

MEETING MINUTES

MASON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION JANUARY 12, 2023

A. Call to Order

Manager Samuels called the January 12, 2023 meeting of the Mason County Road Commission held at the Mason County Road Commission at 510 E. State St., Scottville, MI to order at 10:00 am.

Members Present: Chairman Ingison, Vice-Chair Conklin, Member Del Zoppo, Manager/Director Samuels, Secretary/Finance Director Braginton, County Highway Engineer Nelson, Superintendent Loeser, Shop Supervisor Keating

Members Absent: None

Visitors: Karen Husted – Michigan Chloride, Jim Gallie – Amber Twp., Dick Always – Amber Twp., Henry Rasmussen – Pere Marquette Township

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Establish Board Positions for 2023

Motion made by Conklin to nominate Ingison for Chairman. Seconded by Del Zoppo. Ingison accepted nomination. Ayes all. Motion carried.

Motion made by Del Zoppo to nominate Conklin for Vice-Chair. Seconded by Ingison. Conklin accepted nomination. Ayes all. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Conklin to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Del Zoppo. Roll Call Vote: Ingison - Aye, Conklin - Aye, Del Zoppo - Aye. Motion carried. Motion carried.

1. Conflicts of Interest

None.

C. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the December 22, 2022 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Conklin to approve the minutes as presented. Supported by Ingison. Roll Call Vote: Ingison - Aye, Conklin - Aye, Del Zoppo - Abstained. Motion carried.

D. Approval of Accounts Payable & Payroll

The Board took the following action after reviewing the Accounts Payable and Payroll:

Motion made by Conklin to approve Accounts Payable vouchers for January 17, 2023 in the amount of 332,451.66 and approve Payroll #1 for January 5, 2023 and Pre-approve Payroll #2 for January 19, 2023. Seconded by Del Zoppo. Roll Call Vote: Ingison - Aye, Conklin - Aye, Del Zoppo - Aye. Motion carried.

E. Review of Financial Reports

The Board reviewed the Cash Balance Report, Accounts Receivable Summary and Debt Summary.

F. Public Comment

G. Shop Supervisor Report

Shop roof- Moving forward with repairs on westside of shop. Negotiated a 20k repair cost down to a bare minimum repair of \$7347.00. I asked them to rethink the repairs just enough to stop the leaks and get us by for a couple more years. This should stop the roof leaks running into two electrical boxes along west wall. This will not address the bigger issue of the rotted out wooden headers and steel panels all along the 100ft length.

New cold storage barn- Hired OM-Electric to install transfer switch in new cold Storage barn. We will install a minimum of 10,500 watt running generator with a 50 amp plug and propane fueled for long life low maintenance capable of running all the lighting and block heaters and such for the new barn. Cost of electrical work \$900.00. Purchased and received 560 feet of 3-inch conduit for direct burial from road to barn.

Overhead shop doors - 3 shop doors with bottom panels rusted out ready to fall apart and had a considerable air gap at floor. This style of door panel is obsolete. So had contractor reskin bottom panels and install new bottom gaskets with excellent results. New door cost \$15,600.00 each. Reskinned all 3 for \$6,200.

Air Foils - Picture attached. A month ago, I visited Gratiot CRC. I asked about an air foil I saw on the backs of all their trucks and the superintendent replied, you see the back of the truck right now, it will comeback after plowing just as clean as

you see it now. This was their own design, and they gave me the print for making them. I have had it quoted by two fab shops, local shop was \$1,700. I thought that was steep so I contacted fab shop in Greenville and can get these made for \$616.00 apiece from 304 SS. We just picked this air foil up on 1/10 and will mount this on #612 and test it out next snowstorm.

CAT wheeled excavator #787 - This machine was purchased 1/16/2020. At that time in an effort to save cost MCRC chose an aftermarket wrist-o-flex control and thumb to be installed saving a few thousand dollars at purchase over the CAT factory control. This control is now worn out and since its after-market it only carried a one-year warranty. Had we bought it with OEM controls it would be covered completely parts & labor for another two years total of five years. Currently machine is down, and CAT has the needed parts on order. Cost will be approximately \$2500 and a week on order. Just a thought when purchasing new equipment to be aware of such. Is it really a savings?

