

Minutes of the Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, June 7, 2005 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 404 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

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

Members Absent: Members O'Connor and Hoselton

Other Members Present: None

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, Regional Planning Commission; Ms. Jennifer Sicks, Regional Planning Commission; Mr. James Malic, Intern, County Administrator's Office

Chairman Bass called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Chairman Bass presented the Minutes of the May 3, 2005 meeting for approval.

Motion by Dean/Cavallini to approve the Minutes of the May 3, 2005 meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass introduced Mr. James Malic, one of the County Administrator's summer interns, to the Committee. Mr. Malic will be a senior at Illinois Wesleyan University next year. Chairman Bass welcomed Mr. Malic.

Chairman Bass informed the Committee that the next item on the agenda is the payment of the May, 2005 bills. Chairman Bass noted that he has a letter from Ms. Jackie Dozier, County Auditor, recommending payment of the bills. Chairman Bass asked if there were any questions from the Committee.

Mr. Cavallini asked what is the expense in the Schooling and Conference line item which is being paid to the Federal Highway Administration. Mr. Mitchell explained that expense was for a class that the Highway Department sent a Technician to for an update on bridge inspections. Mr. Mitchell stated that the Highway Department has several certified bridge inspectors and they must be sent to classes now and then to maintain their certification.

Motion by Dean/Cavallini to recommend approval of the bills for May, 2005 as submitted by the County Auditor. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass stated that the first item for action is the letting results from the May 25, 2005 for County and Township projects. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the first project is for road construction on Stanford Road from Route 122 to Olympia School Road. Mr. Mitchell explained that Advanced Asphalt from Princeton, IL came down to bid on this job. Rowe Construction also bid on this job. Mr. Mitchell stated that it seems that Rowe purposefully bid low in order to win the bid. Rowe's bid came in at \$464,867.37, which is 28.54% below the Engineer's estimate.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the second project is a cover seal project on Towanda Road. Steffens was the low bidder at \$11,185.00, which is 14.13% below the Engineer's estimate.

Mr. Mitchell stated that the last project is for culvert extensions on the LeRoy-Lexington Road. J.G. Stewart is the low bidder for this project at \$62,951.90, which is 23.74% below the engineer's estimate.

Motion by Cavallini/Dean to recommend approval of the letting results from a May 25, 2005 letting for County and Township projects. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass stated that the next item on the agenda are two 80,000 lb. Road Weight Limit Agreements. The first is between McLean County and Earlybird Grain and Fertilizer Service, Inc. and the second agreement is between McLean County and Stanford Grain Company. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that Stanford-McLean Road is going to be resurfaced. There has been a request by Earlybird Grain and Fertilizer, Inc. and the Stanford Grain Elevator to bring this road up to 80,000 lb. standard. Mr. Mitchell noted that each of these entities will pay \$2,304.00 toward the work to bring this road up to the 80,000 lb. standard. Mr. Mitchell stated that a formal resolution for this work will be brought before the Committee next month. Mr. Mitchell stated that the Highway Department recommends approval of these two agreements.

Motion by Cavallini/Dean to recommend approval of both 80,000 lb. Weight Agreements for Stanford Road, Section 04-00122-03-RS. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass stated that the next item is a request for a Triathlon at Comlara Park – Evergreen Lake. Chairman Bass stated that it appears from the request received from Mr. Steve Newman, Board Member, Bloomington-Normal Sports Commission and Convention and Visitors' Bureau, that they are asking that the Highway Department be responsible for directional signs and clean up after the event. Chairman Bass stated that it would behoove Mr. Mitchell to make certain that the event holders understand what their responsibility is before the Committee approves this item. Mr. Mitchell stated that he met with Mr. Bill Wasson, Director, Parks and Recreation and Mr. Newman recently. Mr. Mitchell stated that he would discuss with Mr. Newman that the event planners are responsible for all of the flagging and the barricades. Mr. Mitchell stated that Mr. Newman has asked that if the Committee does approve this event, that it automatically become an annual event without having to be considered before the Transportation Committee each year. Mr. Mitchell stated that he informed Mr. Newman that is the way these requests are typically handled. The only year that a run must be considered before the Transportation Committee is the first year. Mr. Mitchell explained that the event consists of a swim in Evergreen Lake,

a biking route and then a running route. Several roads will need to be closed. Mr. Mitchell also noted that he would inform Mr. Newman that the event organizers responsible for all of the flagging and the barricades. Mr. Mitchell stated that the event planners will still have to fill out an application, get a certificate of insurance that names the County as an additional insured and go through the permitting process. Mr. Mitchell stated that contingent on informing Mr. Newman of his responsibilities, the Highway Department recommends approval of this request.

