

Morton County Road Commission Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2019

Commissioner Ron Leingang called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Other commissioners present were Roger Hille, Jackie Buckley, Kyle Kirchmeier, and Travis Wolf. Also present were Chad Schneider, Engineer John Saiki, Wayne Seeman, Levi Peterson, Gene Kautzman, Louie Zachmeier, and Marvin Feist .

The order of items on the agenda was adjusted to move issues with representatives present to the beginning of the meeting. Motion by Jackie Buckley and Seconded by Kyle Kirchmeier to approve the agenda as presented with the above adjustment to the order. Unanimously approved

The minutes of the March 20th meeting were approved upon motion by Kirchmeier, seconded by Wolf, and unanimously approved.

Wayne Seeman presented a request to close a section line road between sections 5 and 6 of Twp 137, Range 81 West. After discussion, the commission decided to take no action on the issue at this time. Mr. Seeman agreed to place a gate across the section line road where he fences it off, and requested a gate be installed at the south end of the section line road where a fence currently exists.

Levi Peterson presented his concerns regarding vertical and horizontal alignment of 47th street located in section 26 of Twp 138-Range 84W. Hille made a motion to have the County Engineer pursue a project which involves bridge replacement and road realignment to correct some of his concerns. The motion was seconded by Wolf and unanimously approved.

Maintenance of Athens Drive (43rd street) was discussed. This road is not constructed to current standards and should be treated as a section line road with spot gravelling and minimal blading. Chad Schneider will correspond with Pearl Rhone accordingly. Motion by Kirchmeier, second by Wolf, and unanimously approved.

Gene Kautzman, Louie Zachmeier, and Marvin Feist presented their concerns regarding maintenance and/or improvement of Willow Road and Rock Haven Road. Engineer Saiki has investigated the issue, and recommends full reconstruction of both roads. The processes regarding special assessments were discussed. Engineer Saiki will proceed with oversight of the special assessment process.

Dust control in the area of the Northern Border pipeline near Glen Ullin, as well as other dust control issues were discussed. Motion by Hille and second by Buckley to recommend 50% cost share for requested dust palliative measures, to be applied once per year at a predetermined and scheduled time, with cost share to be paid prior to application. A minimum length of 800 LF for each application was also recommended, and the year 2020 budget would need to reflect funding for the issue. The motion was passed on a split vote, with Hille, Buckley, and Kirchmeier voting Aye, Wolf and Leingang voting Nay.

The status of underground storage tanks was discussed. Infiltration of water earlier in the year has caused problems and concerns. Motion was made by Hille, seconded by Wolf, and unanimously approved to proceed with investigation to determine the source of the infiltration so that appropriate action can be taken.

Lee Ingalls joined the meeting at approximately 11:00 AM to discuss an approach concern on CR 137 near the Heart River (Starks) bridge. Access to CR 137 at the approach is problematic for semi type vehicles. His issue will be addressed over the course of the summer during routine maintenance.

Requests to advertise for culvert and gravel crushing bids have been approved by the County Commission.

The Dozer owned by the Sheriff's department was discussed. Ownership will be transferred to the Highway Department. Sheriff Kirchmeier would like to have some building repairs and upgrades scheduled. Engineer Saiki will obtain quotes. Budgeting will be required to move forward with the project.

The Following updates were presented by Engineer Saiki:

Design of Sims, Little Heart River, and Youngtown bridge replacement projects are proceeding. Right of Way for the Sims project is complete. Relocation of the existing truss is expected, and interest has been shown by the local historical society to take the structure.

The preconstruction conference for the Almont bridge was held. Major construction is expected to begin in late May with completion expected in October.

Plans for the 16th street project are nearing completion.

Culvert projects for 2019 have been scheduled and materials have been ordered.

A budget update was provided.

Shop building repairs and improvements were discussed. Approval to install a door for approximately \$3500 in addition to insurance proceeds was given. Funds to be obtained from the current 2019 budget. Discussions with Auditor Rhone will be required to proceed with this project. Motion by Wolf, second by Kirchmeier, and unanimously approved.

A 5 yr plan has been requested by the County Commission, and is being developed. The Commission would like to see the plan prior to the May budgeting process.

Upon motion by Buckley, and second by Kirchmeier, the meeting was adjourned at 11:42 AM.