

Minutes of the Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, April 4, 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:	County Board Chairman Sweeney, Member Bostic
Staff Members Present:	Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator; 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; Ms. Jennifer Sicks, Transportation Planner, Regional Planning Commission; Mr. Ron Roth, President, Village of Danvers

Vice Chairman Hoselton called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that the first item for action is the approval of the minutes from the March 7, 2006 meeting of the Transportation Committee and the minutes from the March 14, 2006 Special Meeting of the Transportation Committee. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion by Cavallini/Sweeney to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2006 Transportation Committee Meeting and the minutes from the March 14, 2006 Special Transportation Committee Meeting. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that he would like to rearrange the order of the items on the agenda. He advised the Committee that because Mr. Ron Roth, President, Village of Danvers, is present at today's meeting he would prefer that the Committee consider Item 6A, which is the first item for action.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that this item is a request by the Village of Danvers for a Jurisdictional Transfer of a portion of West Street in Danvers from the Village of Danvers to McLean County. Vice Chairman Hoselton asked Mr. Roth to present this item to the Committee. Mr. Roth introduced himself to the Committee. Mr. Roth stated that a portion of the Danvers-Carlock Road was transferred to Danvers from the State of Illinois in 1973. The portion of the Road that was transferred is the strip from West North Street to the Danvers "Y". Mr. Roth advised the Committee that the County is currently working on a portion of the Road that is within its jurisdiction. Mr. Roth stated the Village of Danvers would like to have the County upgrade the remaining portion of the Danvers-Carlock Road and take over control of the Road. Mr. Roth stated that the amount of Motor Fuel Tax funds that the Village receives is very minimal and the County is better equipped to maintain the road. Mr. Roth stated that the length of the road that the Village is requesting to be transferred is roughly 6/10ths of a mile. Mr. Roth informed the Committee that the Village resurfaced a portion of this road in 2003.

**Mr. Dean entered at 8:06 a.m.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the Highway Department had originally thought that this entire road was 80,000 lbs., but has since discovered that there are three blocks of the road that are not 80,000 lbs. As Mr. Roth noted, two of those blocks were just resurfaced in 2003. Mr. Mitchell stated that in order to bring these three blocks up to the 80,000 lb. standard, they would need an additional two inches of hot-mix. The entire cost to bring the three blocks up to 80,000 lb. standard would be \$55,000.00. The entire portion of the road which is being proposed to be transferred will need resurfacing within the next three to five years, and that cost would be approximately \$145,000.00

Mr. Dean commented that he would be worried about setting a precedent. There are many small towns that have limited funds that may be looking for financial assistance. The County may want to be cautious about accepting such a proposal. Mr. Mitchell suggested that the Committee take a field trip to the Road, discuss the alternatives, and then make a decision.

Mr. Baggett asked if the County would have to take control of the road in order to complete the work on the road. Mr. Mitchell replied that the County could enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Village to do the work and not take control of the road.

Mr. Cavallini asked what a jurisdictional transfer of this road would mean to the County. Mr. Mitchell responded that would mean that the County would have full control of the roadway and the right-of-way. Mr. Mitchell explained that there are currently two problems that he sees with the road that would need to be addressed if the County was to take control. The first thing that would need to be fixed is a culvert that is too narrow south of town. The other issue is a local business located between Main Street and Exchange Street that is directly in the right-of-way. That would need to be moved according to the County's standards.

**Ms. O'Connor entered at 8:12 a.m.

Ms. Bostic asked Mr. Mitchell how the road was transferred from the State to the Village of Danvers in 1973. Mr. Mitchell responded that he does not know the history on that subject. He stated that he could do some research and report back to the Committee.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that he believes that it would be acceptable for the County to assist the Village in the construction of this road, but he cautioned the Committee about jumping into a jurisdictional transfer. Mr. Roth responded that he understands the County's position. He advised the Committee that the Village is having a hard time stretching their small Motor Fuel Tax funds to pay for all of the projects that need to be done. Vice Chairman Hoselton advised the Committee that they should study this issue further before making a decision.

Motion by Dean/Cavallini to table this issue until
the next Transportation Committee Meeting on
May 2, 2006.

Vice Chairman Hoselton asked the Committee if they would be interested in taking a field trip out to this road before making a decision. Mr. Cavallini stated that he thinks that it would be a good idea for the Committee to view the road before making a decision. Mr. Mitchell asked the Committee if they would care to take the trip immediately before the next meeting of the Transportation Committee. The Committee Members agreed to schedule the field trip before the next meeting.

Vice Chairman Hoselton called for a vote on the previous motion.

Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Hoselton thanked Mr. Roth.

The next item on the agenda is the letting results from a March 28th Letting for County and Township projects. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the bid tab and the Resolution to award the bids are in the Committee's agenda packet. Mr. Mitchell stated that he would be happy to go over them one by one or he could answer the Committee's relevant questions.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that Mr. Mitchell did not need to go over each project. However, he noted that Steffens 3-D was the low bidder on a large percentage of these projects. He asked if Steffens 3-D meets the bonding and manpower requirements to complete these types of projects. Mr. Mitchell responded that Steffens 3-D has been around for approximately three years and has done quite a bit of work for the County over the past three years. They are pre-qualified with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). Mr. Mitchell noted that these projects plus their current projects deplete all of their prequalification. Due to their bottom-line bidding, the County and Townships saved \$197,000.00 over the competitor's bids.

