ROADWAYS SUBCOMMITTEE
October 15, 2019
Minutes

Members Present: Sebolt, Maiville (arrived at 5:35 p.m.), Naeyaert, and Stivers.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Rick Terrill, Bill Conklin, Liz Noel, and others.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Sebolt at 5:33 p.m. in Personnel Conference Room “D & E” of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Approval of the October 1, 2019 Meeting Minutes

WITHOUT OBJECTION, CHAIRPERSON SEBOLT STATED THE OCTOBER 1, 2019 MEETING MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS PRESENTED. Absent: Commissioner Maiville

Additions to the Agenda

Chairperson Sebolt stated there was a revised agenda for the Subcommittee meeting that had been distributed to the members. He further stated that the County Services Committee agenda would also be revised.

Limited Public Comment

None.

Commissioner Maiville arrived at 5:35 p.m.

MOVED BY COMM. NAeyaert, SUPPORTED BY COMM. STIVERS, TO RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION FOR THE CONSENT AGENDA AT THE COUNTY SERVICES MEETING:

1. Road Department – Resolution to Approve the Special and Routine Permits for the Ingham County Road Department

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE ITEM ON THE CONSENT AGENDA CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Announcements

Commissioner Stivers thanked Bill Conklin, Road Department Director, for his response to her concerns regarding road construction in Meridian Township. She stated that she and Commissioner Polsdofer were working to develop communications policies for those homes and businesses on roads affected by construction.

Mr. Conklin stated there would be more written communication to residents and businesses along the road construction route. He further stated that the specific road construction on Towar Road that Commissioner Stivers had addressed was an unusual situation because late in the project, a water main repair project was added so the road would not need to be torn up again in the near future.

Mr. Conklin stated that the project had been advertised as scheduled for late summer and fall, which was still within the correct time frame. He further stated that because the road construction sat idle for some time, citizens got frustrated.

Mr. Conklin stated that it was the Road Department’s practice to provide written notice to homes and businesses along the construction route. He further stated that Meridian Township’s website was much more updated than the Road Department’s, as most of the Road Department updates happened on social media.

Mr. Conklin stated that the Road Department planned to provide more written updates in the future. He further stated that they would also plan to have more face-to-face conversations to notify those affected by the construction.

Mr. Conklin stated that the homes on Haslett Road affected by that construction were notified, but all traffic had to be stopped one day, to seal the road.

Chairperson Sebolt asked when the initial written notices were sent out, if the notices let people know there were project updates on social media.

Mr. Conklin stated the idea of the first notice was to let people know where to find updates.

Discussion.

Commissioner Stivers thanked Mr. Conklin for his follow-up to her concerns. She stated that she would like to see people who were directly affected with property or businesses on the construction route receive written communication, with updates as the project changed.

Commissioner Stivers stated she knew that it was not always feasible to send letters right away to keep up with the project updates, so even dropping notices door-to-door would be helpful. She further stated that she did not want people to be blindsided, so she would still like to see mailed communications, as not everyone had social media.
Commissioner Maiville asked if the Road Department would be involved in the Montgomery Drain project by the Red Cedar Development. He further asked if the Road Department or the Drain Commission would be sending similar communication.

Mr. Conklin stated the Road Department would not be as involved in the Montgomery Drain project, but if they were asked by the Drain Commission to send notices because it affected roads, they would.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD