

Morton County Road Commission Meeting
Morton County Highway Department, 2916 37th St NW, Mandan, ND 58554
August 21, 2024

Commission members Present: Jackie Buckley, Ron Leingang, Kyle Kirchmeier, Roger Hille, Steve Tomac

Commission members Absent: None

Others present: John Saiki, Chad Schneider, Clayton Feist, Karen Miller, Melvin Berreth, Paul Tokach, Elaine Hatzenbuhler, Tim Nilson

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am by Chair Jackie Buckley

Steve made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Item No. 2a, Discussion Melvin Berreth, Mantahni Special Assessment was added. Ron 2nd. Motion carried.

Roger made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Steve 2nd, motion carried.

1. Discuss property access Issue – Karen Miller – after discussion, the Road Commission determined this is a legal issue, not to be decided by this board. Property owner should start with a thorough search for a recorded easement, then attempt to enter into an agreement with the adjacent property owner, if that fails then pursue a judicial remedy. Property owner was advised she can take this concern to the County Commission if she desired. No action taken.
2. Discuss limiting access to Clayton Feist’s Yard – Clayton requested some type of turn around area be constructed west of his property. As it is, anyone who has to turn around, including County maintenance equipment, they have to use his yard. If this is built, county vehicles and other vehicles won’t have to enter Clayton’s yard. Clayton stated he can provide material. Roger moved that the County provide a turn-around area for County maintenance. Kyle 2nd. Motion carried.
- 2a. Discussion – Melvin Berreth, Mantahni Special Assessment – A Special Assessment petition was circulated and signed with the Special Assessment based on 16 property owners. Melvin stated it should be based on 17 lots. The Road Commission stated that a new petition should be circulated that states 16 Property Owners and 17 Lots, with estimated assessment amount for 17 lots. The Special Assessment Commission will make the final decision when it meets after construction is completed. No further action taken by the Commission.
3. Discuss walking path – Tim Nilson – Tim is working with the Highway Department to determine a cost effective way to address the cracks. At this time, different materials are be used to determine which product will be most effective in the cracks. Once a product is selected then a plan will be developed to seal all the cracks.

4. Discuss the minutes of the Subdivision Paving Policy – Board members wanted to review the minutes and provide their opinions. Roger stated that if a Subdivision is adjacent to a paved highway, then the subdivision roads should be paved. If the subdivision is adjacent to a gravel road, then the subdivision roads should be gravel. The Subdivision Paving Policy Working Group will then schedule the next meeting to further development of a policy.
5. Discuss Tax Zones – Jackie provided information she had gathered from the Tax Office regarding the various Tax Zones and what they contribute to the Morton County Budget.
6. Monthly Updates – a & b. Design Projects and Construction projects – Bridges near Flasher and St Anthony are under contract with APEX, bidding in January 2025. Structure type has been selected. Bridge South of Almont (Sauber Engineering) selected Alignment, Bidding January 2026. Swingen Construction has completed the Starck Bridge, except for removal of the old bridge and completing the Rip Rap. The bridge cannot be removed until the first week of November due to the potential of the bat nesting. Youngtown bridge is scheduled for December 2024 bid opening. Graf bridge Box Culvert section are scheduled to be poured in the next couple of weeks. Work should be completed this fall. KLJ has completed survey on the Mork bridge.
 - c. Culvert Replacements – Chad reviewed the plans for the summer. Replacing small culverts. Today is the last day of contract hauling for this year.
 - d. Budget Update – No large overages like last year. There is money in the Contractor line item and County Bridge line item, to cover the remaining match for the Starck Bridge, the match for the overlay on CR 139 and replacement of the Graf Bridge, north of the truck stop. We will proceed these two projects. We will be requesting an addition Full Time Employee since so many subdivisions have been added since 2017. Reviewed the preliminary 2025 Bridge and Highway Budget.
 - e. Update on Bid Bond Graf Bridge – received a request for additional information. That information was sent to the bonding company, which acknowledged receipt.
7. Other – no additional items.

Roger moved to adjourn, Steve 2nd. The meeting was adjourned 11:25 am.