

Morton County Road Commission Meeting
Morton County Highway Department, 2916 37th St NW, Mandan, ND 58554
December 21, 2022

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

Commission members Absent: Kyle Kirchmeier

Others present: John Saiki, Chad Schneider, Allen Koppy, Susan Toepke, Mark Isaacs
Ron Tokach

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

Steve made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Amended to add Jim and Susan Toepke concern to the agenda. Roger 2nd. motion carried.

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

1. Jim and Susan Toepke were asking about snow removal on 43rd St, which is a minimum maintenance road. Chad stated he did not think we should plow this road unless it is improved to our current standard. Susan Toepke was asked if she were interested in the County plowing 43 St and being billed by the County. She was not. No action was taken by Commission.

2. Tokach Timberhaven discussion – Ron Tokach was asking the County to maintain Timberhaven Drive and Dad's Drive. The Commission had previous decided that the County will not maintain these roads east of the mailboxes unless trees are removed and ditches cleaned. A short term compromise was reached. The County will plow snow to the end of Timberhaven Drive, but not Dad's Drive. If the trees are hitting the motorgrader cab then work will stop until the trees can be removed. Long term upgrades and the possibility of the County further taking over maintenance will be decided later.

3. Review Plat of County Shop Land and Travis Helfrich – Morton County States Attorney for Mor-Gran-Sioux Tom Bair stated an opinion that the vacated right of way is not to be returned to the adjacent property owners unless it was platted with the adjacent giving up the right of way. This would mean that Travis would claim the entire 40 feet, not the half or 20 feet as originally thought. Allen Koppy concurred with the opinion. Mark Isaacs will approach Travis about leaving the fences in their current locations and plat the lots accordingly. If Travis does not agree then Morton County would pursue an adverse possession ruling. after reviewing the items discussed at the previous meeting, the Commission decided that the County will move the North-South fence to the correct location on County property. The County will also claim the 20 feet of easement. Roger made a motion North South property line, along lot 2 west line common with lot 1, move fence to align with new existing fence 1.5 feet on County property. Kyle 2nd, motion carries.

4. a. 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 on getting this project ready for bidding through the NDDOT system. Little Heart Bridge – Martin Construction under contract. Bridge north of the Truck Stop (Sauber) - Quality Dirtworks is under contract. The bridge on County Road 80, awarded to Midwest Construction, shop drawings are being reviewed. The 2 bridges SW of Fort Rice, awarded to Edward Schwartz, shop drawings are being reviewed. Bridge North of Mandan (KLJ), Road Commission agreed to straighten out road. . Bridge W of Vern Leingang (Moore Engineering) is being advertised. 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 – No current work.
 - c. Culvert Replacements – No current work.
 - d. Budget Update – Expenditures were reviewed. Fuel is high, but overall, we are in better shape than a year ago. We will be spending approximately \$100,000 on additional gravel crushing, bridge replacement line item is over due to COVID money spent on bridge design
5. Contract Plowing and Snow Blowers – getting contractors under contract due to heavy snow falls.
 6. Snow gates – Item revisited. Due to number of drivers who go stuck on Old 10 after finding out Interstate was closed, the Commission voted to install two snow gates, one on Old 10 south of the Truck stop and the other east of New Salem. Roger made a motion to install two snow gates. Steve 2nd, motion carried.

Ron made a motion to adjourn, Roger 2nd. Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.