

Washtenaw County Board of Road Commissioners

555 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Virtual Board Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2020

Board Present: Road Commissioners Douglas Fuller, Barbara Fuller, Rod Green, Gloria Llamas, Jo Ann McCollum

Staff Present: S. Siddall, M. MacDonell, J. Harmon, D. Ackerman, C. Ryan, E. Kizer, C. Quinter, C. Brochue, M. McCulloch, N. Peterson

Others Present: Sue Shink, County Commissioner – District 2; Ruth Ann Jamnick, County Commissioner – District 5; D. Troyka, Legal Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Douglas Fuller, Chair.

Roll Call of Attendance

Doug Fuller, Chair

Barb Fuller, Vice Chair

Rod Green, Member

Gloria Llamas, Member

Jo Ann McCollum, Member

Sheryl Siddall, Managing Director

Matt MacDonell, Director of Engineering/County Highway Engineer

Jim Harmon, Director of Operations

Dan Ackerman, Director of Finance & IT

A moment of silence was recognized to honor Zach Morisette, a Macomb County Road Department employee who was killed and all road workers who have been injured or killed performing their job duties.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RC20-273 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES

RC20-274 J. McCollum moved, R. Green seconded to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of September 15, 2020 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

RC20-275 R. Green moved, B. Fuller seconded to approve the Working Session Minutes of September 15, 2020 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

RC20-276 G. Llamas moved, J. McCollum seconded to approve the Closed Session Minutes of September 15, 2020 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioners Barb Fuller, Gloria Llamas and Doug Fuller thanked the WCRC staff for the quick completion of the Old US-12 culvert replacement project.

Commissioner Rod Green acknowledged the correspondence from the Chief of Police thanking Operations staff for providing extra lighting for the Metro SWAT Team during a recent critical incident. This was great work by road commission staff.

Concrete Repairs

- Concrete sidewalk repairs - Intersection of Carpenter Road and Ellsworth Road in Pittsfield Township

Culvert Replacement Projects

- Old US-12 re-opened between just northeast of the Sylvan Township Hall and the I-94 ramps in Sylvan Township after culvert replacement project.
- Mooreville Road closed between Dennison Road and Saline-Milan Road in York Township for a culvert replacement.
- Waterloo Road re-opened between McKinley Road and Island Lake Road in Dexter Township after a culvert replacement.
- Waterloo Road closed between McKinley Road and Island Lake Road in Dexter Township for a culvert replacement.
- Virtual Public Meeting Notice - Pleasant Lake Road Culvert Replacement Project Virtual Meeting to be held Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.
- Congress Avenue re-opened between Merrill Avenue and Valley Drive in Ypsilanti Township upon completion of a culvert replacement project.
- Congress Avenue closed between Merrill Avenue and Valley Drive in Ypsilanti Township.

Gas Line Projects

- DTE Gas Line Project - Geddes Road between Harris Road and Gotfredson Road in Superior Township

Fog Seal Projects

- Wagner Road between Jackson Road and Miller Road in Scio Township.
- 7 Mile Road between Angle Road and Napier Road in Salem Township.
- East Shore Drive between Main Street and the county line in Northfield Township.
- The following roads in Salem and Superior Townships:
 - Gotfredson Road between Plymouth Road and N. Territorial Road
 - 6 Mile Road between Pontiac Trail and Chubb Road
- The following roads in Ann Arbor, Northfield and Salem Townships:
 - Pontiac Trail between M-14 and N. Territorial Road
 - Earhart Road between US-23 and Plymouth Road
- Superior Road between Huron River Drive and Geddes Road AND Mott Road between Ridge Road and the county line on the borders of Ypsilanti and Superior Townships.
- Munger Road between Textile Road and Michigan Avenue on the border of Pittsfield and Ypsilanti Townships.

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RECEIVED: Old US-12 Culvert Project - several thank you correspondence were received regarding the re-opening of Old US-12 upon completion of this culvert project.

RECEIVED FROM: County Commissioner Sue Shink

WHY: Thanking the Road Commission for a very good job on the county wide chip seal program.

RECEIVED FROM: William & Elizabeth Anderson

DATE RECEIVED: September 9

WHY: Drainage concerns – Byington Blvd., Ann Arbor

RESPONSE FROM: Jim Harmon, Director of Operations provided a written response to William & Elizabeth Anderson's correspondence.

