

## **Minutes of the Transportation Committee**

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, June 8, 2004 at 8:00 a.m., in Room 700 of the Law and Justice Center, 104 West Front Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Bass, Members Owens, Hoselton, Dean, and O'Connor

Members Absent: Member Cavallini

Other Members Present: Member Gordon

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. Phil Dick, Director, Building and Zoning

Others Present: Ms. Christine Brauer, Regional Planning Commission; Ms. Jennifer Sicks, Regional Planning Commission

Chairman Bass called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. Chairman Bass informed the Committee that Mr. Cavallini has called and will not be in attendance at today's meeting and that Mr. Dean had called and will be a few minutes late.

Chairman Bass presented the Minutes of the May 4, 2004 meeting for approval.

Motion by Owens/O'Connor to approve the Minutes of the May 4, 2004 meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass presented the bills for approval.

Mr. Jack Mitchell, County Engineer handed the bills to the Committee. Chairman Bass informed the Committee that there is a letter from Ms. Jackie Dozier, County Auditor, recommending payment of the bills.

Motion by Hoselton/Owens to recommend approval of the bills for May, 2004 as submitted by the County Auditor.

Chairman Bass stated that the next item is letting results from June 3, 2004 for County and Township projects. Chairman Bass asked Mr. Jack Mitchell, County Engineer, to present this item. Mr. Mitchell stated that the first item that was bid is a widening and resurfacing of Towanda-Gridley Road. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that Rowe Construction Company was the low bidder at \$506,867.54, and that the Highway Department recommends award of that bid to Rowe.

Mr. Mitchell stated that the next project is widening of Stringtown Road. Mr. Mitchell advised the Committee that the bids came in considerably higher than expected. Mr. Mitchell noted that the Highway Department recommends rejecting those bids. The Highway Department staff will recheck the feasibility of replacing the deck.

Mr. Mitchell stated that the last project in this letting is bridge repair near Crestwick Subdivision. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that this is a Non-Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) project. Mr. Mitchell advised that Otto Baum, Co. is the low bidder on this project at \$65,945.50. Mr. Mitchell noted that, initially, there was a petition to rebuild this bridge, but the estimate for that work came in at \$550,000.00. The Township and the County decided to repair this bridge so that

it will last for another 20 years or so. After that time, this area may be annexed into the City of Bloomington.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the next item on the agenda is the bridge petition for the aforementioned repair work. Mr. Mitchell asked if the Committee would group those two items together. Mr. Mitchell advised the Committee that the Highway Department would recommend award of all of the bids and approval of the bridge petition.

\*\*Mr. Dean arrived at 8:15 a.m.

Mr. Hoselton asked Mr. Mitchell if he would explain why this bridge repair does not qualify for Motor Fuel Tax funds. Mr. Mitchell replied that according to the Highway Code 605ILCS5/5-501, a Township can petition a County to pay for 50% of the construction or repair of a bridge. Therefore, this project is not eligible to be paid for with MFT funds.

Motion by Hoselton/O'Connor to recommend approval of the bids as presented, from the June 3, 2004 bid letting for County and Township Projects, as presented and a Non-MFT Bridge Repair Petition for Senator Harber Hall Bridge. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass asked Mr. Mitchell to present the next item, which is an Engineering Service Agreement between Rice, Berry & Associates and the County to replace two bridges. The first bridge is located on the LeRoy-Lexington Road and the second is on Towanda East Road. Mr. Mitchell explained that the first bridge on LeRoy-Lexington Road is in a state of disrepair. The concrete has spalled away from the lower steel under the railings. The second bridge is a mile east of Towanda. This bridge is on the State's historic list, which makes replacing it a longer, more drawn out process. The existing bridge is missing concrete on one of the piercaps, the abutments are cracking in the corners and it is in general disrepair, as well. It needs to be replaced. Mr. Mitchell noted that he would recommend approval of this Engineering Agreement and the replacement of these two bridges. Mr. Hoselton asked Mr. Mitchell why the Engineering Agreement lists the possibility of these fees being assessed in several different ways. Mr. Hoselton stated that the agreement shows that the fees could be assessed as a percentage, per diem, cost-plus or a lump sum. Mr. Mitchell replied that this is a standard State Agreement. The fees will be assessed strictly on a percentage basis. Mr. Hoselton asked if the other cost methods could be stricken from this agreement. Mr. Mitchell replied that will be amended.

