

**Morton County Road Commission Meeting**  
**Morton County Highway Department, 2916 37<sup>th</sup> St NW, Mandan, ND 58554**  
**March 15, 2023**

Commission members Present: Jackie Buckley, Ron Leingang, Kyle Kirchmeier, Roger Hille, Steve Tomac  
Commission members Absent: None

Others present: John Saiki, Chad Schneider, Mark Isaacs, Randy Rhone, Troy Ripplinger, Todd Norton, Natalie Pierce

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chair Ron Leingang

Jackie made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Amended to change the order, item 4 moved to 2 and everything moved down, since Troy Ripplinger agreed to attend after the agenda was completed. Added Contract Snow Removal, PSC Hearing Update and Snow Cat Discussion to the Monthly update section. Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

Kyle made a motion to approve the minutes. Roger 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried. Motion carried.

1. New Salem – CR 85 (First Street) Project: New Salem is planning on replacing the water main and sewer main on First Street (County Road 85). They are requesting the County assist in the non-participating portion of the roadway restoration. The replacement project will replace approximately 20 feet of the roadway, the remaining approximate 12 feet would require restoration. Morton County is agreeable to participating, but we will have to use Federal Aid. This will require that the work be completed in 2024 or 2025. The coordination will have to be worked out, but the Road Commission agreed to participating.
2. Temporary Bypass ridge 30-114-08.1 Frontage Road N Glen Ullin: adjacent property owner would like a temporary bypass during construction. The project is not Federally Funded, the Road Commission agreed to provide a bypass, not designed to NDDOT standards. Any surfacing will be salvaged from the project. The traffic control will close the road except for local traffic.
3. Honey Hills Estates 2<sup>nd</sup>: Reviewed latest version of the plan. Seven lots and the permanent cul de sacs have been removed on the west side of ND 1806. Roger made a motion to forward to Planning & Zoning with no exceptions. Kyle 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.
4. 46<sup>th</sup> Street Project: Discussed budgeting the Right of Way cost for 2024 and completing then. After discussion the members decided it would be better to proceed with Right of Way acquisition rather than waiting a year and increased costs. Roger made a motion to proceed based on available funding and County Commission approval.

- 5 a. Monthly Updates - Design Projects – Bridges near Flasher and St Anthony are under contract with APEX. Sauber is under contract for Stark bridge and design is in progress. Steve made the comment that the dam at Lake Tschida will be reconstructed in 2025 or 2026 and the river will be uncontrolled. Bridge South of Almont (Sauber Engineering) design is progressing. Youngtown (AE2S Engineering), Youngtown work is progressing on getting this project ready for bidding through the NDDOT system. Little Heart Bridge – Martin Construction under contract and Shop Drawings approved. Bridge north of the Truck Stop (Sauber) - Quality Dirtworks is under contract and Shop Drawings being prepared. The bridge on County Road 80, awarded to Midwest Construction, shop drawings are approved. The 2 bridges SW of Fort Rice, awarded to Edward Schwartz, shop drawings are being reviewed. Bridge North of Mandan (KLJ), Road Commission agreed to straighten out road. Bridge W of Vern Leingang (Moore Engineering) under contract and shop drawings are approved. The bridge near Danzig Dam (SRF), received information from SRF that the COE will not approve a permit for a project that fills the channel, such as an RCB. The replacement bridge will have to be a bridge that is at least as long as the existing bridge. Design of this project has been paused indefinitely. Bridge North of Glen Ullin on the frontage road, NDDOT working on easement options since a portion of one of the wing walls will be on NDDOT (I-94) right of way.
- b. Construction Projects – Bid gravel crushing. Did not receive any bids. First plan will be to negotiate with Fisher to get price for crushing Stegmiller pit, provided Auditor Rhone states it is allowed, then possibly negotiate with Fisher to crush additional at the location they are using for Central Specialties. The second plan is to bid crushing at Stegmiller pit and Kaelberer pit.
- c. Culvert Replacements – All pipes have been ordered for 2023. Prices are approximately 5% lower than last year.
- d. Budget Update – Budget Amendment was approved on at the last Commission Meeting. The one item discussed was Contractor Assistance, which covers the Contract Snow Removal in January.
- e. Contract Snow Removal – Handle on a case by case basis. We will not repeat what was done in January, but hire Contractors if needed, due to a major snow storm. We are close to spring and snow melt.
- f. Public Service Commission Hearing Update – Jackie attended the PSC hearing for Summit Carbon Solutions, one of four around the State. Approximately 64% of the required easements have been acquired by Summit Carbon Solutions.
- g. Snow Cat Discussion – Chad and Kyle talked about a demonstration and said it looked promising. The Snow Cat they saw can be hired for \$175.00 per hour. That may be used if Contract Snow Removal is needed. Kyle recommended we start looking for a used one in the \$50,000 to \$75,000 range and budget for 2024. In addition, look for a gooseneck trailer for transport. Could be used for both snow removal and rescue.

Kyle made a motion to adjourn, Jackie 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting was adjourned at 11:04 am.