

Minutes of the Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, August 4, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 404, Government Center, 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Hoselton, Members Soeldner, McIntyre and Wollrab

Members Absent: Cavallini, Caisley

Other Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: Mr. Bill Wasson, Assistant County Administrator, Ms. Diana Hospelhorn, Recording Secretary

Department Heads Present: Mr. Eric Schmitt, County Engineer

Others Present: Mr. Jerry Stokes, Assistant County Engineer, Highway Department,

Chairman Hoselton called the meeting to order at 8:23 a.m.

Chairman Hoselton stated that the first item for the Committee's consideration is approval of the minutes from the July 7, 2009 meeting.

Motion by Soeldner / McIntyre to recommend approval of the minutes from the July 7, 2009 meeting of the Transportation Committee.
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton asked the Committee to review the bills for July 31, 2009. The prepaid total for July 31, 2009 is \$1,561,444.00.

Motion by McIntyre / Soeldner to recommend payment of the July 31, 2009 bills, as submitted by the County Auditor.
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton informed the Committee that the first item to be presented for action is Audit Report #75 to be filed with the County Board. Chairman Hoselton asked Mr. Eric Schmitt, County Engineer, to address the Committee.

Mr. Schmitt presented the Summary Audits as follows:

Audit Report #75 is to determine the status of Motor Fuel Tax Funds as of December 31, 2008. Receipts to the Motor Fuel Fund were \$1,299,201.01, received as follows:

Interest 2008	31,688.75
Reimbursement	835,562.26
B-N Airport	35,000.00
Supply Allotment	396,950.00
Total Received	\$1,299,201.01

The net balance in the account on December 31, 2008 totaled \$1,518,637.71.

Motion by McIntyre/Wollrab to recommend approval of Audit Report #75 to be filed with the County Board – Motor Fuel Tax – McLean County – 01/01/2008 – 12/31/2008.
Motion carried.

Mr. Schmitt continued with Audit Report #56 which is to determine the status of Township Bridge Funds as of December 31, 2008. Receipts to the Township Bridge Fund were \$207.84, received as follows:

Interest 2008	207.84
Reimbursement	
Total Received	\$207.84

The net balance in the account on December 31, 2008 totaled \$17,495.19.

Motion by McIntyre / Wollrab to recommend approval of Audit Report #56 to be filed with the County Board – Township Bridge - County Road Districts – 01/01/2008 – 12/31/2008.
Motion carried.

Audit Report #56 is to determine the status of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for County Road Districts as of December 31, 2008. Receipts to the Motor Fuel Tax Fund were \$163,580.60, received as follows:

Interest 2008	63,435.28
Reimbursement	16,322.32
Supple. Allotment	83,823.00
Total Received	\$163,580.60

The net balance in the account on December 31, 2008 totaled \$1,741,803.75.

Motion by McIntyre / Wollrab to recommend approval of Audit Report #56 to be filed with the County Board – Motor Fuel Tax - County Road Districts – 01/01/2008 – 12/31/2008.
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton stated that the next item for action is the Resolution and Letting Results from the July 24, 2009 County 2009 Equipment Replacement.

Mr. Schmitt noted that this power broom is a replacement for the 1995 power broom lost in the February 9, 2009 accident on the Towanda Overpass. A settlement of \$6,475.00 was received from Nationwide insurance. The net cost will be \$12,416.00. He recommended the bid be awarded as follows:

- 1 – 2009 Power Broom (Pull Type) for \$18,891.00.....Rahn Equipment Company
2400 Georgetown Rd
Danville, IL 61832

Motion by Wollrab / McIntyre to recommend approval of the Resolution and Letting Results from the July 24, 2009 County 2009 Equipment Replacement.
Motion carried

Chairman Hoselton informed the Committee that the next item for action is the White Oak Road District - Joint Culvert Petitions:

1. 2009 White Oak Road, Joint Culvert #1
2100 North Rd – 1550' east of 825 East Road.
2. 2009 white Oak Road, Joint Culvert #2
2100 North Rd – 1900' east of 825 East Road.

Mr. Schmitt pointed out the location of the drainage structures on the map. He advised that the Department has made a survey of the water shed and has determined the site of the new drainage structure, 2100 N, 1550' East of 825E (Sunset Lake Road). The current structure is inadequate. The existing culvert is 18 inches and will be replaced with a 24 inch arched pipe. Mr. Schmitt noted that the cost of the project is \$4,600.00. The County's share of the cost is \$2,300.00.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the Joint Culvert #2. He pointed out that the Department has made a survey of the water shed and has determined the site of the new drainage structure, 2100 N, 1900' East of 825E (Sunset Lake Road). The current structure is inadequate. The existing 24 inch culvert will be replaced with a 30 inch arched pipe. He noted that the cost of the project is \$6,000.00. The County's share of the cost is \$3,000.00.

Mr. Schmitt stated that, according to Illinois State Statute, for a township to qualify for joint participation through the County, the cost of the project must exceed .02% of the assessed valuation of the Road District. Typically a township with a project cost this small would not qualify for joint participation, however because White Oak Township is a smaller township with a smaller equalized assessed valuation they qualify for joint participation, with the County paying half of the cost.

Mr. Schmitt recommended the approval of the White Oak Road District - Joint Culvert Petitions.

Mr. Soeldner asked who determines the size of culvert used. Mr. Schmitt responded that it is the responsibility of the Highway Department to evaluate and determine the size of culvert needed.

Minutes of the Transportation Committee

August 4, 2009

Page Five

Motion by Wollrab / Soeldner to recommend approval of the White Oak Road District – Joint Culvert Petitions - 2009 White Oak Road, Joint Culvert #1 - 2100 North Rd – 1550' East of 825 East Road and 2009 White Oak Road, Joint Culvert #2 - 2100 North Rd – 1900' East of 825 East Road.

Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton noted that the next items to be presented to the Committee are Items of Information. The first item is the Saybrook / Arrowsmith Road Bridge – Sec 07-00045-03-BR project report.

Mr. Schmitt reported that the Saybrook / Arrowsmith Road Bridge is under construction. He stated that the existing timber pile structure has been removed and the pile have been driven. The project is expected to be completed by September 15, 2009.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the Gridley Road Bridge – Sec 07-00161-01-BR project report. He stated that the bridge construction is completed and the road is open to traffic. Minor clean up work remains.

Mr. Schmitt stated that the Department has received seven Motor Fuel Tax Allotments in 2009. The allotment for July, 2009 came in at \$123,197.73, down 47% from the prior month. He noted that the budget estimate was \$203,415.75 per month. He stated that the average allotment received for the seven months in 2009 is \$189,419.16 per month. The shortfall to date is \$13,996.59 per month for a total of \$97,976.13, 6.88% below the fiscal year 2009 budget estimate.

Mr. Schmitt advised that the Motor Fuel Tax allotment for July was reduced because of State deductions withheld:

- Vehicle Inspection Fund Transfer - \$15,000,000 every June and September.
- Diesel Fuel – State Construction Transfer - \$2,000,000 estimate each month. June Fiscal year \$9,700,000
- International Fuel Tax Agreement Payment to Other States - \$671,000 estimate in May. In June \$9,900,000 was withheld

Ms. Wollrab asked if we expect to recover any of these funds. Mr. Schmitt explained that the funds are withheld from Motor Fuel Tax Funds by State Statute.

Mr. Schmitt referred to the Motor Fuel Tax Funds, Source Distribution, and Usage for Counties. He noted that it is a helpful tool in understanding the monthly report and the distribution of funds. Mr. Schmitt will make copies available to the Committee in Minutes of the Transportation Committee

August 4, 2009

Page Six

September. He will keep the Committee informed on a monthly basis of the Motor Fuel Tax Revenue received.

