

HILLSDALE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
January 23, 2025
MINUTES

Meeting was called to order by the Chair, Bob Godfrey, on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the road commission office.

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

Members Absent: Kathy Schmitt.

Staff Present: Robert Griffis, Manager.
Kathryn Kirkpatrick, Clerk.
Kwinn Leva, Administrative Assistant.

Visitors Present: Doug Ingles – Hillsdale County Commissioner.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Having reviewed the agenda for January 23, 2025, regular meeting, there were two additions. The chair declared the agenda to stand approved as presented with two additions.

Approval of Minutes

Having reviewed the minutes for January 9, 2025, there were no additions, deletions or corrections noted. The chair declared the minutes to stand approved as presented.

CONFIRMATION OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AS AUTHORIZED FOR PAYMENT BY THE STAFF

#25-007 Mark Kline moved, Gary Leininger seconded, to approve the following:

Bills in the amount of \$257,917.35 per Regular Accounts Payable Check Register dated January 23, 2025, as authorized by the manager and clerk.

Motion Carried.

HILLSDALE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
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CONFIRMATION OF PAYROLL AS AUTHORIZED FOR PAYMENT BY THE STAFF

#25-008 Mike Parney moved, Mark Kline supported, to confirm the following:

Regular payroll in the amount of \$134,933.03 per Payroll Check Register dated January 16, 2025, as authorized by the manager and clerk.

Special payroll in the amount of \$11,923.85 per Payroll Check Register dated January 16, 2025, as authorized by the manager and clerk.

Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT PRESENTED

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

Beginning Balance-Cash & Investments	\$ 2,456,269.22
Receipts	\$ 161,494.13
Disbursements	(\$ 404,774.23)
Ending Cash & Investments Balance	\$ 2,212,989.12
Less: Bonds in Escrow	(\$ 10,250.00)
CD Reserved for 2 trucks	(\$ 670,647.03)
Ending Available Fund Balance	\$ 1,532,092.09

Note: Outstanding Accounts Payable = \$-3,092.05

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

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

At 10:15 A.M., the chair opened the meeting to limited public comment.

No comment.

HILLSDALE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

January 23, 2025

MINUTES

DMCI – LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR BEAD

#25-009 Mark Kline moved, Gary Leininger seconded, to sign the letter of support for DMCI Broadband LLC's proposed Michigan BEAD broadband deployment project. Copy of letter attached.

Motion Carried.

Manager's Comment

Working on compiling township agreements.

2024 Federal Aid Project construction will begin Spring 2025 with a completion date of June 2025.

2025 Federal Aid Projects grade inspection revisions have been submitted and are being reviewed.

RTF Small Urban Project meeting will be in February to discuss projects for 2026.

Nuclear gauge was returned and will look into a non-nuclear gauge.

Negotiations for the Collective Bargaining Agreement have scheduled mediation.

Manager and Project Manager plan to attend the Engineer Workshop in February.

Manager attended the MCRCSIP Manager's Meeting.

Working on fuel pump quotes.

Need a bid for calcium chloride

John Reed is resigning and working on the job description.

Sign truck should be here at the beginning of February.

Old Business

Board discussed bridge inspections.

2025 Highway Conference & Road Show

Board discussed attending the 2025 Highway Conference & Road Show.

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MINUTES

New Business

2024 Maintenance Advance

Informed the board that HCRC received the maintenance advance of \$3,101.00 for 2024.

RESCHEDULE AUGUST 28, 2025 BOARD MEETING

#25-010 Gary Leininger moved, Mark Kline supported, to move the August 28, 2025 board meeting to August 27, 2025 due to the Labor Day Holiday.

Motion Carried.

Vote for CRA Board of Directors – 3 Year Southern Seat

The board decided to take the manager’s recommendation.

TOWNSHIP AGREEMENTS APPROVED

The following township agreements were presented for board approval.

