

Morton County Road Commission Meeting
Morton County Highway Department, 2916 37th St NW, Mandan, ND 58554
November 20, 2024

Commission members Present: Jackie Buckley, Ron Leingang, Kyle Kirchmeier, Roger Hille (telephone), Steve Tomac

Commission members Absent: None

Others present: John Saiki, Greg Petrick, BNI Coal, Paul Tokach

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Chair Jackie Buckley

Steve made a motion to approve the agenda. Kyle 2nd. Motion carried.

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

1. Greg Petrick – BNI Coal, Greg provided an update. The Oliver County Commission approved the closing of the roads for mine expansion. The closure will take place April 1, 2025. He asked that the Morton County roads, 37th and CR 140 be plowed regularly. They are both certainly 2nd Day Routes. There are three families impacted by the closure and may use these two roads in Morton County. The question was asked how long the closure will last. Greg said 30 years.
2. Discuss Policy 7007 – Weight Enforcement – Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier. The policy was reviewed. After discussion it was decided to remove the Harvest Permit Section on page 2, since Morton County does not issue Harvest Permits. Kyle will clean up the draft version and bring to the December Road Commission meeting for final review and approval.
3. Monthly Updates – a & b. Design Projects and Construction projects – Bridges near Flasher and St Anthony are under contract with APEX, bidding in January 2025. Structure design is progressing. Bridge South of Almont (Sauber Engineering) selected Alignment, Bidding January 2026. Schmidt Bridge is being designed by Ulteig Engineering. They have completed the Class III Environmental Investigation. Starck is open, old bridge removal should be complete this week. Youngtown bridge is scheduled for December 2024 bid opening. Will be issuing an RFP for Construction Engineering. Construction Engineering will be funded 100% by NDDOT, therefore we will be following the NDDOT process for selection. Graf bridge Box Culvert installation is complete as is backfilling. It should be open later this week. KLJ has completed survey, working permitting for the Mork bridge. Paving the Frontage Road, CR 139A, is complete. Fisher is crushing gravel.
 - c. Culvert Replacements – All work is complete. Trucks are saddled up and Wings are being installed on the Motor Graders this week. Bottom Ash from the power plant is being hauled to the yard. Salt was ordered and delivered a couple weeks ago.

- d. Budget Update – No large overages like last year. There appears to be an excess of money, but we still have a portion of the match for Starck Bridge, Gravel Crushing and the Graf Bridge to pay, in addition to operation costs. The Equipment line item is over significantly, since it represents total expenditures. Some of the equipment was paid for using COVID and ARPA funds and that is not reflected.
- e. Update on Bid Bond Graf Bridge – A check was received in the Auditors Office from the bonding company. This item will be removed from future agendas. Discussed ineligibility of Federal Aid on the Hebron projects. Morton County is in the process of appealing the decision of the NDDOT.

This was Ron Leingang's last meeting. He was thanked for his years of service to the Road Commission as well as the County Commission.

Kyle moved to adjourn, Roger 2nd. The meeting was adjourned 10:10 am.