

## **Minutes of the Transportation Committee**

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, September 4, 2007 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 404, Government Center, 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Hoselton, Members Dean, Caisley, Cavallini and Clark

Members Absent: Member Baggett

Other Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator, Mr. Terry Lindberg, Assistant County Administrator; Ms. Lucretia Wherry, Recording Secretary

Department Heads Present: Mr. Jack Mitchell, County Engineer;

Others Present: Mr. Eric Schmitt, Assistant County Engineer; Ms. Connie Johnson, Accounting Specialist II, Auditor's Office; Mr. Kurt Bialobreski, Engineer, Hanson Professional Services; Ms. Cindy Loos, Vice President, Hanson Professional Services

Chairman Hoselton called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. He stated that the first item for action is approval of the minutes from the August 7, 2007 meeting and August 21, 2007 Stand-up meeting.

Motion by Caisley/Cavallini to recommend approval of the minutes from the August 7, 2007 meeting and August 21, 2007 Stand-up meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton asked the Committee to review the bills from August, 2007. He advised that Mr. Jack Mitchell, County Engineer, would address any questions that the Committee may have. Mr. Dean asked what was purchased from the Safety Gear Corporation. Mr. Mitchell replied that he believes vests were purchased. Mr. Caisley asked what services American Pest Control provided. Mr. Mitchell replied that the salt shed has a pigeon problem. Chairman Hoselton asked why employees are paid for food. Mr. Mitchell explained that under the collective bargaining agreement, union members are given a \$10.00 food stipend when they work over 10 hours a day.

Motion by Caisley/Cavallini to recommend payment of the August, 2007 bills as submitted by the County Auditor. Motion carried.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the next item for action is a request to apply for the White Oak Boat Ramp Launch Safety Grant. Mr. Bill Wasson, Director, Parks and Recreation, is expected to arrive to present this item. Chairman Hoselton suggested moving to the next item until Mr. Wasson arrives.

Mr. Mitchell presented the request for an Engineering Agreement between McLean County and Hanson Professional Services for section 07-00113-04-FP of Towanda Barnes Road. This is a two mile section from Fort Jesse Road to Northtown Road. Depending on the outcome of the East Side Highway Study, only the first mile may be built. Hanson Professional Services estimates 730 days for this phase of the project. The outcome of the East Side Highway Corridor Study should be known by then.

Both miles are included in this agreement because it is cost effective to complete the project development report and design together. Once the documents are complete, they do not expire.

Chairman Hoselton asked if other firms were approached for this project. Mr. Mitchell replied that no other firms were considered. Under Illinois law, a competitive bid process is not required for a professional services contract.

Hanson Professional Services has been used for two other County projects with successful outcomes.

Mr. Dean stated that it is important to complete the first mile to Normal Community High School. Mr. Mitchell agreed and stated that it doesn't take much more time to study the second mile. Funding for the construction project still needs to be found and will be requested in the next Highway Bill.

Motion by Cavallini/Clark to approve an Engineering Agreement between McLean County and Hanson Professional Services for section 07-00113-04-FP of Towanda Barnes Road. Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton asked Mr. Mitchell to present the letting results from August 29, 2007. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that Rowe Construction Company was the only bidder coming in 8% under the estimate at \$655,550.88 for the Ellsworth Road and the Lexington-Leroy Road. The Wind Farm is responsible for payment of this project.

Motion by Caisley/Dean to recommend approval of the Resolution and letting results of the County Non-MFT Construction Section 07/00134-08-SM and 07-00044-11-CG Ellsworth Road and Lexington-Leroy Road. Motion carried.

The Committee agreed to review the next two action items together. Mr. Mitchell presented the Engineering Agreement between McLean County and Hampton, Lenzini & Renwick, Inc and the Bridge Petitions for the Calcagno Bridge in McLean County, the Hammitt Bridge on Lawndale Road, and the Meiners Road on Martin Road. These are Timber Bridges that need posting. Hampton, Lenzini & Renwick, Inc has designed the bridges for the County for quite some time. Mr. Mitchell stated that he is happy with the firm's work.

Chairman Hoselton asked if the County prepays the contract. Mr. Mitchell replied that the work is not prepaid.

Motion by Dean/Clark to recommend approval of an Engineering Agreement between McLean County and Hampton, Lenzini & Renwick, Inc. and the bridge petitions for the Calcagno Bridge in McLean County, the Hammitt Bridge on Lawndale Road, and the Meiners Road on Martin Road.

