

HILLSDALE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

October 12, 2023

MINUTES

Meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Godfrey on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the road commission office.

Members Present: Bob Godfrey, Gary Leininger, Mike Parney, Mark Kline, and Kathy Schmitt.

Staff Present: Bob Griffis, Manager.  
Kathryn Kirkpatrick, Clerk.  
Sarah Cook, Administrative Services Specialist.  
Kevin Sanders, Operations Superintendent.  
John Reed, Safety Director

Visitors Present: Doug Ingles.  
Allan Andrews.  
Matt Word, HCDC.  
Rich Graham, Spicer Group.  
Maureen Miller.  
Linda Burcewicz.  
Kelly Mapes.  
Glen Frobel.  
Bob Eicher.  
Nick Bentley.  
Don Hobbs.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

# 23-135 Kathy Schmitt moved, Mark Kline supported, to approve the agenda for October 12, 2023 with 2 additions to the agenda. Motion Carried.

**MINUTES APPROVED AS AMENDED**

Having reviewed the minutes of the September 28, 2023 meeting, the chair asked if there were any corrections to be noted. There were corrections to be made to the minutes, and the chair declared the minutes to stand approved as amended.

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**APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

#23-136 Kathy Schmitt moved, Gary Leininger seconded, to approve the following:

Bills in the amount of \$316,390.54 and electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$41,805.48 for the total of \$358,196.02 per Regular Accounts Payable Check Register dated 10/05/2023 authorized by manager and clerk.

Motion Carried.

**CONFIRMATION OF PAYROLL AS AUTHORIZED FOR PAYMENT BY THE STAFF**

#23-137 Gary Leininger moved, Mark Kline supported, to confirm the following:

Regular payroll in the amount of \$110,315.69 per Payroll Check Registers dated 10/12/2023 authorized by manager and clerk.

Motion Carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT PRESENTED**

The treasurer's report was presented by the clerk as follows:

Beginning Balance-Cash & Investments	\$4,235,580.87
Receipts	\$ 735,093.60
Disbursements	(\$ 468,511.71)
Ending Cash & Investments Balance	\$ 4,502,162.76
Less: Bonds in Escrow	(\$ 10,250.00)
CD Reserved for 2 trucks	(\$ 629,182.61)
Ending Available Fund Balance	\$ 3,862,730.15

Note: Outstanding Accounts Payable = \$10,496.43

As there were no questions or comments regarding the report, the chair declared the report to stand approved as read.

**Hillsdale County Drain Commission – Stump Drain Repair on M-99**

At 10:15 a.m., the Hillsdale County Drain Commissioner, Matt Word, and Engineer, Rich Graham, discussed how and when to repair the M-99 county drain (Stump #246) as requested by MDOT. Their discussion included the reasoning for current failure and improvements to be made to prevent repeat failure.

HILLSDALE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

October 12, 2023

MINUTES

**LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT**

At 10:20 a.m., the chair opened the meeting to limited public comment.

Glen Frobel addressed the board about the condition and safety of the shoulder and ditch area on Bunn Rd.

Chris Wingate addressed the board regarding cold patching and seal coating processes, and is interested in the possible sale of used culverts.

Don Hobbs addressed the board regarding Jackson County Invoices. He also thanked the manager for recording the last union meeting.

Kelly Mapes also inquired about the seal coating process.

**Manager's Comments**

Requested the commissioners to E-Sign the MDOT contract for the Territorial Road Bridge Project.

Seal coating projects for this year are complete, except for the work being done in City of Reading.

Fog seal was done on N & S Bradley Dr in Somerset Twp was done by JDOT with their leftover material from their projects.

The JDOT sweeper has been doing work in some areas with a focus on lake areas.

The JDOT milled butt joints and tapered them on Montgomery Rd between M49 and Abbott Rd. Culvert replacement projects have been completed on Dennings Rd and Mead Rd.

Paver patching has been done on Pittsford Rd and Squawfield Rd.

Ditch and de-berm projects have begun, starting with Blair Rd. and Blackbridge Rd.

Camden Rd. Crush and Shape project was completed, except for 1 spot that needs more attention – waiting to determine who will pay for it.

Cole Rd. (border of Allen Twp and Reading Twp) – the engineer is developing a game plan and will be determining the correct water flow path and having the gas lines marked first.

Ninety percent of long line painting is done. Will be starting specialty painting for crosswalks, etc. soon.

MCRSIP is still reviewing the road agreement between HCRC and Ranger Power. Ranger Power has said that no trucks will be oversized or overweight.

M49/Arkansaw Rd. – planned to be open end of day tomorrow (weather permitting).

Stoneco is still in negotiations with Moscow Twp over Bibbins Rd.

Discussed culvert size at Sterling Rd. at Tim Godfrey's property to correct drainage issue.

Wants to develop a plan for directional signage for Kimball Camp.

Removed tree from the dam in Cambria township.

Stevens Pit – to allow Van Brunt Transport to rent storage space in pit up to 6 months at \$800 per month. The board gave the manager permission to work on a contract with Van Brunt Transport.

Gravel is still being processed, 16,000 yards has been processed already. The grade is at a high 22A.

The Frugal 5 meeting will be on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

HILLSDALE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

October 12, 2023

MINUTES

Amish have filled in ditches and started to build a phone booth on HCRC property on Woodbridge Rd. Manager went out and informed them that this is not allowed, and we will be checking in a couple weeks to see if activity has stopped.

Still haven't received the Act 51 approval. Suggested supplying final audit as presented to the county and the townships without Act 51 approval, with approval from the board.

Milbocker & Sons, Inc. was the lowest bidder for the Territorial Road Bridges. Once MDOT receives e-signatures, Milbocker & Sons, Inc. will be rewarded.

**RESCIND MOTION #23-117 AND TO SUPPLY FINAL AUDIT TO MUNICIPALITIES**

**#23-138** Mike Parney moved, Kathy Schmitt supported, to rescind motion #23-117 and approved to supply the final audit to the county and the townships as presented, instead of waiting for the Act 51 to be approved by MDOT. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

Discussed road closure updates for bridge project in Allen Twp and the Elm Rd. bridge project. Discussed the trucks available at the dealer and considered making a decision to purchase at the next meeting if the budget can allow it.

Discussed ordering updated maps with local and primary roads marked.

Discussed the condition of Spotts Rd at Bird Lake Rd and M-99.

Discussed the Brine Battle with EAGLE and the potential for a resolution.

**New Business**

Discussed the process for the 2024 Budget.

**LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT**

At 11:30 a.m., the chair opened the meeting to limited public comment.

Alan Andrews addressed the board regarding drainage issue at Long Lake Road. South of Card Road.

Chris Wingate requested from the board more information about Ranger Power and their plans for solar power.

Don Hobbs addressed the board regarding Jackson invoices, and inquired about which commissioners were up for re-election. Also questioned the process for PERA requests.

Kelley Mapes inquired about the requirements for filling in ditches.

Bob Eicher addressed the board regarding Tim Godfrey's proposed ditch project and expressed concern for the culvert's effects on local wildlife.

**Meeting Adjourned – 11:55 A.M.**

As there was no further business, the chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:35 A.M.

  
Chair

  
Clerk