

EATON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

January 26, 2021

A regular meeting of the Eaton County Board of Road Commissioners was held by video conferencing, Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act and Senate Bill 1108, on January 26, 2021.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lyons at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Commissioners Lyons, Lamoreaux, Frazier and Eldred

Members absent: Commissioner Aitch-Guerrant

Others present: Blair Ballou, Engineer/Manager; Matt Hannahs, Assistant County Engineer; Jeremiah Nelson, Acting Superintendent and Patty Loosemore, Finance Director

Motion by Frazier and seconded by Lamoreaux that the agenda be approved as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes: Lyons, Lamoreaux, Eldred and Frazier; Nays: None; Absent: Aitch-Guerrant. Motion carried.

The Chairman asked if the minutes of the January 12, 2021 meeting were correct as presented. Motion by Eldred and seconded by Frazier to approve the January 12, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes: Lyons, Lamoreaux, Eldred and Frazier; Nays: None; Absent: Aitch-Guerrant. Motion carried.

Public comment: None

The following vouchers were presented:

a.)	VO. 28 (01-14-21)	Accounts Payable	\$	66,510.21
b.)	VO 29 (01-21-21)	Payroll	\$	94,119.87
c.)	VO 30 (01-21-21)	Accounts Payable	\$	145,173.72

Motion by Eldred and seconded by Lamoreaux that the vouchers with total expenditures of \$305,803.80 be approved. Roll call vote: Ayes: Lyons, Lamoreaux, Eldred and Frazier; Nays: None; Absent: Aitch-Guerrant. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed and discussed the request by the Engineer/Manager for authorization to invoke, suspend, and rescind seasonal weight restrictions as necessary. Motion by Eldred and seconded by Frazier to authorize the Engineer/Manager to invoke, suspend and rescind seasonal weight restrictions as necessary. Roll call vote: Ayes: Lyons, Lamoreaux, Eldred and Frazier; Nays: None; Absent: Aitch-Guerrant. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed and discussed the resolution of support and commitment for the statewide local agency bridge bundle pilot project as presented by the Assistant County Engineer. Motion by Timothy J. Lamoreaux and seconded by Duane A. Eldred to adopt the following resolution and designate the Assistant County Engineer as the employee representative to serve as a point person for the Eaton County Road Commission:

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WHEREAS, The Michigan Department of Transportation (“MDOT”) announced in the Spring of 2018 an initiative to address the needs of Michigan’s local bridge conditions through an innovative delivery method known as “bridge bundling;”

WHEREAS, MDOT reached out to the County Road Association of Michigan (“CRA”) and the Michigan Municipal League (“MML”) to work together on such an initiative for the benefit of their mutual communities, and in the interest of public safety and the Michigan taxpayers.

WHEREAS, MDOT studied the feasibility of such an efficiency initiative in 2019 with input from local agency bridge owners, engineers and other key stakeholders statewide;

WHEREAS, the study recommended implementing an “early works” bundle pilot project (“PILOT”) to provide opportunity for state and local partners to establish the necessary partnerships and processes for a successful overall program;

WHEREAS, MDOT has identified \$23 million dollars in federal highway funds for such a PILOT, and has screened and selected a number of local bridges from a statewide review of local bridges for inclusion in same, with no local cash match or local funding required for any phase of the PILOT;

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Road Commission has agreed to the inclusion of the following bridge in the PILOT, with associated planned work:

Structure No. 2340 – Five Point Highway Bridge over the Battle Creek River

subject to final approval by MDOT and FHWA;

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Road Commission understands that the work as planned will be undertaken in a design-build contract to be let and awarded by MDOT at no cost to the Eaton County Road Commission;

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Road Commission acknowledges that the purpose of the PILOT is to address critical structural preservation needs only and agrees that any requests to add or include work identified by MDOT to be either maintenance-related, a betterment or non-structural improvement to the planned preservation scope shall only be undertaken subject to the approval of MDOT and at 100% Eaton County Road Commission cost;

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Road Commission acknowledges that neither MDOT nor its third-party agents, contractors or consultants are assuming any ownership or responsibility for the future operation or maintenance of the improvements constructed in connection with the PILOT, and that MDOT shall turn over design and as-built plans to the Eaton County Road Commission upon completion of construction;

WHEREAS, upon completion of the construction, the Eaton County Road Commission shall accept the facilities constructed as built to specifications within the construction contract documents. It is understood that the Eaton County Road Commission shall have jurisdiction over and shall operate and maintain the facilities in accordance with applicable law at no cost to MDOT;

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WHEREAS, the Eaton County Road Commission agrees to perform long-term, life-cycle maintenance of the improvements made to its bridge included in the PILOT in accordance with sound principles of asset management upon completion of the work;

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Road Commission has designated an employee representative ("CHAMPION") to serve as a point person for the agency with necessary authority and resources to act and direct its staff and third-party agents to facilitate coordination of its portion of the PILOT with MDOT;

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Road Commission hereby acknowledges that MDOT and its consultants have the appropriate authority to act on its behalf in the planning, design, construction and administration of the PILOT, while allowing Eaton County Road Commission staff input during design and reasonable access during construction to perform its own observations and inspections if desired;

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Road Commission agrees to support implementation of the PILOT consistent with the attached "Responsibilities of Local Agency Champions" as approved by MDOT in September 2020;

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Road Commission acknowledges and agrees that none of its direct or indirect costs incurred in connection with its participation in the PILOT shall be reimbursable by MDOT or FHWA;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Eaton County Road Commission hereby agrees to support implementation of the PILOT to help facilitate the preservation of Michigan's local bridges.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Lyons, Lamoreaux, Eldred and Frazier; Nays: None; Absent: Aitch-Guerrant. Resolution adopted.

The Assistant County Engineer updated the Board on work being done by the engineering staff. He has obtained an additional coop student for summer 2021. He updated the Board on the 2021 projects.

The Acting Superintendent updated the Board on maintenance activities being performed throughout the county.

The Engineer/Manager updated the Board on the Security audit. The final bid specs have a few revisions that are being made and should be ready to put out to bid soon. He shared correspondence received from EGLE regarding the FAR from an underground storage tank. He updated the Board on Covid-19 information received from MCRCSIP.

The date and time of the next regular meeting will be Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at 8:30 a.m.

Motion by Frazier and seconded by Eldred to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m. Motion carried.

Benjamin S. Lyons, Chairman

Patricia M. Loosemore, Clerk to the Board