RECEIVED FROM: Daniel Karrick, Deputy Chief of Police, Eastern Michigan University

WHY: Thank you to Operations staff Adam Lape, Tom Gillikin, Gerold Rothman, and Jeff Young for their professional, patient and helpful assistance to provide extra lighting for the Metro SWAT Team during a recent critical incident.

RESPONSE FROM: Sheryl Siddall, Managing Director, provided a thank you for his kind words of appreciation to the Road Commission staff.

RECEIVED FROM: Ken Schwartz, Superior Township Supervisor

WHY: Thanking the Road Commission for the excellent application of their county wide fog seal.

RESPONSE FROM: Sheryl Siddall, Managing Director and Commissioner Doug Fuller, provided a thank you to Ken Swartz for his kind words on the fog seal program.

CONSENT AGENDA

The items approved on the Consent Agenda are as follows:

RC20-277 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded the approval of the Consent Agenda for October 6, 2020 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

State Road Pathway TAP Grant Application – Pittsfield Township

RC20-278 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Engineering/County Highway Engineer and concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby authorizes the Director of Engineering/County Highway Engineer to submit a Transportation Alternatives Program grant application for the State Road Pathway project in cooperation with Pittsfield Charter Township.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

Bartlet Road – Gerken Materials, Inc. Road Improvement Agreement

RC20-279 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer / Director of Engineering and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves and authorizes the Managing Director to sign the Road Improvement Agreement between the Washtenaw County Road Commission and Gerken Materials, Inc. for improvements to Bartlet Road from Allen Road to the Washtenaw County line.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

2020 Seasonal Requirements Snow & Ice Control Abrasives Bid Extension

RC20-280 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the option of extending the bid for snow and ice control abrasives as submitted by Aggregate Industries, 822 Schuster Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49001.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

2020 Seasonal Requirements Limestone Products Bid Extension – Aggregate Industries

RC20-281 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board approves the option of extending the bid for limestone products as submitted by Aggregate Industries, 822 Schuster Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49001.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

2020 Seasonal Requirements Limestone Products Bid Extension – Farmer Underwood

RC20-282 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the option of extending the bid for limestone products as submitted by Farmer & Underwood Trucking LTD, 7401 Rawsonville Road, Belleville, MI 48111.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

2020 Seasonal Requirements Liquid Asphalt Bid Extension

RC20-283 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board approves the option of extending the bid for liquid asphalt as submitted by Asphalt Materials, Inc., 940 N. Wynn Road, Oregon, OH 43616.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

Janitorial Services Bid Extension

RC20-284 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the option of extending the Janitorial Services contract for 2021, 2022 and 2023 as submitted by Midwest Maintenance Services, Inc., 3928 Trade Center Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

2020 Augusta Township Third Agreement

RC20-285 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves and authorizes the Chair and the Managing Director to sign the 2020 Augusta Township Third Agreement with the Township's estimated share being \$15,800.00.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

2020 Augusta Township Fourth Agreement

RC20-286 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves and authorizes the Chair and the Managing Director to sign the 2020 Augusta Township Fourth Agreement with the Township's estimated share being \$10,500.00.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

2020 Ypsilanti Township Third Agreement

RC20-287 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves and authorizes the Chair and the Managing Director to sign the 2020 Ypsilanti Township Third Agreement with the Township's estimated share being \$14,000.00.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

M-14 and I-94 Barrier Wall and Glare Screen Repair

RC20-288 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the Director of Operations, and the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board rejects the single bid as submitted by Z Contractors, 50500 Design Lane, Shelby Township, Michigan 48315.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

MERS Adoption Agreement Addendum

RC20-289 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded that upon the recommendation of the Human Resources Manager, and with the concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the MERS Adoption Agreement Addendum.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried

Payroll & Bills for September 16, 2020

RC20-290 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded the Board hereby approves Voucher 10420 totaling \$289,793.50 for payroll of September 16, 2020, Voucher 10421 totaling \$5,037,387.83 in payment of bills for September 16, 2020.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

