

EATON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

August 8, 2023

A regular meeting of the Eaton County Board of Road Commissioners was held in the Board Room at the Road Commission offices in Charlotte, Michigan on August 8, 2023.

Members present: Commissioners Eldred, Barber, Lyons, Aitch-Guerrant and Lamoreaux.

Members absent: None

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Eldred at 8:31 a.m.

The Chairman inquired if there were additions or deletions to the agenda. Additions: None. Deletions: Remove Consider Wage Authorization. Motion by Lamoreaux and seconded by Lyons to approve the agenda with the deletion. Motion carried.

The Chairman asked if the minutes of the July 25, 2023, meeting were correct as presented. Motion by Lamoreaux and seconded by Barber to approve the July 25, 2023, minutes. Motion carried.

Public comment: The Madrey's brought forth a community issue. They inquired and suggested having rumble strips installed on Five Point Hwy and Ionia Road.

The following vouchers were presented:

a.	VO 56 (07/27/23)	Accounts Payable	\$ 242,828.82
b.	VO 57 (08/01/23)	Payroll	\$ 99,183.30
c.	VO 58 (08/03/23)	Accounts Payable	\$ 763,786.17

There was some discussion. Motion by Lamoreaux and seconded by Barber to approve vouchers 56 - 58 with total expenditures of \$1,105,798.29. Roll call vote: Ayes: Eldred, Barber, Lyons, Aitch, and Lamoreaux. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

The Assistant Engineer requested the Board to consider bids received for Engineering Services on the Smithville Rd Bridge PM Design. She recommended awarding the contract to the lowest bidder, Wightman. There was some discussion. Motion by Lyons and seconded by Barber to award the contract for engineering services on the Smithville Rd Bridge PM Design project to Wightman, the lowest bidder. Motion carried.

The Engineer/Manager recommended the Board adopt a Resolution for the Hawk Meadow TAP Funding Application.

Motion by Lyons and seconded by Barber to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a federally funded program administered in Michigan by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT); and,

WHEREAS, Delta Township has requested the Eaton County Road Commission apply for TAP funds to construct a non-motorized pathway along Webster Road, Clinton Street, and Delta River Drive to provide a separated non-motorized connection between township parks Delta Mills Park and Hawk Meadow Park; and,

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Road Commission assures the necessary funds have been dedicated to provide all costs not paid for by Federal funds, including any cost overruns and the costs for the operation and maintenance of the project; and

WHEREAS, Eaton County Road Commission assures the requirements for engineering, permitting, administration, operation, funding, and maintenance will be fulfilled for the facility constructed using TAP funds; and,

WHEREAS, Mathew Hannahs, P.E., Engineer-Manager, is authorized to act as the agent/representative on behalf of Eaton County Road Commission during project development; and,

WHEREAS, the project agreement (contract) for receipt of the grant funding award will be reviewed prior to, and considered at, a regular meeting of the Board of Eaton County Road Commissioners; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eaton County Road Commission is applying for funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program, a federally funded program administered in Michigan by the MDOT Program to construct a non-motorized pathway along Webster Road, Clinton Street, and Delta River Drive to provide a separated non-motorized connection between township parks Delta Mills Park and Hawk Meadow Park; and,

FURTHER, that the grant request is for 80% of the estimated construction costs with the remaining 20% paid for by local match.

There was some discussion. Motion carried.

The Engineer/Manager recommended the Board adopt a Resolution for the Overbrook Drive and Millstone Drive Traffic Control Order.

Motion by Lamoreaux and seconded by Aitch to adopt the following resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the staff of the Eaton County Road Commission be authorized to install a yield sign at the new east leg of Overbrook Drive at Millstone Drive and that the Board Chairman be authorized to sign the Traffic Control Order.

There was some discussion. Motion Carried.

The Engineer-Manager requested the Walton Township Agreement for the Harris Road Bridge project be postponed until the August 22, 2023 Board meeting. The Board unanimously agreed to postpone this agenda item.

The Chairman requested the Board to review the Engineer/Manager Evaluation. There was some discussion. The Chairman requested the Board members to complete and provide the results of the Engineer/Manager Evaluation by the August 22, 2023 Board meeting. The Board members agreed to do so.

The Superintendent provided an update on the following item:

- Sealcoat and fog seal - complete. Received compliments on how well it all looks. Separate company hauling tar instead of the emulsion company, have done over 100 miles. No demerit charges this year. Lots of compliments on the work that has been done.
- Re-gravels - almost done. Carr has a few miles to finish. Hoping to be done next week.
- Dust Control - starting second application on Monday.
- Roadside mowing – starting Monday. Discussion on what we can do to control brush and foliage better, spray program in the next couple of years possibly.
- Driveway removals - getting ready for projects.
- Installation of culverts – in the works.
- Commissioner Lyons asked about maintenance on culverts and such, Jere said some are being done and there is a list of replacements they will get to.

The Assistant Engineer provided an update on the following items:

- Battle Creek - open to traffic, one more slope restoration before completed.
- Five Point - finished crushing, paving next week (weather dependent) open by August 18.
- Regravel - Crandell is done, crush/shape driveways will be cut or milled to be smooth.
- Paving - will start soon. Creyts is especially needed to be completed. Liquidated damage will start, and flexibility is not an option. A gentle reminder of this in the contract will be provided to the paving company.
- EGLE audit - is almost done, final paperwork next week.
- Staff update – M. Tate probation is over, performance review completed.

The Engineer/Manager provided an update on the following items:

- Royston (Hume/Wood conflict) – resident keeps blocking culvert. The Drain office was going to replace grate on the county drain near there.
- Vermontville Hwy house - email out to MCRISIP to see if it is on our policy. Checking with demolishing company to see if asbestos or other issue.
- Burkett Letter - giving thanks and notifying us they will not continue plowing.

Correspondence:

- CRA Email RE Jurisdictional Transfer Payments – MDOT plans to discontinue (decision made internally), 32 counties this will affect.
- Ionia Rd/Five Pt Crash Report – no fatalities in 10 years, 1 incapacitating injury; approximately 20<sup>th</sup> in the ranking of rural intersection issues. Discussion on rumble strips, trimming brush and reflectors on signs. MDOT is also doing a safety audit on ECRC intersections.

Other: None

Public comment: None

Commissioner Comment:

- Commissioner Lyons – chip seal, Ingham County does some and contracts some out. Have we thought about that? Jere indicated that scheduling is more of an issue. The Commissioner suggested that contracted may alleviate staff shortage issue to get more done and be able to do maintenance at the same time.

Motion by Lyons and seconded by Aitch to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.

The date and time of the next regular meeting will be Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

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Duane A. Eldred, Chairman

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Louanna L. Lawson, Clerk to the Board