

Morton County Road Commission Meeting
Morton County Highway Department, 2916 37th St NW, Mandan, ND 58554
April 16, 2025

Commission members Present: Jackie Buckley, Paul Tokach, Roger Hille (telephone), Steve Tomac

Commission members Absent: Kyle Kirchmeier

Others present: John Saiki, Toby Olin, Devon & Mariah Frank, Mark Isaacs

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 pm by Chair Jackie Buckley

Steve made a motion to approve the agenda. Paul 2nd. Motion carried.

Steve made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, Roger 2nd, motion carried.

1. Discuss fence along section line – Toby Olin – A survey was completed, which determined the proper line is north of the two existing fences. It was previously believed the property line was between the fences. Toby's question who owns the south fence? He knows he owns the south fence. Steve stated his opinion is that the north fence belongs to the other property owner. Paul offered to meet with Toby and his neighbor, if that would help resolve the situation. Roger recommended Toby build a new fence 3 feet off the section line and his neighbor do the same that would leave 6 feet between the fence. Steve thought perhaps Toby should give the neighbor a reasonable amount of time to remove the fence from Toby's property, such as 6 months or a year, sending in writing.

2. Discuss building up 38th Ave near Flasher – Devon Frank – North of the existing driveway the road is minimum maintenance. Our policy is 2 loads of Scoria per year. It is public Right of Way. Roger stated he didn't think they wanted to build up the road to County Standards, to have people travel up the road and have to turn around in their yard when the road returns to minimum maintenance. Devon would like the County to help with perhaps the Survey or supplying a culvert. At this point the request was denied. The consensus of the board is that Devon contact his neighbors who also use the road to share in the cost of the improvements. We did provide information regarding contractors and survey/engineering consultants. The board advised that as their plan takes shape, we can revisit the request. Mariah added that the school bus will eventually start traveling on the road. Roger then stated perhaps they do want a road that meets the county requirements, for the school bus.

Discuss R/W along CR 85 in New Salem – Mark Isaacs – Mark stated that the City of New Salem requested a Plat, vacate a portion of the wide Right of Way and plat the excess to the bank. The Right of Way in that area is 200 feet total. No other businesses are involved. The Park Board also wants to improve the baseball field a portion of which is on County Right of Way. Paul and Steve are reluctant to vacate Right of Way as is Roger. Roger recommended issuing permits to the bank to allow the sign on County Right of Way and the portion of the baseball field to remain on County Right of Way. Steve was good with issuing permits.

The issue was presented the County will work with the city to issue permits for items on County Right of Way. The owners of the items will be the signers for the permit. That would be the Park Board and not who leases the land for the baseball field from the Park Board.

4. Discuss subdivisions – Natalie Pierce – Idatree Subdivision – the consensus of the board is that the plat will designate 35 feet of Right of Way on the east side 68th Avenue and 65 feet west of 68th Avenue, for a total of 100 feet. Sturn 4th, require 40 feet of Right of Way on 36½ Ave, treat it like a subdivision road.

5. Monthly Updates – a & b. Design Projects and Construction projects – Youngtown Bridge has been moved to the December 2025 NDDOT Bid Opening. The two bridges being designed by Apex will be moved to the June 2025 Bid Opening. All three bridges are being funded 100% by the NDDOT, so there is no danger of jeopardizing the funding due to the change. KLJ submitted an update on how they plan on proceeding on the Mork bridge. The Graf Bridge north of the truck stop will be out of Winter Shut Down on April 21st, as will the Starck Bridge. Both require some seeding and permanent erosion control. There are also punch list items for the Starck Bridge. The work on Graf is to be done in 2 weeks, with Starck being completed mid-May.

c. Work has started on the Culvert replacements and the box culvert for the bridge replacement has been ordered. John has had a conversation with the FHWA Rep in Bismarck and work is continuing on getting the permit for the bridge on the Frontage Road east of County Road 88.

d. Budget Update - Reviewed expenses to date for 2025. Shop Maintenance will be high this year due to the furnace replacements. No bills yet for the water main repairs for the Mandan Shop.

Roger moved to adjourn, Steve 2nd. The meeting was adjourned 11:35 am.