

Morton County Road Commission Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2019

Commissioner Ron Leingang called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM. Other commissioners present were Roger Hille, Jackie Buckley, Kyle Kirchmeier, and Travis Wolf. Present from the Highway Department were Chad Schneider, and John Saiki. Others present were Brad Norton, Daryl Winkler, Jim Beierlein, Tim Mormon, Toby Olin, Andrew Peltz, Donovan Meuchel, William Meuchel, Ross R. Doll, Lyle Peltz, and Neal Slavick.

The order of items on the agenda was adjusted to move agenda items 2 and 3 before item 1, and to add Sign management, Portable toilet, gravel screening, gravel prospecting, and workday/workweek discussions. Motion by Roger Hille and Seconded by Kyle Kirchmeier. Approved

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved upon motion by Kirchmeier and seconded by Buckley.

A number of residents from the New Salem and Glen Ullin areas were present to discuss the poor condition of the gravel roads in their areas. County Road 87 in the New Salem area is scheduled to be re-graveled next week, and County Road 140 will be scheduled for pulling in shoulders and narrowing to county standards in the next year or two. 35th street will be scheduled for scoria later this fall or early next spring. The general discussion evolved around the deteriorating condition of county gravel roads, especially those in the south and west portions of the county. One resident suggested County Rd 84 should be paved from County Road 21 to I-94. The commission thanked the group for taking time to come to the meeting and express their concerns.

Toby Olin and Brad Norton were present to discuss the section line and corresponding fences along the south side of section 5, Twp 138N, R 85W. A previous survey had been done in the area but not recorded. Both parties were advised to have an additional survey done to establish the section line, then erect any fences 33 feet from that line. A gate must be installed at the beginning of the section line to provide access.

Engineer Saiki provided an update on the design, construction, and culvert projects. The bypass at Almont is complete and bridge removal is scheduled for next week. The Simms Bridge is scheduled for a July letting and the Little Heart Bridge is still under design. A public meeting was held regarding the reconstruction of Willow road on June 12th, with many in attendance. No petition has been produced as of yet. The Knoll culvert is in, and three others are planned. Repair of the slide area along County Road 139 is scheduled for this summer.

Consultant inspection of <20' bridges was discussed. Hille suggested keeping the inspection in house, and will discuss further with John and Nate. A sign management system was discussed. Engineer Saiki was advised to further research available vendors and corresponding reviews from users.

Portable toilets for gravel crews were discussed. Screening of gravel piles can be included in this year's gravel crushing program. John will discuss that option with contractors prior to putting a bid package together. A motion was made by Hille and seconded by Wolf to acquire services of a gravel prospecting firm to assist in locating gravel deposits. The possibility of contracting out a portion of spring bituminous crack sealing was also discussed.

The current schedule of 4-10 hour work days was discussed.

The commission recommended we stay with the current schedule.

Chad Schneider reported that a used 627 cat scraper had been purchased and is scheduled for delivery this week. That purchase was within the allocated budget.

Upon motion by Buckley and second by Kirchmeier, the meeting was adjourned.