Truck #613 - Dump box has been installed. Truck has moved from fabrication bay to hoist so we can work underneath to connect wiring harnesses and hydraulic lines, underbody etc. Still project completion 2nd or 3rd week this month.

Repeater - During the windstorm December 22nd prior to blizzard, we had a power surge that shorted out our repeater system late Thursday afternoon. Repeater fried beyond repair and is obsolete and new unit cost will be \$10,108.80. I have this on order. T&W Electronics has been our supplier and original installer of the radio system. T&W responded to our emergency within a few hours after calling and has free of charge installed a temporary unit that we have been using. Also, they are the MIDEAL supplier, and our government discount is \$2,100.

New Track Loader - Working on quotes for Track Loaders with a forestry attachment. Received quotes and specs on multiple units from CASE, NEW HOLLAND, JOHN DEERE, and ASV. We will get the MIDEAL pricing if we use NH or JD. MIDEAL price is only available thru cash purchase it is not available on leasing or financing. We need to commit to a purchase before February as that is when the MIDEAL pricing will have an increase. Jeff, Josh, Chris and I went to Big Rapids on 1/10 and tried out the New Holland 362 track loader. I have other demos in the works. Pros: New Holland is MIDEAL. Emissions has no DPF plus system does not have a regen-burn but still uses DEF. 1 of only 3 machines on the market that can handle the larger Fecon 84 forestry head. Availability June 1st or before, others August time frame. Cons: Loader attachment system is different than standard skid steer so our current skid steer attachments will not fit. Weight is 16,100 lbs. so will require a different trailer to haul which we do have.

Auction equipment- Purchased two used plow trucks and two stainless steel slip in sander boxes from Ranger bid. We have thoroughly gone through one truck so far only needed minor repairs to get it operational at a cost of about \$1,000. Truck has been entered into system as #600 and currently being used to haul sand with positive comments from driver so far.

HILO - Recently purchased a used Hilo for the shop. This is to replace the leased skid steers we used to get on a great deal from CNH. This has proved to be a valued asset for the shop. I have contacted Mike Philips and discussed what we need to do for training our personnel to be MI-OSHA compliant. I will start with the shop crew. They will study a PowerPoint, have copied from the MI-OSHA site and take a quiz then an operators competency test.

H. Superintendent Report

SAFETY - Forklift training is scheduled for next month to get all union employees certified to operate the new forklift. Chainsaw & bucket truck training will be in April. Toolbox talks continue. The new pre-trip inspection forms have been implemented and are being used every day.

TOWNSHIP WORK - mainly working on winter maintenance. also have been blading, patching, ditching, cold patching, and doing some tree work. foreman and engineer tech have been doing ride arounds with township supervisors and engineer tech has been completing estimates. Poll bridge is now open.

MDOT - winter maintenance has been ongoing. Working on a plan with MDOT to install some live snow fence (trees) at specified locations. MDOT will provide funding.

COLD STORAGE - Electrical Service is in progress - staking is complete and conduit installation is currently underway. Lower-level access road is also in progress - currently working on stripping the topsoil and undercutting and hauling sand in.

US FOREST SERVICE - Working on stump removal on woods trail. In process of purchasing skidsteer and demo-ing various units.

I. County Highway Engineer Report

Engineering – Josh & I are working on closing out previous 2020, 2021 & 2022 MDOT projects, W. Forest Trail, Rasmussen Road, Hoague & Darr & (2) Pavement Marking projects. Josh has been working on Township Estimates for 2023.

Survey Department – Charley is working a couple of hours daily on permits. He is working on drawings for S. Jebavy Drive, Access Road, N. Jebavy Drive, Iris Road, and other miscellaneous MCRC and other Township Projects.