Payroll & Bills for September 30, 2020

RC20-291 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded the Board hereby approves Voucher 10422 totaling \$287,308.03 for payroll of September 30, 2020, Voucher 10423 totaling \$1,266,802.81 in payment of bills for September 30, 2020.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Michigan County Road Commission Self-Insurance Pool By-Laws Amendment

Commissioner Doug Fuller stated that these amendments are the beginning of what is expected to be a five-year process on the By-Laws Amendments. MCRCSIP legal counsel anticipates being able to complete this in three years. Commissioner Barb Fuller stated that she expressed concerns in September about specific items in the MCRCSIP bylaws but has faith in the MCRCSIP Board that they will address these issues. Commissioner Barb Fuller stated that there is no provision in these bylaws to have video conferences and the indemnification provisions seem overly broad. Commissioner Barb Fuller was questioning why it would take five years to update the MCRCSIP Bylaws. Commissioner Doug Fuller responded that the MCRCSIP wanted two president cycles to review these Bylaws.

RC20-292 B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded the Board hereby votes (YES) to amend Article IV, Section 2 of the Michigan County Road Commission Self-Insurance Pool By-Laws to allow a county that has assumed the powers, duties and functions of its road commission under MCL 46.11(s) or MCL 224.6(5) to apply to become an Associate Member of the Pool. Associate Members shall not have voting rights, nor shall they be eligible to serve as Directors on the Pool Board. Associate Members shall be able to be terminated by a 2/3 vote of the Pool Board.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

Boland Corridor/Dexter-Chelsea Road Right of Way (Property Exchange)

Sheryl Siddall, Managing Director, stated that this is consistent with how we have handled several other parcels in this area. Sheryl provided a review of this specific parcel along the Boland Corridor. Curt Brochue, Right of Way Specialist, stated that the property owner approached him stating that he was going thru some title work listing his home for sale. Any future property owner would have a hard time getting a mortgage as this parcel would be considered land locked. The Road Commission will Quit Claim this portion of the Boland Corridor in exchange for a public road easement thus eliminating any land lock situation.

RC20-293 G. Llamas moved, B. Fuller seconded that upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer, with concurrence of the Managing Director, the Board hereby approves the conveyance of a portion of the Boland Corridor, adjacent to tax parcel G-07-11-100-001, located in Section 11 of Lima Township, more particularly described in Exhibit A, via Quit Claim Deed to Felix de la Iglesia. In exchange, Felix de la Iglesia will grant a Public Road Easement over a portion of the area, described in Exhibit B, to create a 60-foot half-width right of way for the future widening of Dexter-Chelsea Road in Lima Township.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, R. Green, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

REPORTS

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORTS

County Commissioner Ruth Ann Jamnick

No comment.

County Commissioner Sue Shink

- County Commissioner Sue Shink stated that Washtenaw County is working to ensure that local county orders will stay as consistent as possible after the Michigan Supreme Court order limiting Governor Gretchen Whitmer's authority to issue and renew executive orders.

ROAD COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Doug Fuller

No report.

Commissioner Barb Fuller

9/17 Participated in SEMCOG's Legislative Policy Committee meeting. Recommendations will be considered by SEMCOG's General Assembly on October 15th.

- Commissioner Fuller offered her compliments and appreciation to James Hui and the contractor Salenbien for their record-breaking completion of the Old US-12 culvert replacement in Sylvan Township.
- Commissioner Fuller stated that the chip seal and fog seal work significantly improve the visibility of the pavement markings and helps the traveling public drive more safely, especially as the weather changes and it becomes difficult to see the road surface. Commissioner Fuller also stated that center line and fog line rumbles are also helpful.

Commissioner Rod Green

9/17 Attended the SEMCOG Transportation Coordination Committee meeting along with Matt MacDonell, Director of Engineering. This meeting focused on the rebuilding of a portion of I-375 in Detroit. There was concern that this project would take some funding away from various projects within Washtenaw County. The decision was made to move the I-375 to a later year which allows funding to move forward for Washtenaw County projects. Commissioner Green stated that the SEMCOG Director will retire on October 15. The new SEMCOG Director, Amy O'Leary was appointed on September 25th.

Commissioner Jo Ann McCollum

Commissioner McCollum reported that the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation has been working on a Staebler Farm Park North Development Master Plan.

9/17 Commissioner McCollum participated in a tour of Staebler Farm.

