

## Minutes of the Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, December 5, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 404, Government Center, 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Bass, Members Baggett, Dean, Cavallini and Caisley

Members Absent: Member Hoselton

Other Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator; Ms. Christine Northcutt, Recording Secretary, County Administrator's Office

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

Others Present: Mr. Eric Schmitt, Assistant County Engineer; Ms. Christine Brauer, Member, Regional Planning Commission; Ms. Jennifer Sicks, Transportation Planner, Regional Planning Commission

Chairman Bass called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. He stated that he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2006 meeting.

Chairman Bass introduced Judge William T. Caisley to the Transportation Committee. The Committee welcomed Mr. Caisley.

Motion by Cavallini/Baggett to recommend approval of the minutes of the November 7, 2006 Transportation Committee Meeting. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass stated that the next item for approval is the bills from November, 2006. Chairman Bass asked the Committee to review the Bills and advised the Committee that Mr. Jack Mitchell, County Engineer, would address any questions that the Committee may have.

Mr. Cavallini asked if the Highway Department has budgeted for the anticipated increase in electricity. Mr. Mitchell responded that they had budgeted for an anticipated fuel and natural gas increase, but not for an increase in electrical expenses.

Mr. Caisley asked for an explanation of the food and clothing expenses. Mr. Mitchell responded that as a part of the union contract, the County pays union members a clothing allowance. In addition a \$10.00 allowance is paid to union workers for a meal when a member has worked over 12 hours. The Committee discussed the recent snow and ice storm. Mr. Mitchell gave an overview of the plowing and salting procedures.

Motion by Baggett/Cavallini to recommend payment of the November, 2006 bills as submitted by the County Auditor. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass stated that the first item on the agenda is consideration of a 2007 County Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Maintenance Resolution. Mr. Mitchell explained that this is the 2007 estimated list of materials needed for County and Township projects. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that this year's resolution is \$150,000.00 higher than the 2006 resolution. The main reason for the increase is due to the fact that the price of raw oil has doubled. That factor significantly raises the cost of construction per mile. The list is very similar to the previous year's lists. Only the quantities of items vary from year to year.

Motion by Dean/Baggett to recommend approval of a 2007 County MFT Maintenance Resolution for the purchase of materials for County/Township projects. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass stated that the next item for action is an Executive Session. He asked Mr. Mitchell to go over the informational items before the Committee entered into an Executive Session.

Mr. Mitchell gave an update on each of the following projects:

1. Horizon Wind Farm Resurfacing - Complete, awaiting final paperwork.
2. Old Route 150 White Oak Road - Complete, federal project, awaiting final paperwork.
3. Old Route 150 Bridge Replacement - Road is open and usable, awaiting final paperwork.
4. City of Chenoa, Letcher Street Joint Culvert - Complete. The project is billed 50/50, the City of Chenoa and the Highway Department sharing responsibility equally.
5. Stanford-McLean Road Resurfacing - Complete, awaiting final paperwork
6. LeRoy School Road Resurfacing - Complete, awaiting final paperwork
7. Danvers-Carlock Road (Kath Bridge) - Footings have been poured and the project has been weathered out. Will take this to a spring letting.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the East Side Highway Study has been approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). The Steering Committee is scheduled to meet with the Clark-Dietz, the Consulting Firm at a later date.

Mr. Caisley asked who is on the Steering Committee. Mr. Mitchell responded that the members are Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator and himself representing the County. Other members include Mr. Mike Hall, representing the Town of Normal, Mr. Doug Grovestein representing the City of Bloomington, Ms. Darla Latham representing IDOT District #5, Mr. John Donovan representing the Federal Highway Administration, and Mr. Paul Russell representing the Regional Planning Commission.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the Highway Department has come to monetary agreement with the Twin Groves Wind Farm regarding the repair of Colfax-Weston Road. The Highway Department patched the road a few months ago and plans to perform a stabilization project on the affected 7½ miles of this road next year. The amount that the Wind Farm is paying the County will cover the entire cost of the stabilization project and part of the resurfacing that following year.

Chairman Bass asked if there were any questions or comments from the Committee. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Motion by Dean/Cavallini to recommend the Transportation Committee enter into Executive Session at 9:00 a.m. to discuss Personnel Matters with the Committee Members and Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator in attendance. Motion carried.

Motion by Dean/Baggett to come out of Executive Session at 9:25 a.m. Motion carried.

The Transportation Committee returned to Open Session and invited Mr. Mitchell and any other members of the public and/or media to return to the meeting.

Chairman Bass asked the Committee if they were prepared to present a motion.

Motion by Dean/Cavallini to approve a four step Merit increase for Mr. Jack Mitchell, County Engineer, And to recommend approval of a Resolution Appropriating 2007 Motor Fuel Tax Funds and setting the County Engineer's annual salary at \$102,317.24. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass asked if there were any other questions or comments. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Northcutt  
Recording Secretary