2022 Fountain & Tuttle Road Bridge - The steel sheets under the arch culvert need to be cut off at streambed elevation. Hardman has a scheduled a diver this week for this work. Fountain Road is restricted to one lane of traffic at the arch culvert until Friday. The project completion date is November 15, 2023.

2022 Hansen Road, Stiles to Amber – The project will be reviewed in the spring of 2023. Hallack will have some punch list items to complete in the spring. Final acceptance will be after the grass is established. The final payment of \$9,852.50 will be made after final acceptance. Final cost of construction was \$807,558.00. Engineer's estimate was \$851,130.

Mac Road Pit – All Aggregates has produced about 21,800 tons of 22A modified and 7,600 tons of 2NS sand for ice control. All Aggregate is done until April of 2023. The MCRC received an invoice from All Aggregates for \$135,426. The MCRC will be getting an Invoice from Schultz Excavating in January of 2023 for \$88,215. Schultz Excavating & All Aggregates are scheduled to produce 40,000 tons of 22A modified in the spring of 2023.

Yonkers Road Culverts (13616) – The MCRC crews have completed the repairs to the Yonkers Road twin arch culverts. The load rating for this crossing was changed to 3 Tons Gross per Melissa Roselle & Ryan Worden of Scott Civil Engineering. The pictures of the repair, design sketches and revised 3 Ton Gross load restriction have been uploaded into MiBridge per MDOT requirements.

2023 Pavement Marking – Josh will be working on the 2023 Pavement Marking bid documents for the South half of Mason County. The project is anticipated to be bid through the MCRC in late February of 2023. Anticipated cost is \$55,000 for primary roads and \$35,000 for local roads paid by the MCRC.

2023 Fisher Road Bridge – A total of 6 bids were received in the MDOT January 6, 2023, bid letting. The Engineer's Estimate is about \$1,550,000 with 90% MDOT participation and 10% MCRC participation. Hardman Construction was the confirmed low bidder at \$1,5238,685.15. I will be sending out an RFP for inspection services. The project is anticipated to start in mid-April of 2023. The Contractor has 16 weeks to complete the project. The MCRC has budgeted \$280,000 in 2023 for our 10% of construction, testing and inspection services.

2022/2023 Hansen Road (MDOT Funds)– Meyers to Dennis – Elmer's is the prime contractor and Hallack is the earthwork subcontractor. The project has been delayed until April 17th of 2023. The completion date will be June 5th, 2023. Elmer's was the low bidder at \$842,903.20. Maximum MDOT funding is \$456,204 with the balance of \$386,699.20 +/- by the MCRC.

2023 Jebavy Drive – US-10 to Bryant Road – The project will be bid thru the MCRC in March of 2023. The project requires 3 weeks prior advertising. The project is anticipated to be constructed between June and September of 2023. MDOT grant is a maximum of 58% of the project estimated at \$647,500 or a maximum of \$375,000 for the project. The balance for the MCRC is approximately \$275,000.

2024 Iris Road – PM Highway to S. Lakeshore – Project has been pushed to 2024 due to MCRC funding. The project will be bid through the MCRC. The MCRC is

selling our 2023 MDOT funding for this project. The total cost of Construction is estimated at \$830,000. The MCRC should receive approximately \$570,000 from Oakland County (purchased our 2023 MDOT funds) leaving a balance of \$260,000 for the MCRC. Once we receive the funds from Oakland County the estimated \$830,000 will be paid by the MCRC for this project.

J. Managing Director Report

Emergency Manager L Reimink has resigned with her last day being February 17. Nothing yet on a replacement.

Brine bids were received and are on the agenda for approval.

Continue to hold weekly staff meetings.

The crew did an excellent job during the snowstorm over Christmas. The equipment held up great with the exception of the repeater. That was sent in for repairs, but the results were that it is not repairable. We have an estimate of 10K for a new one. I am working with the insurance to see if they will cover the cost as it was determined the damage was caused from a power surge.

