

EATON COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

October 28, 2025

Members present: Commissioners Eldred, Lamoreaux, Green and Kendall

Members absent: Commissioners Aitch-Guerrant

Others present: Mathew Hannahs, Engineer-Manager; Patricia Loosemore, Finance Director; Jeremiah Nelson, Superintendent and Erik Dehring, Director of Engineering, David Howell, Lisa Sykes, Ralph Chapman, Dana Ross, Dennis Cooling, Brad Hoffman, Denise Hawkins, Catherine McGurney, Jim McGurney, Jean Prout, David Prout, Rebecca Fatura, Dave Brown, Clarence Hebenstreit, Shawn O'Brien

The regular meeting was called to order by Chair Eldred at 6:00 p.m.

The Chair inquired whether there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were no additions or deletions. Motion by Lamoreaux and seconded by Green to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

A public hearing to provide the public with an opportunity to offer opinions and concerns regarding the absolute abandonment and discontinuance of Guinea Road from Sundance Highway to a point 1,200 Feet North of Sundance Highway followed by a regular meeting of the Eaton County Board of Road Commissioners was held in the Board Room at the Road Commission office in Charlotte, Michigan on October 14, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.

The public hearing was called to order by Chair Eldred at 6:01 p.m. and was turned over to the Engineer-Manager to conduct the hearing. The Engineer-Manager stated this notice is being given, and a public hearing is being held, in accordance with P.A. 283 of 1909 as amended, Section 224.18 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The purpose of the public hearing to hear any objections to the Absolute Abandonment and Discontinuance of a certain County Road or portion thereof according as follows:

The southern 1,200 feet of GUINEA ROAD which lies north of the existing Sundance Highway being approximately 1,200 feet in length, Township of Delta, Eaton County, Michigan. The remaining portion of Guinea Road from Mt. Hope Highway to a point 1,200 feet north of Sundance Highway has not been petitioned for abandonment and would continue to exist as a public road under the jurisdiction of the Eaton County Road Commission.

The Engineer-Manager asked for public comments for the hearing:

David Howell, 9487 Guinea Road stated that he has lived on Guinea Road for 15 years and is in favor of the abandonment. The road has character and a lot of wildlife, and he would like to see it preserved.

Lisa Sykes, 9650 Guinea Road stated that she has lived there 38 years. She emphasized the wildlife, people that walk on the road and her support for the abandonment.

Ralph Chapman, 9360 Guinea Road stated he is in support with the abandonment of the road.

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Clarence Hebenstreit, 9642 Guinea Road, loves the wildlife and is in support of the abandonment.

Shawn O'Brien, 9660 Guinea Road, states that it was poor planning to build a GM plant in the proximity and he is in support of the abandonment.

The Engineer-Manager thanked the citizens for their public comments.

The public hearing was closed by Chair Eldred at 6:26 p.m.

The Chair asked if the minutes of the October 14, 2025, regular board meeting, were correct as presented. Motion by Lamoreaux and seconded by Green to approve October 14, 2025, meeting minutes, as presented. Motion carried.

Public comment: None

The following vouchers were presented:

a.	VO 2 (10-20-25)	Accounts Payable	\$ 821,663.65
b.	VO 3 (10-24-25)	Payroll	\$ 110,891.17
c.	VO 4 (10-24-25)	Accounts Payable	\$ 779,178.04

Motion by Lamoreaux and seconded by Kendall to approve Vouchers 2, 3 and 4 with total expenditures of \$1,711,732.86. Roll call vote: Ayes: Eldred, Lamoreaux, Green and Kendall. Nays: None. Absent: Aitch-Guerrant. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed and discussed the abandonment of Guinea Road from Sundance Highway to a point 1,200 Feet North of Sundance Highway as presented by the Engineer-Manager with a recommendation that the Board pass a resolution approving the abandonment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ronald E. Kendall to adopt the following resolution:

October 28, 2025

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Road Commission (the “Commission”) received an abandonment petition (“Petition”), which is attached as Exhibit 1, signed by at least seven freeholders of Delta Township, seeking the absolute abandonment and discontinuance of a portion of Guinea Road specifically described below and depicted in Exhibit 1 (the “Road”), which is located in Delta Township, Eaton County, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the Petition is valid, the signatures have been verified as freeholders of Delta Township, and the Petition does not contain the signatures of all of the owners of record and occupants of land abutting the Road with a certification of the same; and

