

# Rural Task Force #3 Meeting

*June 21, 2018*

*Road Commission of Kalamazoo County - Kalamazoo, MI*

## ***Members in Attendance:***

Jake Welch	Barry County Road Commission
Garrett Myland	Branch County Road Commission
Kristine Parsons	Calhoun County Road Department
Ryan Minkus	Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
Chris Minger	St. Joseph County Road Commission

## ***Others in Attendance:***

Susan Vosmik	St. Joseph County Transit Authority
Brian Kernstock	Calhoun County Road Department
Nancy Stoddard	City of Parchment
Don Mayle	Michigan Department of Transportation
Brian Sanada	Michigan Department of Transportation
Amy Lipset	Michigan Department of Transportation
Michael Seals	Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners
Rob Britigan	City of Parchment
Sherine Miller	Kalamazoo Township Board of Trustees
Don Martin	Kalamazoo Township Board of Trustees
Dexter Mitchell	Kalamazoo Township
Margaret O'Brien	Michigan State Senate
Randy Thompson	Comstock Township Board of Trustees
Steve Stepek	Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study
Fred Nagler	Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study

## ***Call to Order***

Chair Minkus called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. at the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County. Introductions were made.

## ***Approval of January 31, 2018 Rural Task Force #3 Meeting Minutes***

No changes to the minutes were offered.

MOTION by Welch, SUPPORT by Parsons, ***“to approve the January 31, 2018 Rural Task Force #3 Meeting Minutes.”*** Motion passed.

**Review of 2018 Projects and Target Balance**

A brief review of the current status of the 2018 program was presented showing that all of the 2018 RTF 3 allocation of STL funding was programmed with the exception of \$172,013 for Calhoun County.

MOTION by Welch, Support by Myland, **“to approve adding a project to resurface 7 Mile Road from P Drive S to 7 ½ Mile Road in Calhoun County using \$172,013 in STL and \$301,381 in Local funding.”**

Motion passed.

**Review of EDD Carryover Amounts and Constraints**

Minkus started the discussion by thanking Don Mayle of MDOT Planning for preparing materials and setting up a meeting with Welch and Minkus to discuss Barry County’s large negative EDD balance. The negative balance has led to the inability of Barry to program state D funding. Minkus stated that he and Welch had not had opportunity to fully review and digest the information and were thus not comfortable putting forth any recommendations for the Task Force to consider.

Welch concurred with Minkus and said that he would like to have a final determination on how the Task Force will handle the issue before planning for 2019 and 2020 is finalized. It was suggested that a meeting be scheduled some time in September where solutions can be considered.

**Updates of 2019 – 2020 Projects**

The current status of the 2019 and 2020 programs was discussed.

MOTION by Welch, Support by Minger, **“to set 2019 and 2020 region-approved targets for STL and EDD at MDOT target amounts.”** Motion passed. During discussion on the motion it was agreed that region-approved targets would be adjusted to account for previously approved trades after being set to the state target amounts.

MOTION by Welch, Support by Parsons, **“to eliminate EDD funding for Job Numbers 20301 DJ in 2019 and 13099 in 2020 and to increase STL funding for those projects to the full amount available after funding of programmed Barry County transit projects.”** Motion passed. During discussion it was noted that the two projects will be part of a federal fund exchange with Jackson County. Welch further informed the group that going forward Barry County intends to sell all their available STL and bank EDD to use for pavement marking projects every three years.

MOTION by Myland, Support by Welch, **“to delete Job Numbers 130085 and 130087 from St. Joseph County in 2019 and to add a Countywide Preventive Maintenance project using the remaining available amount of STL and 20% Local Match.”** Motion passed. During discussion it was noted that the new project will be part of a federal fund exchange with Jackson County.

**Urban Boundary Roads**

A discussion was held of the recent decision to allow roads on the boundaries of urbanized areas to be considered rural and thus eligible for RTF funding.

**Public Comment**

Don Martin and Sherine Miller of the Kalamazoo Township Board of Trustees, Rob Britigan, Mayor of Parchment, and Michael Seals of the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners spoke to the group of a

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renewed effort to have a full interchange constructed for the north end of the US 131 Business Route. Task force members were asked to provide any suggestions on how the group could further their goals. Stated reasons for the need to upgrade to a full interchange included economic development, public safety and traffic flow/congestion.

Minkus reminded the commenters that the interchange in question was fully inside the Kalamazoo urbanized boundary and therefore ineligible for RTF funds. He noted, though, that if boundaries change after the next census and a new interchange is constructed, the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County might have to make changes to some of their roads that could involve RTF funding.

***Other Business***

Minkus thanked Chris Minger for his service to St. Joseph County Road Commission and wished him well in his upcoming retirement.

***Adjourn***

Meeting adjourned at 9:57a.m.

**Minutes approved: November 1, 2018**

*Questions or comments on these minutes can be directed to:*

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Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study  
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