Mr. Soeldner asked how close to the \$203,415.75, per month estimated budget, we would be at the end of the year. Mr. Schmitt responded that for the first seven months we are short an estimated \$98,000 from the estimate. He stated that the average revenue coming in has been about .02% below last year, which is what was budgeted. Mr. Schmitt advised that we will not recover all that was lost this month.

Ms. Wollrab asked if we had a contingency plan to deal with the shortfall of funds. Mr. Schmitt responded that the Department is cutting back on maintenance items when possible. Bids are also coming in under budget estimates. Salt is the only major maintenance expenditures left for the year. He noted that the salt price came in slightly up. Mr. Schmitt stated that a major plus for the Department is that we will start the winter season with a full shed of salt. He stated that also there was a large savings on the Horse Farm Road project.

Mr. Schmitt noted that the schedule for Public Hearings for the McLean County Regional Comprehensive Plan 2009 update is as follows:

- McLean County – Land Use Committee Meeting on September 3, 2009 at 4:45 p.m.
- City of Bloomington – Planning Commission on August 26, 2009.
- Town of Normal – Planning Commission on September 10, 2009.

He informed the Committee that copies of the McLean County Regional Comprehensive Plan 2009 are available through Mr. Phil Dick, Director of Building and Zoning.

Mr. Schmitt provided information on replacement of the phone system at the Highway Department. He stated that the current system was installed in 1985. Parts are no longer available for the handsets. The repairman informed us in March; when the phones went down, that we needed to replace the system. Mr. Schmitt noted that the Department is working with Information Technologies to specify a system that will work with a Voice Over Internet Protocol system, if the County were to install this system county wide. He stated that the overall cost of the project is estimated at \$12,000.00, wiring and cabinet - \$5,500.00, new phones - \$6,500.00. Mr. Schmitt pointed out that the system was not included in the 2009 budget, but the funding is available from savings in other line items. He noted that the current system is in the furnace room. The new system will be installed in the library.

Mr. Soeldner asked if there were phones or a PA system in the out buildings. Mr. Schmitt responded that there is an intercom system, but there is no phone in the new building.

Minutes of the Transportation Committee

August 4, 2009

Page Seven

Mr. Schmitt referred to the Horse Farm Road memo, distributed at the meeting. He stated that the Illinois Department of Transportation Letting was July 31, 2009. The low bid of \$681,602.37 was submitted by Rowe Construction Company. The bid was 16.34% under the estimate of \$814,715.00. Mr. Schmitt noted that the money for this project is coming from the ARRA (Stimulus) and TARP funds. The combination of the two funds was more than the cost of the project. To avoid losing either funding, IDOT informed the Department to redo the Local Agency Agreements. The agreements will be resubmitted in September. All of the TARP funds will be used for the Horse Farm Road project, the total will be subtracted from the bid cost and the remainder will be paid out of the ARRA funds. The left over monies in the ARRA fund will go to the Towanda Overpass project.

Mr. Schmitt stated that work will begin on the Towanda Overpass on August 5, 2009. The road will stay open to traffic during the construction.

Mr. Schmitt noted that the construction on State routes in the southeast corner of McLean County makes it difficult to get into Bloomington.

- Route 9 is closed
- US 150 is closed
- The City of Bloomington has Ireland Grove Road closed between Towanda Barnes and 2100 East

He stated that, due to the number of emails received, the Department is adding a spot to the departmental website that will list County road closures and provide a link to the City of Bloomington and the State of Illinois. This information will be helpful for those trying to get into the City of Bloomington from the southeast corner of the County. Mr. Schmitt pointed out that the Department does notify the Pantagraph and WJBC Radio when the Department has a long term road closure within the County.

Chairman Hoselton informed the Committee that he received comments from Mr. Terry Lindberg, County Administrator, in regards to the Transportation Budget. He stated that Mr. Lindberg commented that the Department has done an outstanding job in formulating the 2010 Budget.

Mr. Bill Wasson, Assistant County Administrator, noted that the efforts of the Highway Department in reducing costs during this challenging fiscal year are greatly appreciated.

Chairman Hoselton asked if there were any further comments or questions. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Hospelhorn
Recording Secretary