Mr. Caisley asked what is the cost per bridge. Mr. Mitchell replied that the cost per bridge is \$19,000.00.

Motion carried.

Mr. Caisley noted that the Committee just approved \$450,000.00 in contract agreements. Mr. Caisley wondered if the work could be done in-house. Mr. Mitchell stated that he would be glad to prepare an analysis to see if work done in-house would be more cost effective. The Towanda Barnes Road and the bridge work projects require a structural engineer, which is specialty work. The County would also have to look at doing its own surveying and Computer Assisted Design (CAD) work.

Mr. Caisley suggested working with Bloomington/Normal to reach an agreement to share a structural engineer. Mr. Mitchell stated that, typically, the County works on about five bridge structures per year. The City of Bloomington and Town of Normal work on fewer structures than the County.

Mr. Dean asked if the County could have a structural engineer on retainer like the County has with Lewis, Yockey and Brown. Mr. Mitchell explained that Lewis, Yockey and Brown does the surveying and plat work for the County. Hanson Professional Service has more expertise in project development and design. Mr. Dean stated that it seems like a simple project. Mr. Mitchell stated that the environmental work is expensive and there are many physical obstacles in the way. Mr. Dean asked why Mr. Schmitt cannot do the work. Mr. Mitchell replied that this would be a very time consuming project to do in-house. In addition, government regulations are very stringent in order to qualify for federal funding.

Chairman Hoselton asked if the project development and design had to be done for past sections of the Towanda Barnes Road project. Mr. Mitchell replied that the Farnsworth Group did the reports which are now 10 years old. Mr. Cavallini asked if the Farnsworth Group was considered for this section of the project. Mr. Mitchell replied that he has not agreed with some of the Farnsworth Group's designs lately.

Mr. Caisley suggested that Mr. Mitchell also check with other County governments to see if there is a need for a structural engineer.

The last item for action is an Ordinance for an Altered Speed Zone for County Highway 8 at Lexington. No speed study was completed for this project. The speed limit is lowered because of the design of the road.

Motion by Cavallini/Clark is to recommend approval of an Altered Speed Zone for County Highway 8 at Lexington. Motion carried.

The Committee returned to the first item, which is a request to apply for the White Oak Boat Ramp Launch Safety Grant. Chairman Hoselton asked Mr. Mitchell to present the item. Mr. Mitchell stated that the Property Committee asked the Transportation Committee to reconsider this item that was originally presented in 2004 after two traffic accidents resulted in 3 fatalities at Comlara Park. On two separate occasions, cars drove into the water. Alcohol was a factor in both incidents. The Committee at that time decided not to place any additional barricades at the Park. Speed Bumps and double signage are already in place. Mr. Clark added that lighting has also been added.

This plan calls for an 18 inch chip and sand arrester bed to stop vehicles. The cost is \$200,000. State funds would cover 90 percent with a local 10 percent match.

Mr. Caisley suggested tabling the issue until Mr. Wasson is present.

Motion by Caisley/Dean to table the request to  
apply for the White Oak Bat Ramp Launch Safety  
Grant. Motion carried.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the project summary is as follows:

- The Lexington overpass project is underway. Most of the main line pavement has been completed. Small sections of pavement are left to be completed along with the concrete median. This project is scheduled to be completed in November.
- The underground work on the Danvers-Carlock Road is nearly complete and approximately two miles of dirt work with the aggregate base is complete.
- Recycling and trimming is complete on the Colfax-Weston Road project. The seal coat will be done this week. Paving will wait until next year when the Wind Farm is complete and fewer trucks will be traveling on the road. Until then, patch work will continue.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the East Side Highway Study Report #17 has been revised and passed out to the members. Mr. Mitchell stated that there is another public meeting Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. The last public meeting had a nice cross section of people in attendance.

Chairman Hoselton asked Mr. Eric Schmitt, Assistant County Engineer, to give a brief summary on the progress at the Horizon Wind Farm. Mr. Schmitt stated

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that phase I is complete once the turn radii are removed. Phase II has 23 turbines erected completely, 50-60 bases have been poured.

Chairman Hoselton asked Mr. Mitchell to give an update on the proposed Highway Department garage. Mr. Mitchell stated that he, Chairman Hoselton, and Property Committee Chairman Bostic will be meeting with the architect this week to go over the drawings. Hopefully, the project can be bid before the end of the year and the new garage can be built in the spring.

Chairman Hoselton asked if there were any other questions. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucretia Wherry  
Recording Secretary

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