WHEREAS, public road abandonment and discontinuance petitions are governed by MCL 224.18, which is part of Public Act 283 of 1909, commonly referred to as the General Highway Law; and

WHEREAS, except as provided in MCL 224.18(8), in instances where the petition is not signed by all the owners of record and occupants of land abutting the portions of road to be abandoned, the Commission is authorized by MCL 224.18(5) to abandon roads only following a public hearing held pursuant to written notice issued at the times prescribed by the statute to all adjacent owners and occupants of land and the township;

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held at 6:30 P.M. on October 28, 2025, to hear objections to the Absolute Abandonment and Discontinuance of a portion of said Guinea Road in Delta Township, and

WHEREAS, the Road is not adjacent to and does not border on, cross, or end at a lake or the general course of a stream; and

WHEREAS, the Engineer-Manager employed by the Board has proceeded to view the premises described in the petition and notice and has advised the Board as to the advisability of absolutely abandoning and discontinuing a portion of the Road pursuant to the petition, as required by MCL 224.18(7).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Road Commissioners of the County of Eaton as follows:

1. The Board determines that abandoning and discontinuing of Guinea Road from Sundance Highway to 1,200 feet north of Sundance Highway is advisable and in the best interest of the public.
2. The portion of road described below and depicted in Exhibit 1 will be absolutely abandoned and discontinued on March 31, 2026:
 - a. Guinea Road from Sundance Highway to 1,200 feet north of Sundance Highway
3. A copy of this Resolution with the Exhibit shall be recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Eaton County.
4. The full record and return of these proceedings shall be filed with the state transportation commission within 30 days after final determination.
5. A copy of this Resolution with the Exhibit shall be forwarded to Delta Township.

6. The Board of Eaton County Road Commissioners does hereby reserve an easement for public utility purposes within the right-of-way of this section of Guinea Road that is absolutely abandoned and discontinued.
7. Because the petition did not contain the signatures of all adjacent owners and occupants and the road(s) or parts of road(s) to be abandoned to does not border, cross, run adjacent to, or end in a lake or the general course of a stream, the road(s) or parts of road(s) to be abandoned shall be either quitclaimed or relinquished to the Township.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner James F. Green and carried on a roll call vote.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Eldred, Lamoreaux, Green and Kendall. Nays: None. Absent: Aitch-Guerrant. Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

The Board reviewed and discussed the extension of Bracey Highway as presented by the Engineer-Manager with a recommendation that the Board adopt a resolution approving the extension.

A motion was made by Commissioner Timothy J. Lamoreaux to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Statutes of the State of Michigan require all roads and streets eligible to become a part of the County Road System to be formally accepted by resolution of said Board; and,

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation by virtue of Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended, requires proof of the acceptance of all roads subsequent to April 1, 1951, by said Board; and,

WHEREAS, parcel splits have been issued by the County of Eaton beyond the existing end of a County Road to create land-locked parcels, and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Eaton County Road Commissioners, that the following road be adopted into the Local Road System of the County of Eaton and thereby become eligible for funds from the Michigan Transportation Fund as specified in Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended and supplemented:

Bracy Highway, from its existing end to a distance 1,625 feet from the centerline of Ainger Road, Section 32, Carmel Township

<u>Road Name</u>	<u>Township/Sheet</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Length Change</u>	
				<u>Countywide</u>	<u>Urban</u>
Bracey Hwy	Carmel Twp, Sec 32, Sheet 53	Ex. End	1,625 feet east of Ainger Rd	+0.04 miles	N/A

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald E. Kendall and carried on a roll call vote.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Eldred, Lamoreaux, Green and Kendall. Nays: None. Absent: Aitch-Guerrant. Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

The Engineer-Manager asked that the agenda item: c. Consider adopting Ena Drive into the public system be moved to Old Business.

The Board and Engineer-Manager discussed a date change for the Christmas Luncheon that would allow all employees to attend. The new date is December 4, 2025.