Motion by Hoselton/Owens to delete the alternative payment methods from the Engineering Service Agreement and to limit the calculation of the fees to a percentage basis. Motion carried.

Mr. Owens asked Mr. Mitchell if Rice, Berry & Associates is the primary engineering group that the County uses for bridge repair. Mr. Mitchell stated that over the last ten years the County has used Ozyurt and Stone, Springfield, IL, the Farnsworth Group and Hansen Engineering, Springfield, IL. Mr. Owens stated that he thought that he remembered a firm that the County had used in the past which was slightly lower in price than Rice, Berry & Associates. Mr. Mitchell commented that Rice, Berry & Associates are, in his opinion, the best local bridge engineers in this area and offer knowledgeable service.

Motion by Owens/O'Connor to recommend approval of an Engineering Service Agreement for bridge repairs with Rice, Berry & Associates. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass informed the Committee that the last item for action is a proposed Joint Resolution of Support for Further Study of Long-Range Transportation needs on the East and South Sides of the Bloomington-Normal Urban Area. Chairman Bass asked Mr. Mitchell to address this item. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that both the Town of Normal and the City of Bloomington have passed this Resolution. Mr. Mitchell reminded the Committee that approximately year ago, the Committee approved the consultants recommendation on a possible alignment for an East-side corridor facility. However, the consultant's recommended alignment was not approved by the City of Bloomington or the Town of Normal. Since that time, there has been a push by State and local officials to revive this issue. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the Resolution clearly states that the three local agencies will jointly pursue State and Federal funding to finance the cost of this study.

Mr. Owens asked if this item went before the Bloomington and Normal Planning Commissions or just the City of Bloomington Council and the Town of Normal Council. Mr. Phil Dick responded that this has not gone before the planning commissions, nor have public hearings been held.

Chairman Bass asked Mr. Mitchell if this will be the same plan which was turned down over a year ago. Mr. Mitchell replied that this is an entirely new study.

Motion by Hoselton/Owens to recommend approval of a Joint Resolution of Support for further study of Long-Range Transportation needs on the East and South Sides of the Bloomington and Normal Urban Area. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass stated that the next item on the agenda is for information. It is the roadwork status report for Randolph road. Mr. Mitchell stated that work continues on Randolph Road between rains.

Mr. Mitchell stated that the Highway Department has replaced crossroad culverts on Colfax-Weston Road. There will be some culverts that will need to be extended after Rowe has finished construction on this road. The binder is down and Rowe is installing Area Reflective Crack Control on June 10, 2004.

Mr. Mitchell stated that due to staged construction on the project on Townline Road, traffic signals preparation is complete and in place. The test pile was driven approximately a month ago.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the next item is a correction on the National Welding Claim, which Mr. Dean had asked about at the last meeting. When the bill came in there was an error and it has since been rectified. Mr. Mitchell thanked Mr. Dean for bringing this item to his attention.

Mr. Mitchell advised the Committee that the budget report is in the Committee's agenda packets.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the last item for information is a proposed Supplemental Agreement between the Bloomington-Normal Airport Authority (BNAA) and McLean County. Mr. Mitchell advised the Committee that due to the fact that this item was added after the original agenda was prepared, the Committee will need to act upon this item at a Stand-up Committee Meeting prior to the Board Meeting. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that he would give the members a chance to review the document and would be happy to answer any questions that they may have. Ms. O'Connor asked how the repayment schedule of \$35,000.00 per year was arrived at. Mr. Mitchell replied that amount was negotiated between the County and the BNAA. Ms. O'Connor asked what happens if the BNAA defaults on a payment. Mr. Hoselton replied the County appoints three members to the BNAA Board. Mr. Hoselton noted that he did not think that a penalty would be necessary. The BNAA is aware of their responsibility and if this issue was taken to court, both parties lose.

Chairman Bass reminded the Committee that because this item was added as an item for information only yesterday, after the agenda had already been sent out, the Committee cannot take action on this item. This item will be considered at a Stand-up Committee meeting prior to the Board Meeting on June 15, 2004.

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There being nothing further to come before the Committee at this time, Chairman Bass stated that he would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Owens/Hoselton to adjourn  
at 8:45 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Northcutt  
Recording Secretary

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