

Minutes of the Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, May 2, 2006 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 404 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Vice Chairman Hoselton, Members Dean, O'Connor, Cavallini, Hoselton, and Baggett

Members Absent: Chairman Bass

Other Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: Mr. Terry Lindberg, Assistant County Administrator; Ms. Christine Northcutt, Recording Secretary, County Administrator's Office

Department Heads Present: Mr. Jack Mitchell, County Engineer, Mr. Eric Schmitt, Assistant County Engineer

Others Present: Ms. Christine Brauer, Member, Regional Planning Commission; Mr. Ron Roth, President, Village of Danvers

Vice Chairman Hoselton called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. The Committee met in the visitor's parking lot just east of the Government Center.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that the first item on the agenda is a field trip to West Street in Danvers. Mr. Jack Mitchell, County Engineer, informed the Committee that Ms. O'Connor was going to meet the rest of the Committee in Danvers. The Committee met with Ms. O'Connor and Mr. Ron Roth, President, Village of Danvers, on West Street in Danvers at 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Roth explained that the Village of Danvers is requesting that the County assume jurisdiction of West Street from North Street in Danvers to Illinois Route 9. Mr. Roth informed the Committee that the County is better funded and equipped to maintain the road. The Village of Danvers is running very short of Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Funds. Mr. Roth stated that he projects that there will be a large increase in traffic on this road as Danvers grows.

Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Roth if he had asked the Village Board about the counter proposal that Mr. Mitchell had suggested. Mr. Roth responded that his Board wanted to wait to hear the Transportation Committee's decision on the proposed Jurisdictional Transfer. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that he had initially proposed that the County repair and upgrade (to 80,000 lbs.) the first three

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blocks of this road, leaving jurisdiction of the road with the Village of Danvers. In five years, the County would take a look at assisting the Village with the overlay of the west mile of West Street.

Mr. Mitchell thanked Mr. Roth for meeting with the Committee. Vice Chairman Hoselton informed Mr. Roth that he would be provided with a copy of the minutes of this meeting for his records.

Mr. Mitchell took the Committee over the Danvers-Carlock Road to show them where the surveyors had marked the alignment of the newly proposed Danvers-Carlock road with flags.

The Committee returned to the Government Center at 9:26 a.m. Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that the first item for action is the approval of the minutes from the April 4, 2006 meeting of the Transportation Committee. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion by Dean/O'Connor to approve the minutes
from the April 4, 2006 Transportation Committee
Meeting. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that the next item for consideration is the April 30, 2006 bills.

Vice Chairman Hoselton asked Mr. Mitchell how the fuel expenses are this year compared to the amount budgeted. Mr. Mitchell responded that fuel expenditures are currently running under budget, due to such a mild winter.

Vice Chairman Hoselton asked if there were any further comments or questions. Hearing none, he called for a motion to recommend approval of the bills.

Motion by Cavallini/Baggett to recommend approval of the bills for April, 2006 as submitted by the County Auditor. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that the first item for action is consideration of a Jurisdictional Transfer of a portion of West Street in Danvers from the Village of Danvers to the County of McLean.

Mr. Mitchell advised the Committee that he has provided them with a copy of the statute which describes County Highways which extend through municipalities. The current traffic on this street varied from 1300 – 1700 vehicles per day. In addition, any Jurisdictional Transfer that the County and the Village of Danvers would enter into would have to be approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the Highway Department has applied for and received \$317,000.00 in State Truck Access Route Program (TARP) Funds for the Danvers-Carlock Road project. Mr. Mitchell noted that when the Highway Department applied for these funds they certified that all roads surrounding the Danvers-Carlock Road were at 80,000 lbs. capacity. It was then realized that the north three blocks of West Street were not at 80,000 lbs. capacity. Therefore, Mr. Mitchell made a proposal to the Village of Danvers that the County would pay for the repair and upgrade of the north three blocks of West Street. At that time, Mr. Roth proposed that the County assume jurisdiction of West Street from North Street in Danvers to Route 9.

Mr. Mitchell stated that one of the Committee's other concerns with the County assuming jurisdiction of this road would be setting a precedent with other communities. A couple of years ago, the Village of Hudson requested that the County assume jurisdiction of Broadway Street, which is an extension of Linden Street. Mr. Mitchell advised the Village that the County had just done quite a bit of work to the roads in the Village of Hudson and they should submit their request again in the future. If the County were to assume jurisdiction of West Street in the Village of Danvers, other requests from other Villages would certainly follow.

Mr. Mitchell stated that this request is in the hands of the Committee. Mr. Mitchell reminded the Committee that his recommendation would be to upgrade the north three blocks of West Street to 80,000 lbs. and leave jurisdiction of the road with the Village of Danvers, but he would be happy to accommodate the Committee's decision.