Attended the bi-monthly managers meeting in Cadillac. Round table discussion on various topics.

MCRC will be the host county for the Paul Bunyan meetings this year. The meetings will be held at Caberfae. Next meeting is February 16, 2023.

K. Unfinished Business

1. Facility Planning

The conduit for the cold storage electric will be placed this week and then the installation for the electric will be scheduled.

Our area specialist with the USDA-RD is getting our project loaded into their underwriting system for loan approval consideration.

Commonwealth has completed the Archaeological review of the Custer property with no significant findings. I am waiting for the written report along with the SHPO information to send to USDA-RD. They need this information to move forward with the process. Commonwealth said they should have it completed by the end of this week or next.

Looking into work zone cameras to do a time-lapse video of the new facility as it is being constructed. Maybe this could be added to our website.

2. Award Brine Bid

Motion made by Conklin to award bid to both bidders based on Samuels recommendation. Seconded by Del Zoppo. Roll Call Vote: Ingison - Aye, Conklin - Aye, Del Zoppo - Aye. Motion carried.

3. Award Bid for Skidsteer

Motion made by Conklin to award bid to burnips equipment for a 2023 New Holland compact track loader with forestry head and drum mulcher for a total price of \$128,186.89 (MIDEAL). Seconded by Del Zoppo. Roll Call Vote: Ingison - Aye, Conklin - Aye, Del Zoppo - Aye. Motion carried.

Motion made by Conklin to add extended warranty to purchase for an additional \$11,000. Seconded by Del Zoppo. Roll Call Vote: Ingison - Aye, Conklin - Aye, Del Zoppo - Aye. Motion carried.

L. New Business

1. Approve Purchase of Box for Gon Trailer

Motion made by Conklin to replace the hardbox body on the Gon Trailer for a total price of \$24,800.00. Seconded by Del Zoppo. Roll Call Vote: Ingison - Aye, Conklin - Aye, Del Zoppo - Aye. Motion carried.

2. Adopt Resolution to enter into contract with MDOT for Fisher Rd Bridge Construction

RESOLUTION

The following motion was passed at the Regular Meeting of the Mason County Road Commission on January 12, 2023:

Approve Fisher Rd Structure Replacement

Motion made by CONKLIN and supported by DEL ZOPPO to enter into a contract with MDOT for the following work and authorize Chairman Ingison to sign on behalf of the Mason County Road Commission.

BFPO 53000; JOB #212284CON

PART A – FEDERAL PARTICIPATION

The removal and replacement of the structure #6685, with 30 inch galvanized steel tub girders and 9 inch cast-in-place slab on concrete abutments, which carries Fisher Road over the Lincoln River, Section 32, T19N, R17W, Victory Township, Mason County, Michigan; including earthwork, subbase, aggregate base and shoulder, piling, cofferdams, bridge railing, riprap, concrete curb and gutter and approach slabs, hot mix asphalt approaches and permanent pavement markings; and all together with necessary related work.

PART B – NO FEDERAL PARTICIPATION

Name plate for the structure as described in PART A; and all together with necessary related work.

Contract No. 22-5539

PART A

Job No. 212284CON

Estimated cost is - \$1,582,500

Federal Bridge Funds - \$1,424,250

MCRC Share - \$158,250

PART B

Job No. 207714CON

Estimated cost is - \$1,500

MCRC Share - \$1,500

Ayes – Ingison, Conklin and Del Zoppo. Nays - None. Motion carried.

3. Adopt Resolution to enter into contract with MDOT for Reconstruction project on Jebavy Dr from US-10 to Bryant Rd.

RESOLUTION

The following motion was passed at the Regular Meeting of the Mason County Road Commission on January 12, 2023:

Approve Jebavy Dr Reconstruction

Motion made by CONKLIN and supported by DEL ZOPPO to enter into a contract with MDOT for the following work and authorize Chairman Ingison to sign on behalf of the Mason County Road Commission.

