

Rural Task Force #3 Meeting

March 10, 2026

Road Commission of Kalamazoo County

Members in Attendance:

Jim Hoekstra	Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
Jay Miller	Branch County Road Commission
Garrett Myland	St. Joseph County Road Commission, Chair
Kristine Parsons	Calhoun County Road Department, Vice Chair
Jake Welch	Barry County Road Commission

Others in Attendance:

Skylar Cudney	Calhoun County Road Department
Jenny McCowen	Kalamazoo Metro
Matt McKee	Transportation Authority of Calhoun County
Ryan Minkus	Road Commission of Kalamazoo County
Brian Stark	MDOT Rural Task Force Program Manager (Attended via Teams)
Kevin Stuck	St. Joseph County Road Commission
Fred Nagler	Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study/SMPC

Call to Order

Chair Myland called the meeting to order at 1:26 p.m. The meeting was held at the offices of the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County.

Approval of the March 10, 2026 Meeting Agenda

Hoekstra requested that the item of Road Commission of Kalamazoo County Proposed All-Season Road Changes be added to the agenda after Rural Task Force Program Updates and ahead of Review of 2026-2029 projects.

MOTION by Hoekstra, SUPPORT by Parsons, **to approve the agenda, amended as proposed.** Motion approved unanimously.

Approval of December 1, 2025 Rural Task Force #3 Meeting Minutes

MOTION by Hoekstra, SUPPORT by Welch **to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2025 Rural Task Force #3 meeting as presented.** Motion approved unanimously.

.Rural Task Force Program Updates

Stark presented the following updates:

- changes to funding that allows bid savings realized in a fiscal year to be applied to advance-construct projects in that same FY.
- Federal Aid Buyout projects have been approved for FY 2027 and the announcement has been issued.

- A few projects may require a change to Financial System code in JobNet programming.

Kalamazoo County Road Commission Proposed All-Season Route Map Changes

Hoekstra provide a handout showing the existing approved all-season road network for Kalamazoo County and proposed changes. He explained that the changes bring the network into conformity with what the RCKC has been operating as all-season.

MOTION by Hoekstra, SUPPORT by Parsons, **to approve submission to MDOT of the proposed changes to the Kalamazoo County All-Season network.** Motion approved unanimously.

Review of 2026 - 2029 Projects

Parsons informed the Task Force that the recent decision by the Village of Homer to not use the previously approved federal funds has left a balance of \$92,400 that cannot be obligated by the County in FY 2026. The Branch County Road Commission has agreed to trade \$92,400 in 2028 funds and add the 2026 funds to its preventive maintenance project.

MOTION by Parsons, SUPPORT by Welch, **to approve abandoning the Village of Homer’s Chip Seal project, Job Number 224258 and the transfer of \$92,400 in 2026 STBG funding from Calhoun County to the Branch County Road Commission’s 2026 Countywide Preventive Maintenance project, Job Number 216413, to be repaid in 2028.** Motion approved unanimously.

Myland said that significant bid savings have resulted in \$98,807 of unobligated STBG funding that St. Joseph County cannot use in 2026. After consulting with MDOT, SJCRC reached out to other RTF #3 agencies and came to agreement with the Branch County Road Commission to trade the bid savings for their use in 2026 to be repaid in 2029.

MOTION by Myland, SUPPORT, by Parsons, **to approve trading of \$98,807 in 2026 STBG bid savings from St. Joseph County’s Lutz Road project, Job Number 316327 to Branch County Road Commission’s 2026 Countywide Preventive Maintenance project, Job Number 316413, to be repaid in 2029.** Motion approved unanimously. Due to the use of bid savings in the transaction, Nagler will work with Stark to ensure it is properly memorialized on the RTF #3 fiscal constraint spreadsheet and in JobNet.

Other Business

No other business was discussed

Public Comment

No public comments were offered

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:50.

Minutes approved: _____, 2026.

Questions or comments on these minutes can be directed to:

*Fred Nagler
Associate Planner
Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study
fnagler@katsmpo.org*