Ms. O'Connor expressed concern that the Village of Danvers would not post the weight limit due to the fact that they may not want increased truck traffic along their downtown street. Mr. Mitchell responded that the only way that the County will upgrade the road is if the Village of Danvers agrees to post the road at 80,000 lbs. Ms. O'Connor stated that is a point that should be agreed upon before the County agrees to do the work. Mr. Mitchell responded that he would be sure that was stipulated in the agreement.

Ms. O'Connor asked what is going to stop other communities from requesting that the County assume jurisdiction of other surrounding roads. Mr. Baggett agreed that once the County approves this type of request, it is likely that more requests will be made. Mr. Baggett also noted that he would agree with the less radical approach of fixing the north three blocks of the road and let the jurisdiction of the road remain with the Village of Danvers.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that he believes that the County has assisted Danvers with many projects in the recent past and it would be unfair to show them preferential treatment. He stated that he would entertain a motion on this item.

Mr. Baggett stated that he would like to deal with the item of the upgrade of the north three blocks of West Street before dealing with the jurisdictional transfer.

Motion by Dean/Cavallini to recommend approval to upgrade (to 80,000 lbs.) the north three blocks of West Street in Danvers within the next five years with the condition that the road remains posted at 80,000 lbs. Motion carried.

The Committee then discussed the issue of jurisdiction of the road. The Committee decided that it would not be in the County's best interest to assume jurisdiction of this road at this time. Mr. Mitchell advised the Committee that no motion would need to be made on this issue. He also noted that he would draft an agreement between the County and the Village so they can consider it at their next Board Meeting. The Village may or may not accept the County's offer.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that the next item for the Committee's consideration is a series of agreements for work proposed on the Bentown-Holder Road. Mr. Mitchell explained that the stretch of Bentown-Holder Road from Illinois Route 9 to just south of Holder is under the jurisdiction of the County. The Highway Department has applied for and been awarded \$256,620.00 from the TARP program to upgrade this stretch of Bentown-Holder Road to 80,000 lbs. The Highway Department is currently buying the right-of-way so that the road can be widened and resurfaced. There are four agreements that go with this project. The first is the State TARP program agreement appropriating the \$256,620.00. The second agreement is the 80,000 lb. Weight Limit Resolution which designates the Bentown-Holder Road as an 80,000 lb. road. The third agreement is an agreement between the County and Streutker Dairy. Streutker Dairy had requested that the County upgrade a half-mile stretch of this road to 80,000 lbs. Therefore, they have agreed to pay 25%, or \$4,590.00. The last agreement is between the County and Evergreen F.S., Inc. Evergreen F.S. has agreed to pay 25% of the cost to upgrade Bentown-Holder Road from Route 9 south to the railroad tracks in Holder. Evergreen F.S.'s portion is \$26,838.00. Mr. Mitchell stated that he would recommend approval all of these agreements as a set.

Motion O'Connor/Cavallini to recommend approval of the State Truck Access Road Program Agreement, 80,000 lb. Weight Limit Resolution, 80,000 lb. Weight Limit Agreement between the County and Streutker Dairy and the 80,000 lb. Weight Limit Agreement between the County and Evergreen F.S.
Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that the next item for approval is an Emergency Revenue and Appropriation Ordinance, County Highway Funds. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that when the County entered into a road agreement with Horizon Wind Energy several months ago, the Wind Farm agreed to upgrade certain roads in advance. After the bids were awarded, the Wind Farm issued the funds to upgrade these roads to the County. This Emergency Appropriation Ordinance appropriates the funds into the County Highway Fund and allows the Highway Department to expend the funds, as the invoices need to be paid.

Motion by O'Connor/Cavallini to recommend approval of an Emergency Revenue and Appropriation Ordinance, Amending the 2006 Combined Annual Appropriation and Budget Ordinance, County Highway Fund, Wind Farm.
Motion carried.

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Vice Chairman Hoselton asked Mr. Mitchell to present the project summary and the informational items. Mr. Mitchell stated that the Ellsworth Wind Farm Box Culverts are complete. All that is left is some minor grading and seeding of the project.

The Horizon Wind Farm Resurfacing is complete on the LeRoy-Lexington Road, the Ellsworth Road, but it has not been completed on the Arrowsmith Road. The Wind Farm has decided that they are not going to end up using the Arrowsmith Road during construction. The Highway Department will end up reimbursing the Wind Farm the funds reserved for that proposed upgrade.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the Highway Department has received eight proposals from consultants interested in submitting bids for the East Side Highway Study. The Steering Committee will be going over these proposals next week. Interviews will then be scheduled with the consultants that are chosen.

Mr. Mitchell stated that, at last month's meeting, Mr. Dean had asked what did the Highway Department purchase at "United Rentals". Mr. Mitchell stated that the Highway Department purchases steel posts from them, as they have come in as the low bidder for that particular item.

Vice Chairman Hoselton asked if there were any other questions or comments. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Dean/Cavallini to adjourn at the meeting
10:07 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Northcutt
Recording Secretary