<u>Township</u>	<u>Work Type</u>	<u>Est. Cost</u>	<u>Twp Share</u>
Allen	Road Stabilization	\$ 29,400.00	\$14,700.00
Reading	Paver Patch, Sealcoat, Fog Seal, and Shoulder Gravel	\$139,550.00	\$94,350.00
Reading	Spot limestone patching on various gravel roads throughout the township.	\$ 69,750.00	\$42,750.00
Reading	Road Stabilization – 34 miles 2 Applications	\$ 40,800.00	\$20,400.00

#25-011 Mike Parney moved, Mark Kline supported, that the township agreements, contingent on prioritization, be approved and signed.

Motion Carried.

HILLSDALE COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
January 23, 2025
MINUTES

Board discussed the Southeast Council Meeting.

Board discussed Open Meetings Act.

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

At 10:53 A.M., the chair opened the meeting to limited public comment.

No comment.

Meeting Adjourned 10:53 A.M.

As there was no further business, the chair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:53 A.M.


Chair


Clerk



Hillsdale County Road Commission
1919 Hudson Road (M-99) • Hillsdale, MI 49242
517.437.4458 (main) • 517.437.0048 (fax)
hillsdale@hillsdalecrc.org

Robert Griffis
Manager

Kathryn Kirkpatrick
Clerk

Robert Godfrey – Chair
Gary Leininger – Vice-Chair
Mike Parney – Member
Mark Kline – Member
Kathleen Schmitt – Member
Board of Hillsdale County Road Commissioners
Hillsdale County Road Commission
1919 Hudson Rd
Hillsdale, MI 49242
517-437-4458

1/23/2025

Mr. Eric Frederick, Chief Connectivity Officer
Ms. Jennifer Duffey, Grant Administration Manager
Michigan High-Speed Internet Office
State of Michigan | Dept. of Labor & Economic Opportunity

Dear Mr. Frederick & Ms. Duffey,

We are writing to express the enthusiastic support of our community for DMCI Broadband LLC's proposed Michigan BEAD broadband deployment project. As Board of Hillsdale County Road Commissioners at Hillsdale County Road Commission we have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that improved internet access can have on a community. We believe that this project is essential for our growth and development, and we fully support DMCI Broadband LLC in this endeavor.

The deployment of high-speed broadband internet will bring numerous benefits to our community, including:

1. **Enhanced Educational Opportunities:** Students of all ages will have access to online resources and tools that are essential for modern education. This includes virtual classrooms, online research materials, and educational programs that can enrich their learning experiences.
2. **Economic Growth:** Reliable internet access is crucial for local businesses to thrive. It allows them to reach new markets, improve operational efficiencies, and compete more effectively in a digital economy. This project will also attract new businesses to our area, creating job opportunities and stimulating economic growth.

Robert Godfrey
Chairman

Gary Leininger
Vice-Chairman

Kathleen Schmitt
Member

Michael Parney
Member

Mark Kline
Member



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- 3. Improved Healthcare Services:** Telemedicine and online health resources can significantly enhance healthcare delivery in our community. Residents will be able to consult with healthcare providers remotely, access medical information, and manage their health more effectively.
- 4. Social Connectivity:** Broadband internet will help bridge the digital divide, ensuring that all members of our community, including seniors and low-income families, can stay connected with friends and family, access essential services, and participate fully in society.
- 5. Enhanced Public Services:** Local government and public service providers will be able to deliver services more efficiently and effectively. This includes emergency response systems, public safety initiatives, and community outreach programs.

DMCI Broadband has demonstrated a strong commitment to working with our community to ensure that the broadband deployment project meets our needs and addresses our concerns. We appreciate the efforts made to engage with residents, gather feedback, and provide transparent communication throughout the planning and implementation process.


We are confident that this project will have a transformative impact on our community, and we are excited about the opportunities it will bring. We urge all parties to support DMCI Broadband in their efforts to bring high-speed internet to our area as part of the Michigan BEAD program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Robert Godfrey - Chair



Gary Leininger - Vice-Chair



Mike Parney - Member



Mark Kline - Member

Kathleen Schmitt - Member

Robert Godfrey
Chairman

Gary Leininger
Vice-Chairman

Kathleen Schmitt
Member

Michael Parney
Member

Mark Kline
Member