what projects they would like to see done in 2024. Jon reported that Ashley, Jeff and Travis were all at a MiCamp Conference, which is why they were all missing from the meeting. He updated the board on the safety project grant, which was not selected this year. Our 2026 preventative maintenance bridge project was selected by the Regional Bridge Council. Jon also announced that he had put in his name to be a representative on the Bay Region Bridge Council. He also reported that the Tittabawassee Road project is mostly wrapped up; all that is left is shoulder gravel. Jon also stated that he and Donna have been reviewing the hard cap for employee health care and will be watching it closely in 2024. He also reported that we are looking to have the annual Safety Luncheon on December 21st, after the board meeting.

Commissioner Hyatt requested an update on the Bailey Bridge and if anything has changed with EGLE.

Commissioner Cozat attended the County Road Association Commissioners Conference earlier in the week and it was very informative.

Commissioner Atton attended a MCRCSIP meeting in Bay Harbor last week and wanted to review how our gravel road maintenance records are kept and offer a reminder about plowing past parked cars as we enter the winter season. Those are two areas that MCRCSIP always sees a lot of claims on.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Atton at 9:44 a.m. until Thursday, November 9, 2023.

Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chair