Mr. Baggett asked how much this will cost the County. Mr. Mitchell stated that this will not cost the County any money. The County will loan them barricades and signage, but it is their responsibility to post those items. Mr. Mitchell added that if the event requires Sheriff's Deputies on patrol on overtime for the event, the event holders will have to pay them as well.

Chairman Bass stated that this could be an event that could draw many people to our community and that he feels this would be a very positive event.

Mr. Lindberg stated that this event is scheduled for July, 2006.

Motion by Cavallini/Dean to approve a request received from the Convention and Visitor's Bureau for the COMLARA Park-Evergreen Lake Triathlon.
Motion carried.

Chairman Bass stated that the last item for action is a set of three joint culvert petitions. Mr. Mitchell stated that the first petition is a petition for replacement of a culvert in Lawndale Township on 2550 North at 3425 East. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that this culvert was in very bad shape and due to the fact that it was so deteriorated, the Highway Department has already replaced this culvert. The total cost of this culvert was \$8,000.00, with the County's share being \$4,000.00.

Mr. Mitchell stated that there are two culverts in Lexington. The first culvert is at 2240 North and 2725 East, just east of Pleasant Hill. The total cost of this project is \$8,000.00 with the County's share being \$4,000.00. The second culvert is at 2250 North and 2890 East. The total cost of this project is \$8,200.00 with the County's share being \$4,100.00.

Mr. Mitchell stated that in order to qualify for a joint culvert project, these projects must be at least .02% of the City, Town or Village's assessed valuation. All of these projects meet that standard. Mr. Mitchell stated that the Highway Department would recommend approval of all of these petitions.

Motion by Cavallini/Baggett to recommend approval of the 2005 Lawndale Joint Culvert, 2005 Lexington Joint Culvert #1, and the 2005 Lexington Joint Culvert #2. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass stated that the next item is for information only. It is a project summary of Stringtown Road, Wefer Culvert, and Heller Bridge. Mr. Mitchell stated that the Stringtown Project was started last fall. Rowe has now completed the surface and the guard rail is now in place. This project is nearly complete.

The Wefer Culvert is on the LeRoy-Lexington Road three miles north of LeRoy. The project is coming along very well. Hopefully, by approximately June 20th, the road will be open to traffic.

The Heller Bridge project has just begun. The old structure has been removed.

Mr. Mitchell stated that he has also provided the Committee with two maps. The first is a McLean County Road Posting Map. Mr. Mitchell stated that there was a question at last month's meeting about the weight limits on various County Roads when the Committee was considering whether to bring the Danvers-Carlock Road up to the 80,000 lb. standard. The second is a McLean County Timber Bridge Map. This map illustrates the location of all of the timber bridges in the County. There are 22 timber bridges left in the County. Mr. Mitchell stated that four of these bridges are currently posted, three are in poor condition, but do not require posting, 15 are still in good condition. Mr. Mitchell stated that most of these bridges were built in the 1930's or the 1950's. Mr. Mitchell reminded the Committee that the bridges contain timber piling, the decks are all made of concrete.

Chairman Bass asked if there were any other items to come before the Committee. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that there was a fatality on the LeRoy-Lexington Road several miles north of Route 9. Mr. Mitchell stated that both he and Mr. Eric Schmitt have reviewed the scene and there doesn't seem to be any road deficiency involved. It was a single car accident. A woman was driving and she veered over to the opposite shoulder of the road and tried to bring it back on to the road. She then skidded and lost control and rolled through the field. She was thrown from the vehicle. Mr. Baggett asked if the shoulder of the road was soft. Mr. Mitchell responded that it was not and that it was nearly flush with the road.

Mr. Dean asked how the Wind Farm Project is going. Mr. Mitchell responded that he had a meeting last week with Zilkha and there is another meeting scheduled this afternoon to finish the agreement. There were some changes made by the attorneys involved. Mr. Mitchell stated that he hopes to be able to bring an agreement to the Committee in July.

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Chairman Bass asked if there were any further comments or questions. With no further business to come before the Committee at this time. Chairman Bass declared the meeting adjourned at 8:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Northcutt
Recording Secretary

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