The Superintendent updated the Board on the following

- Brush mowing throughout county
- Culvert installations
- Gravel maintenance (blading gravels)
- Crack sealing
- Buildings & Grounds Maintenance
- Installing winter equipment on trucks
- Delta salt barn roof is complete
- Lean-too is a few weeks out.
- Security System repair in Delta should be completed by end of the week

The Director of Engineering provided an update on the following:

- Nixon Rd. from Davis Hwy. to Sundance Hwy. – Hoffman Bros. is removing the surcharge material from the rolling surcharge. Road building is continuing to move north. Yesterday Hoffman began excavating the intersection of Nixon Rd. at Sundance Hwy.
- We are in the process of closing out the Bellevue Hwy. project
- We are gathering survey information for Bellevue Hwy. from Brookfield Rd. to Thuma Rd. for the project to take place next year.
- We are working with our consultant preparing plans for Holt Hwy. and Millett Hwy. for next year.
- I have inspected and the engineering department gathered survey data for the Nashville Hwy. Bridge repair. We are looking at different options for repair.

The Engineer-Manager updated the Board regarding the following:

- FY2026 Local Revenue Sharing Estimates

Public comment: None

Commissioner Comments: None

The date and time of the next regular meeting will be Tuesday, November 25, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Lamoreaux and seconded by Green to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m. Motion carried.

Duane A. Eldred, Chair

Patricia M. Loosemore, Clerk to the Board

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Roll call vote: Ayes: Eldred, Lamoreaux, Green and Kendall. Nays: None. Absent: Aitch-Guerrant. Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

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WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation by virtue of Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended, requires proof of the acceptance of all roads subsequent to April 1, 1951, by said Board; and,

WHEREAS, parcel splits have been issued by the County of Eaton beyond the existing end of a County Road to create land-locked parcels, and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Eaton County Road Commissioners, that the following road be adopted into the Local Road System of the County of Eaton and thereby become eligible for funds from the Michigan Transportation Fund as specified in Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended and supplemented:

Bracy Highway, from its existing end to a distance 1,625 feet from the centerline of Ainger Road, Section 32, Carmel Township

<u>Road Name</u>	<u>Township/Sheet</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Length Change</u>	
				<u>Countywide</u>	<u>Urban</u>
Bracey Hwy	Carmel Twp, Sec 32, Sheet 53	Ex. End	1,625 feet east of Ainger Rd	+0.04 miles	N/A

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald E. Kendall and carried on a roll call vote.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Eldred, Lamoreaux, Green and Kendall. Nays: None. Absent: Aitch-Guerrant. Motion carried. Resolution declared adopted.

The Engineer-Manager asked that the agenda item: c. Consider adopting Ena Drive into the public system be moved to Old Business.

The Board and Engineer-Manager discussed a date change for the Christmas Luncheon that would allow all employees to attend. The new date is December 4, 2025.

The Superintendent updated the Board on the following

- Brush mowing throughout county
- Culvert installations
- Gravel maintenance (blading gravels)
- Crack sealing
- Buildings & Grounds Maintenance
- Installing winter equipment on trucks
- Delta salt barn roof is complete
- Lean-too is a few weeks out.
- Security System repair in Delta should be completed by end of the week

The Director of Engineering provided an update on the following:

- Nixon Rd. from Davis Hwy. to Sundance Hwy. – Hoffman Bros. is removing the surcharge material from the rolling surcharge. Road building is continuing to move north. Yesterday Hoffman began excavating the intersection of Nixon Rd. at Sundance Hwy.
- We are in the process of closing out the Bellevue Hwy. project
- We are gathering survey information for Bellevue Hwy. from Brookfield Rd. to Thuma Rd. for the project to take place next year.
- We are working with our consultant preparing plans for Holt Hwy. and Millett Hwy. for next year.
- I have inspected and the engineering department gathered survey data for the Nashville Hwy. Bridge repair. We are looking at different options for repair.

The Engineer-Manager updated the Board regarding the following:

- FY2026 Local Revenue Sharing Estimates

Public comment: None

Commissioner Comments: None

The date and time of the next regular meeting will be Tuesday, November 25, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Lamoreaux and seconded by Green to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m. Motion carried.

Duane A. Eldred, Chair

Patricia M. Loosemore, Clerk to the Board