

**WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS  
VIRTURAL WORKING SESSION MINUTES OF  
August 18, 2020**

- Present:** Road Commissioners Douglas Fuller, Barbara Fuller, Rodrick Green, Gloria Llamas, Jo Ann McCollum
- Staff Present:** S. Siddall, J. Harmon, D. Ackerman, M. MacDonell, C. Ryan, E. Kizer, C. Quinter, N. Peterson, B. Schlack, J. Henderson
- Others Present:** Marjorie Dixon, Legal Counsel, Conlin, McKenney & Philbrick, Ruth Ann Jamnick, County Commissioner – District 5; Sue Shink, County Commissioner – District 2; Moore

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No public comment.

**WCRC Bylaws**

Marjorie Dixon, legal counsel, made changes to the draft bylaws to reflect discussion at the last working session. Today's discussion is a continuation of the remaining bylaws that were not covered at the last working session. There was discussion among the commissioners regarding whether the bylaws should be reviewed at a regular frequency as part of the resolution adopting the bylaws, or whether the language in the bylaws regarding changes is sufficient. The Board agreed to bring back the final WCRC Bylaws at the next working session on September 15<sup>th</sup> to allow for a short period of final review.

## **Environmental Stewardship – An Overview**

Sheryl Siddall, Managing Director, stated that Environmental Stewardship involves a wide variety of environmental activities that the Road Commission performs on a regular basis. This overview presentation will ultimately result in a discussion of adopting a Tree Replacement Policy.

Jim Harmon, Director of Operations; Matt MacDonell, Director of Engineering; and Dan Ackerman, Director of Finance & IT provided a PowerPoint presentation of WCRC environmental stewardship activities.

### **Equipment**

WCRC utilizes a variety of equipment with a large majority being heavy trucks. Jim provided a review of the replacement schedule for acquiring new trucks. The Road Commission has invested significantly steadily purchasing new equipment in recent years complying with air quality standards.

New trucks are being outfitted with sophisticated equipment attachments. These trucks use rock salt, sand or a combination for winter maintenance and also a pre-wet system.

### **Materials, Storage and Facilities**

Jim provided a review on how the Road Commission purchases salt for winter maintenance and a review of how this material is applied to the roads and how this material is stored. Jim explained how the Road Commission maintains the state trunk line roads that are contracted through MDOT. Jim also provided a review of facilities maintenance, recycle practices, stormwater management and spill containment.

### **Roadside Vegetation Control**

Jim provided a review of roadside vegetation control including contracted mowing, boom mowing, tree trimming practices and the ban on roadside herbicide applications.

### **Adopt a County Road Program**

Matt provided a review of this new roadside cleanup program which has been in place since 2002.

### **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)**

Matt explain that MS4 is a program under the Clean Waters Act which is administrated thru Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). This includes street sweeping, drainage structure sumps, rain gardens and water quality.

### **Signal Network**

We have converted/replaced all of our traffic signal bulbs to LED bulbs.

### Project Development

Matt provided a review of the environment clearance process which includes threatened or endangered species, seasonal restrictions due to fish spawning and bird migration. This process also reviews projects for hazardous/toxic materials, noise impacts, air quality, public parks, recreation areas, P.A. 116 farmlands and historic properties/districts. The Road Commission is an authorized agency for monitoring soil erosion and sedimentation control.

### Recycled Materials

Any time the Road Commission is asphalt paving, we are using recycled materials. The Road Commission has also partnered with universities on opportunities for other experimental materials that could be used in the road surfaces.

### Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ)

These are federal funds used for road project designs that reduce emissions.

Transportation Alternatives Programs (TAP) The Road Commission utilizes TAP funds which are federal monies that provide safe alternative transportation options such as the Border to Border Trail, Dixboro Pathway, Platt/Textile Greenway, etc.

### Paperless Initiatives

Matt provided a review of what the Road Commission has converted to paperless processes/ electronic files. Dan Ackerman, Director of Finance & IT provided a review of the WCRC electronic billing and payment process.

Sheryl Siddall, Managing Director, stated that there will be a presentation at the next Working Session on September 15<sup>th</sup> regarding the Tree Policy.

B. Fuller moved, R. Green seconded to adjourn the August 18, 2020 Working Session at 11:41 a.m.

### Roll Call Vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion Carried.

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Douglas E. Fuller, Chair  
Washtenaw County Board of Road Commissioners

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Barb Fuller, Vice-Chair  
Washtenaw County Board of Road Commissioners