

Morton County Road Commission Meeting
Morton County Highway Department, 2916 37th St NW, Mandan, ND 58554
August 17, 2023

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

Commission members Absent: Ron Leingang

Others present: John Saiki, Chad Schneider, Mark Isaacs

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Vice-Chair Jackie Buckley

Kyle made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Amended to move Timberhaven Tree Discussion to the first item and move the other items down. Added Minimum Maintenance Road discussion and Discussion regarding tree in the southeast quadrant of CR 139 and Judson Road. Steve 2nd. Motion carried.

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

1. Timberhaven Tree Discussion – Jackie, Chad, John and Nate met with Trent Schweitzer, an Arborist. The meeting was held at Tokach Timberhaven. Discussed with Trent priority for removing trees over the next 5 to 10 years. The plan would involve 1) Survey and establish Right of Way 2) Identify trees 3) Prioritize Trees based on risk and location 4) Develop a plan for removal. Roger made a motion : to authorize up to \$2500 for Mark Isaacs company to complete a survey and set Right of Way as appropriate. Steve 2nd. Motion carried.
2. Discuss County Road 137 Ditch Repair – ditch is located in the SW Quadrant of the intersection of CR 137 & ND 6. Water runs along the ditch and then flows into the field. NDDOT will not do anything despite their project changing the topography. Nate profiled the ditch. There is very little that can be cut to improve the ditch and flow properly to the existing culvert. The one correction that would most likely work would be to build a berm on the north side of the field, but that would be off County Right of Way. Steve recommending planting grass and making where the water flows ad grass waterway. Roger will follow up with the Road Commission decision.
3. Morton County Highway Department Policies – Reviewed the Mowing policy and made appropriate changes. Roger suggested reviewing one policy per meeting until the policies were reviewed.
4. Monthly Updates – a. Design Projects and Construction 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, scheduled for a February 2024 bid opening. 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, construction will start August 21st. Bridge North of Mandan (KLJ), Road Commission agreed to straighten out road. Road Commission agreed that KLJ is entitled to an additional \$35,000, due to adding an additional structure. That would bring the total to \$70,000. 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.

- 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.
- 5. Minimum Maintenance Roads – After discussion, the Road Commission decided that based on County Policy, no “Minimum Maintenance” signs.
- 6. Tree at the intersection of CR 139 & Judson Road (CR84) – since the tree is along the Right of Way Line and members of the Commission have visited the site, there are no adverse visibility issues.

Kyle made a motion to adjourn, Steve 2nd. Meeting was adjourned at 3:27 pm.