

Morton County Road Commission Meeting
Morton County Highway Department, 2916 37th St NW, Mandan, ND 58554
July 19, 2023

Commission members Present: Jackie Buckley, Roger Hille (telephone), Steve Tomac

Commission members Absent: Kyle Kirchmeier, Ron Leingang

Others present: John Saiki, Chad Schneider, Mark Starck, Darin Starck, John Sauber, Ron Ness, Joe Ness, Kevin Ritter, Tony Weiler, Tom Tokach, Lee Ingalls

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am by Vice-Chair Jackie Buckley

Steve made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Amended to add the items Policies, County Road 139A and Arborist at Timberhaven. Roger 2nd. Motion carried.

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

1. Discuss the location of the Stark Bridge – Designed to maintain 55 mph standard through the curve. Project is Federally Funded, don't want to jeopardize Federal Funding by requiring a variance due to a lower design speed. South location will require an estimated additional \$500,000 in grading to maintain the required design speeds. The water velocity at Flood Stage will be reduced from 9.0 feet per second (fps) with the old bridge to 5.5 fps with the new bridge. There will be Rip Rap installed under the bridge which should help in discouraging people from being underneath the bridge. With the bridge in the North location, 3.2 acres of new Right of Way will be required. The North location will be maintained.
2. Discuss replat of Tokach Timberhaven – Tom Tokach is not asking for Morton County to Maintain the Road. He understands and is not asking for County Maintenance. He is asking for guidance from the Road Commission on how wide an access easement is required for the County to issue a building permit. Roger recommended that he select a width for an access easement and start the process. Understanding that any access easements under 40 will not have much of a chance of approval.
3. 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. Bridge South of Almont (Sauber Engineering) design is progressing. Youngtown (AE2S Engineering), Youngtown work is progressing. The bridge is historical and adoption options are being advertised. Little Heart Bridge – Martin Construction plans on starting work the week of September 5th. Bridge north of the Truck Stop (Sauber) – The States Attorneys office sent a letter to the Bonding Company seeking at least the 5 percent Bid Bond. No response from the Bonding Company. At this point Morton County will cash the Bid Bond, follow up with the Bonding Company regarding a Performance Bond that was not forwarded to the County. The bridge on County Road 80, awarded to Midwest Construction, work scheduled for September. The 2 bridges SW of Fort Rice, awarded to Edward Schwartz, one Reinforced Concrete Box is complete and the other should be done next week. Bridge North of

Mandan (KLJ), Road Commission agreed to straighten out road. Bridge W of Vern Leingang (Moore Engineering) shop drawing have been 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 – We received a bid for Gravel Crushing from Fisher Sand & Gravel. The bid has been approved by the full Commission and a contract is in process.
 - c. Culvert Replacements – Work is ongoing replacing scheduled bridges with large diameter pipes.
 - d. Budget Update – Overtime and Salary are the budget lines that have been exceeded.
 - e. 2024 Budget – 2024 Budget was reviewed and discussed. Roger made a motion to approve the budget and send to full commission. Steve 2nd. Motion carried.
4. Policies – Policies were discussed. It was decided that Engineer Saiki would send copies of the outstanding policies that are known to the Commission Members and adding the Policy discussion to the August Road Commission Meeting.
 5. County Road 139A – Discussed the deterioration. Roger recommended talking to Auditor Rhone regarding possible funding since this was not included in the 2024 budget. The Engineers Estimate is \$800,000 for an overlay.
 6. Arborist at Timberhaven – Jackie had contacted Arborist from NDSU to inspect trees and make a recommendation on the trees at Timberhaven. The Arborist declined due to liability issues. Jackie has contacted other Arborists to get an estimate of the costs involved.

Roger made a motion to adjourn, Steve 2nd. Meeting was adjourned at 11:21 am.