



**MEMORANDUM**

**Highway  
Department**

Jason Benson, P.E.  
County Engineer

Thomas B. Soucy, P.E.  
Deputy County Engineer

Blaine Laaveg  
Superintendent

TO: Cass County Commission

FROM: Jason Benson, County Engineer *JAB*

DATE: July 22, 2022

SUBJECT: Agenda topic for July, 2022 Commission Meeting: DRN-ReadiTech Utility Permits for the Cass County Highway 17 Corridor

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During the summer of 2021 Dickey Rural Network/ReadiTech placed utilities inside the Cass Highway 17 right of way in locations inconsistent with their utility permits and Cass County guidance. In the fall of 2021, they were ordered to promptly remove all utilities, conduits, boxes and other components from the Cass County Highway 17 right of way.

DRN/ReadiTech then submitted new permits regarding where their utilities could remain in the right of way and where they needed to be removed or abandoned. During the fall of 2021 most of the work to remove or abandon these utilities occurred. However, due to the wet October 2021 and very wet spring 2022, much of these locations still needed to be cleaned up, smoothed over, and seeded.

Cass County Highway Department staff recently inspected these sites and are satisfied with how they have been cleaned up and reseeded.

The Cass County Highway Department is asking for approval sign off and close these permits, acknowledging that DRN/ReadiTech has completed utility activities as spelled out in the permits.

**SUGGESTED MOTION:**

Move to approve the Cass County Highway Department to sign off and close these permits, acknowledging that Dickey Rural Network/ReadiTech has completed utility activities as spelled out in the permits to install, leave in place, remove, or abandon utilities within the Cass County Highway 17 corridor. In addition, authorize the Cass County States Attorney to stipulate to the dismissal of Dickey Rural Network/ReadiTech's administrative appeal.

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