Commissioner Gloria Llamas

9/22 Attended the MCRCSIP Hottest Topics training session.

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sheryl Siddall, Managing Director

- Sheryl Siddall, Managing Director, thanked County Commissioners Sue Shink and Ruth Ann Jamnick for their assistance with Washtenaw County keeping health precautions in place as much as possible in lieu of the Michigan Supreme Court ruling limiting Governor Gretchen Whitmer's authority to issue and renew executive orders.
- MCRCSIP has been very helpful throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. They provided a memo in light of the state supreme court ruling. The Supreme Court ruling rescinds the Executive Order with respect to holding virtual meetings. There is some question as to whether this takes effect immediately or within 21 days which would be October 23rd. Staff has been looking at options for reconfiguring the board room should we need to start in person meetings or a hybrid type of board meetings.
- There has been a House & Senate bill introduced to amend the open meetings act which would give permission to hold virtual meetings. Sheryl will submit a letter of support to elected officials in Lansing to continue holding virtual or hybrid meetings. The Board was in favor of sending a letter to our elected officials. Commissioner Barb Fuller asked what the County Road Association (CRA) was doing on these two bills. Sheryl will reach out to CRA on this.
- Emily Kizer, Communications Manager, sent out our Roads and Review Newsletter. Sheryl pointed out there is a feature in this newsletter on hiring at the Road Commission especially for qualified truck drivers.

ENGINEERING REPORT – Matt MacDonell, Director of Engineering

- Engineering Project List – Matt MacDonell provided a review of the Engineering Project List for 2020 thru 2023.
- Mooreville Road Culvert – the contractor is placing this culvert today and then will move to the Pleasant Lake Road Culvert replacement project.
- US-12/M-17 Intersection Improvement Project – Matt provided a review of this improvement project.

OPERATIONS REPORT – Jim Harmon, Director of Operations

- Augusta Township approved an agreement for additional drainage and limestone improvements on Liss Road.
- Ypsilanti Township – there was additional money that Ypsilanti Township will be utilizing for additional preventative maintenance on various roads in Ypsilanti Township.
- Operations is wrapping up road projects for the season. Jim stated he is very proud of our staff and pleased with our contractors we work with.
- Delivery of all salt for the winter season has been delivered.

- There are three days remaining on a few limestone resurfacing projects. Trinkle Road hill cut is one of these resurfacing projects where the contractor is underway.
- Annual Dry Run/Winter Maintenance Preparations – due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, equipment inspections have been spread out over a six-week time frame.

FINANCE & IT REPORT – Dan Ackerman, Director of Finance & IT

- Michigan Transportation Fund Receipts (MTF) – The August MTF was up 20% compared to the same time in 2019. Dan stated that the gas tax and license/registration fees were up in 2020 compared to 2019. In case of a government shutdown, MDOT provided the August MTF earlier than they normally would have.
- Dan will be meeting with Department heads soon to discuss 2020 and 2021 budget.

IT REPORT

Dan provided an update on staff telecommuting. Staff has been able to operate at a high level during this pandemic situation with many staff working remotely. The future of continuing telecommuting with staff will be determined by management and directives from the State and the health department.

Outside Yard Internet Connections – Dan stated that Chris Quinter, IT Manager, has done an excellent job at looking at internet connectivity throughout the organization for all yards. The internet connections have been improved and upgraded for the outside yards. Chris Quinter provided a review on how the internet service was upgraded at the Manchester yard through our Comcast connection.

County Commissioner Ruth Ann Jamnick extended her thanks to the Road Commission crews for all their work in Washtenaw County and within Ypsilanti Township.

CLOSED SESSION

RC20-294 R. Green moved, J. McCollum seconded to enter Closed Session at approximately 2:58 p.m. to discuss Pontiac Trail at Seven Mile Road – legal update.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: R. Green

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

RC20-295 G. Llamas moved, R. Green seconded to exit Closed Session at approximately 3:19 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: R. Green

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT

RC20-296 B. Fuller moved, G. Llamas seconded to adjourn the October 6, 2020 meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: B. Fuller, G. Llamas, J. McCollum, D. Fuller

NAYS: None

ABSENT: R. Green

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

Douglas E. Fuller, Chair

Sheryl Soderholm Siddall, Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved: _____