EDF 53000; JOB #215098CON

Hot mix asphalt reconstruction along Jebavy Drive from US-10 to approximately 350 feet north of Bryant Road, including the addition of a right turn lane along southbound Jebavy Drive at Johnson Road and extension of the left turn lane along northbound Jebavy Drive at Bryant Road; and all together with necessary related work.

Contract No. 22-5561

Job No. 212284CON

Estimated cost is - \$647,600

TED Funds - \$375,000

MCRC Share - \$272,600

Ayes – Ingison, Conklin and Del Zoppo. Nays - None. Motion carried.

4. Approve New Policy for Right of Way Mowing

Motion made by Conklin to adopt policy #617 "Mowing, Brush Control & Spraying in Right-of-Way". Seconded by Del Zoppo. Roll Call Vote: Ingison - Aye, Conklin - Aye, Del Zoppo - Aye. Motion carried.

POLICY#	PREPARING DEPT	EFFECTIVE DATE	SUPERSEDES	PAGE
617	Maintenance			

MOWING, BRUSH CONTROL & SPRAYING IN RIGHT-OF-WAY

1. The Mason County Road Commission (MCRC) has a duty under MCL 224.21 (2) to keep roads under its jurisdiction in reasonable repair.

2. The MCRC believes that controlling the growth of vegetation within highway rights-of-way through mowing, mechanical brush control and spraying benefits the public and helps to keep those highways in reasonable repair.

3. MCL 247.665b(5) creates standards for right-of-way mowing, mechanical brush control and spraying that are intended to minimize the disruption of prime habitat for pheasants.

4. The MCRC desires to publish and implement a written policy for mowing, mechanical brush control and spraying that complies with the standards created in MCL 247.665b.

5. This policy shall not apply to those areas within the limits of a city or village or those rights-of-way within federal aid urban boundaries.

6. Notwithstanding any standard contained herein or in MCL 247.665b, the MCRC will mow any right of-way as necessary to maintain public health and safety.

6.1 Mowing shall be 12 feet from the shoulder edge or to the leading edge of the ditch, whatever is less, to any height at any time.

6.2 The area between the ditch bottom and the back slopes of the right-of-way shall not be mowed between September 1st and the following July 15th. Spraying of this area shall be limited to the control of noxious weeds and brush

6.3 From July 16th through August 31st, mowing may occur through the entire right-of-way, including through the ditch bottom, while maintaining not less than 12 inches of grass height from the back of the ditch to the back of the right-of-way and within the median.

6.4 Between July 16th and the following March 1st, mechanical brush and wood stem control can be completed to whatever height is needed to provide control and safety.

6.5 Medians (strips of land between lanes of opposing traffic on a divided highway) 50 feet wide or more shall be maintained as brush-free as possible and with a grass height of at least 12 inches.

7. Up to 50 percent of the County Highway System shall be annually designated for brush control and may include herbicide treatment during the next growing season.

8. 25% of the medians (as defined in 6.5) within the County Highway System shall be annually designated for brush control.

9. Mowing of the ditch back slope and areas beyond the 12 foot width from the shoulder edge shall be performed so that a minimum of 12 inches of grass remains by September 1st of each year, except in those zones designated for brush control pursuant to Paragraph 7 & 8.

10. Areas of brush with the right-of-way shall be mowed back to prevent brush from becoming established within right-of-way.

11. Brush or tree stumps shall be spot treated with herbicide, as needed, for long-term control.

5. Approve Permit & Maintenance Depts Fee Schedule

Reviewed proposed changes in permit and maintenance department fees.
Will schedule a public hearing for March 9th and 9:30 am.

M. Commissioners Privilege

Ingison - discussed need for maintenance management software for equipment and facilities. Also discussed timing for board paq availability. Would like to change Shop Supervisor Title to Fleet & Facilities Manager.

N. Extended Public Comment

O. Next Meeting: Thursday, January 26, 2023 @ 10:00 am

P. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:21p.m.


Heather Braginton - Secretary


Mike Ingison - Chairman