Vice Chairman Hoselton asked if Steffens 3-D is bonded. Mr. Mitchell replied that when Steffens 3-D submits a bid, they provide a bid check that is according to the standard spec book. The Highway Department keeps the bid check until after the project is completed. After the work is completed, the bid check is then given back to the company. Mr. Mitchell stated that if the work is "contract" work, such as a bridge or a hot-mix project, then bonds are involved. There are no bonds with maintenance work.

Mr. Mitchell went through the Resolution with the Committee and stated that he would recommend award of all bids as shown.

Motion by O'Connor/Dean to recommend
award of bids from a March 28, 2006 Letting
for County and Township Projects.
Motion carried.

The next item on the agenda is an agreement for land surveying and platting services between the County and Lewis, Yockey, and Brown, Inc. Mr. Mitchell explained that for several years the Highway Department has had an annual contract with Lewis, Yockey and Brown, Inc. for land surveying and platting services. The Agreement is a simple two-page agreement listing their hourly rates for their various employee classifications and expenses. Also included in the Committee's packets is a list of the 2005 rates so that the Committee can compare the increase in rates. Mr. Mitchell stated that the Highway Department recommends approval of this item.

Vice Chairman Hoselton asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, he called for a motion.

Motion by O'Connor/Cavallini to recommend approval of an Agreement between McLean County Highway Department and Lewis, Yockey, and Brown for Land Surveying and Platting Services. Motion carried.

The next item on the agenda is the Federal Aid Agreement and the Resolution for Improvement for the Stanford-McLean Road. Mr. Mitchell explained that this is approximately a three mile resurfacing project. Resurfacing will begin at Route 136 and continue northwest to the intersection of 300 East. The Federal Aid Agreement between McLean County and IDOT must be approved before federal dollars can be spent on this project. In addition to the Federal Aid Agreement, a Resolution must be approved to appropriate the local share of the expense of this project. Mr. Mitchell recommended approval of both of these items.

Mr. Dean asked what will the weight limit be on that road when the project is completed. Mr. Mitchell responded that the weight limit will be 72,380 lbs. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that there is a structure about a mile north of Route 136 that has too much dead load on it to be resurfaced again. That structure will need to be rebuilt before the resurfacing can be done. The Highway Department hopes to bring that to a letting in the near future.

Motion by Cavallini/Dean to recommend approval of a Federal Aid Agreement and a Resolution for Improvement for the Stanford-McLean Road. Motion carried.

The next item is the Federal Aid Agreement for the East Side Highway. This is the Agreement which appropriates the grant funding for the East Side Highway Feasibility Study. Mr. Mitchell stated that the State of Illinois' Fiscal Year goes from July 1 – June 30. Therefore, only \$200,000.00 is being appropriated through this Federal Aid Agreement. This amount represents the FY 2006 portion of the Federal Aid Agreement. The remaining \$600,000.00 will be appropriated in IDOT's FY 2007 budget through an additional Federal Aid Agreement. Mr. Mitchell stated that he recommends approval of the Federal Aid Agreement.

Mr. Cavallini asked if the County will have to expend a large amount of its own funding before getting reimbursed from the State of Illinois. Mr. Mitchell replied

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when the County receives a bill from a consultant, the County will pay the bill. The County will then bill the State of Illinois for 80% of the original bill. Mr. Mitchell stated that the turn around time in receiving reimbursement from the State of Illinois should not exceed a month or two. Vice Chairman Hoselton asked Mr. Mitchell if Bloomington and Normal will split the local match equally with the County. Mr. Mitchell replied that is correct.

Vice Chairman Hoselton asked if there were any additional questions. Hearing none, he called for a motion on this item.

Motion by O'Connor/Baggett to recommend approval of a Federal Aid Agreement for the East Side Highway Feasibility Study. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Hoselton stated that the Committee neglected to pay the bills at the beginning of the meeting. He asked if there were any questions regarding the March, 2006 bills. Mr. Dean asked what the County rents from United Rentals. Mr. Mitchell replied that he does not know what that expense is. He noted that it may be a purchase rather than a rental. He stated that he will double check and let the Committee know.

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Vice Chairman Hoselton asked if there were any other questions. Hearing none, he called for a motion to pay the bills.

Motion by O'Connor/Cavallini to recommend approval of the bills for March, 2006 as submitted by the County Auditor. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Hoselton asked Mr. Mitchell to present the items for information. Mr. Mitchell stated that the Ellsworth Culverts are near completion. The only thing that remains is for the guard rail company to install the guardrail.

**Ms. O'Connor exits the meeting at 8:49.

Mr. Mitchell stated that he has prepared a memo regarding an update on the East Side Highway progress and the members of the Steering Committee. The Request For Proposal (RFP) has been mailed to about 20 consultants. There was also an article in *The Pantagraph* about the study and that RFP is available to consultants. The RFP's are due back by Thursday, April 27, 2006. The proposals will be distributed to the Steering Committee and in May there will be a meeting to determine which consultants will be interviewed.

Vice-Chairman Hoselton stated that in the Committee's agenda there is a map that shows the original corridor that was chosen in the first study. He asked why that corridor would be shown on a current map. Mr. Mitchell responded that the legend denotes that area outlined in blue is designated in the Bloomington and Normal Comprehensive Plans. Ms. Jennifer Sicks, Regional Planning, advised the Committee that the federal transportation grant requirements stipulate that adopted Comprehensive Plans of local governments must be included and reviewed by the consultants.

Vice Chairman Hoselton asked if there were any further comments or questions. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 8:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Northcutt
Recording Secretary

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