

The regular meeting of the Midland County Road Commission was called to order by Chairman Atton on Monday, March 24, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Midland County Road Commission office.

Present: Mike Atton, Chairman
Jim Hyatt, Vice Chair
Bill Cozat, Member
Jon Myers, Managing Director
Art Buck, Superintendent
Ashley Hiles, GIS Coordinator
Russ Inman, Director of Engineering
Steve Youngs, Fleet and Facilities Manager
Travis Havercamp, Design Engineer

Absent: Donna Lowe, Finance Director
Jeff Brown, Construction Technician

Public Present: Larry Schuelke, Midland County Board of Commissioners

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Additions to Agenda:

None

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the March 13, 2025 meeting were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2025 meeting.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Public Comment:

Larry Schuelke mentioned that Sheriff Holzinger is having a meeting for the public and township officials tonight between 6-7pm at the Midland County Law Enforcement Center.

Approval of Open Accounts:

Open accounts for March 24, 2025 were discussed.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve open accounts for March 24, 2025, in the amount of \$108,836.47.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Correspondence and Items of Information:

None

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Third Round Material Bids

Jon reviewed the tabulations for the third-round of 2025 material bids, opened on March 20, 2025, which included: Retaining Wall Block Supply, Aggregates, Large Culvert Supply, Geotextiles and Erosion Control, Pulverization, Hydroseed Materials, and Precast Concrete Deck Panels.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to accept the staff recommendations for bid awards, in the best interest of the Road Commission.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

FY2028 Local Bridge Program Applications

Discussion was held on candidate projects for the fiscal year 2028 Local Bridge Program.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and second by Commissioner Cozat to submit applications for FY2028 Local Bridge Funding and offer the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of County Road Commissioners, County of Midland, has reviewed the 2025 applications for FY2028 Local Bridge Program funding.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Road Commissioners, County of Midland, actively seek Federal and State participation with the following structures, listed in priority:

- Replacement of Stewart Road over Little Salt Creek, Lee Township, section 27, structure #7000 – L37.
- Rehabilitation of Gordonville Road over Tittabawassee River, Midland Township, section 35, structure #6934 – P34.
- Preventative Maintenance, Multiple Structures:
 - Preventative Maintenance of Curtis Road over Tittabawassee River, Edenville Township, Sections 2/11, structure #6940 – P14.
 - Preventative Maintenance of Gevena Road over Big Salt River, Geneva Township, Sections 15/16, structure #6964 – P01.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

2024 Certification Maps

Russ reviewed the 2024 Road Certification Maps. There were no additions or deletions during the 2024 calendar year, however the number of miles certified has changed due to the expansion of the Adjusted Census Urban Boundary (ACUB) following the 2020 Census.

Moved by Commissioner Cozat and second by Commissioner Hyatt to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The additional Primary Urban miles due to expanded ACUB are 7.88.

WHEREAS, The additional Local Urban miles due to expanded ACUB are 31.19.

WHEREAS, the Midland County Board of Road Commissioners has authorized Board Chairman Mike Atton to sign the 2024 certification maps.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Midland County Road Commission certifies an additional 7.88 Primary Urban miles and 31.19 Local Urban miles resulting from the expanded ACUB.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Purchase of 2025 Chevrolet 6500 Sign Truck

Steve presented the Board with a quote from Garber Chevrolet for the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 6500HD Regular Cab Chassis and a quote from Versalift Midwest for the purchase of a Versalift SST-40-NE insulated end mounted 40-foot telescopic aerial platform lift, which combined will be used as a new Sign Truck. This configuration will incorporate a front-mounted post hole puller, on-board air compressor, sign cabinets, and a 40-foot lift while also providing room to carry barricades – something our existing truck does not provide. This truck will be smaller than our existing Western Star sign truck and will improve productivity by containing all required items needed for sign department personnel in a single efficient vehicle.

Moved by Commissioner Hyatt and seconded by Commissioner Cozat to approve the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 6500HD Regular Cab Chassis from Garber Chevrolet for \$72,533.48 and a Versalift SST-40-NE insulated end mounted 40-foot telescopic aerial platform lift from Versalift Midwest for \$151,550.00, combined totaling \$224,083.48.

Roll Call.

Yeas: Commissioners Hyatt, Cozat, Atton

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Miscellaneous:

Commissioner Atton presented the possibility of moving future board meetings to start 1-1.5 hours earlier than 9:00am in the morning, noting that some road commissions hold their board meetings as early as 6:30am. Mike stated that he would like to have staff discuss the possibility and to review it at a future board meeting. Jon stated that staff will have that discussion.

Staff Reports:

Travis stated that last week was his first week back following the birth of his new daughter. He has been working on construction plans for Saginaw and Coleman Roads in Warren Township which will go out for bids soon.

Russ reported that an Open House was held for the 2025 Monroe Road Rehabilitation project on March 13th at the Larkin Township Hall and that all presented project information is now available on our website.

Ashley stated that she has been collaborating with Midland County Mosquito Control and Midland County Parks Department to create a new county map set for publishing later this spring.

Steve reported that 2 trucks are currently down, truck #643 has warranty issues that D&K Truck in Lansing is working on and truck #552 has a high-pressure pump being installed by our shop. Steve also stated that our crew has started removing wing-plows and inserts from the trucks in preparation for the construction season. Steve announced that D&K Truck will be delivering 2 new plow trucks to us later in the week. Steve stated that our new generator was delivered with damages unrelated to shipping and that installation is on hold as Cummins works to resolve the matter. Steve mentioned that the 3 mechanics gave positive reports following a TIG Welding class they attended last week in Alpena and that they expressed appreciation for the education opportunity.

Art reported that he will be placing the 2026 salt order later this week. Art also stated that he checked frost depths at the end of last week and that frost is still present in the northern areas of the county. He said he will continue monitoring conditions and that weight restrictions may be lifted soon depending on weather conditions. Art mentioned that Joel Noyes retired last Friday and that he will be missed. Art stated that interviews for seasonal employees have begun and that he will be attending a superintendents meeting at the CRA conference tomorrow.

Jon reported that he and engineering staff attended the bridge conference remotely last week which was a great option, especially with many conferences occurring within the same time frame each year. Jon and Russ will be attending the CRA Highway Conference this week and other staff members will attend the road show on Wednesday. Next week we will have the grade inspection meeting for the 2025 rural project which unfortunately will need to be cut back due to being over programmed. Jon mentioned that he and other road commissions will be attending a meeting that Clare County set up with State Representative Tom Kunse to discuss the current road funding bill being worked on in Lansing.

Commissioner Cozat stated that as we prepare for the upcoming construction season that we need to continue emphasizing the importance of safety to our crews.

Commissioner Atton reported that he attended the Association of Governmental Risk Pools (AGRiP) Conference in Las Vegas last week and said there is a push to incorporate the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to assist with many tasks. Some of the items that were mentioned that incorporate new technologies include software for scanning and processing old board meeting minutes and snowplow route optimization technologies. Mike said we should ensure that we are staying current and utilizing technologies that are available. Barry County is working on some items which they said they would share with others once they complete. Mike also suggested that staff look into the option of purchasing new light duty trucks every year as a potential cost savings because of current high truck resale value. Jon said that staff have been looking into this and will present information about it at the next board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Hyatt at 9:42 am until Thursday, April 10, 2025.

Donna Lowe, Finance Director

Mike Atton, Chairman