

## Minutes of the Transportation Committee

The meeting of the Transportation Committee was held on March 5, 2003 at 7:30 a.m. at the Law and Justice Center, Room 700, 104 West Front Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

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

Members Absent: Members Hoselton and Owens

Staff Members Present: Mr. Terry Lindberg, Assistant County Administrator;  
Mrs. Carmen Zielinski, Administrator's Office;  
Ms. Jennifer Sicks, Transportation Planner, Regional Planning; Mr. Jack Mitchell, Highway Engineer

Others Present: None

Chairman Bass called the meeting to order at 7:40 a.m.

Chairman Bass presented the Minutes of the February 4, 2003 meeting for approval.

Motion by Dean/Cavallini to approve the minutes of February 4, 2003 meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass presented the bills for approval.

Chairman Bass asked Mr. Jack Mitchell, Highway Engineer, if the County had enough salt to get them through the rest of the season. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the Highway Department had exceeded their salt usage by 130% from the State bid. So, since McLean County can not receive anymore salt from the State bid, new salt bids were accepted and more salt was found from a new company at \$6.00 per ton more than the state price. Mr. Mitchell explained that the Highway Department seeks to maintain a stockpile of 4,500 tons, including the 1,000 tons purchased from the new company.

Mr. Cavallini asked if the 4,500 tons of salt were delivered all at once. Mr. Mitchell answered that the Highway Department can stockpile about 2,500 tons at one time.

Mr. Dean asked if the Highway Department has used any of the environmentally friendly corn product for the roads. Mr. Mitchell answered that the environmentally friendly product was researched by the Highway Department but it was found to be prohibitively expensive. Mr. Cavallini wondered if this corn product work as well as salt. Mr. Mitchell noted that Normal tried it in the past and was not pleased with the results. Mr. Dean asked Mr. Mitchell to check into the corn product again. Also, Mr. Dean would like the Highway Department to check into Methanol and Bio-Diesel. The Bio-Diesel fuel is more environmentally friendly.

Minutes of the Transportation Committee  
March 5, 2003  
Page Two

Chairman Bass informed that Committee that Mr. Hoselton called and asked that the Overtime Line Item be addressed in the bills. Ms. Rodgers asked if the \$24,000.00 was related to overtime paid due to the inclement weather. Mr. Mitchell answered that most of the overtime is related to the winter weather.

Motion by Cavallini/Dean to approve the bills for  
February 2003 as submitted. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass asked that the Family Property Development for the Deneen Family be tabled at this time due to procedural steps.

Mr. Mitchell presented the results of a letting from February 26, 2003. Mr. Mitchell explained that the letting was for McLean County and various Road District Maintenance Sections with Rowe Construction, Bloomington, IL; Vulcan Signs, Foley, AL; and Stark Materials, Bloomington, IL.

Mr. Cavallini asked about the amount spent on signage. Mr. Mitchell explained that this figure reflects replacement of signs around McLean County. Mr. Mitchell noted that the Highway Department has a Sign Foreman that replaces signs, checks no passing

zones, road constructions, etc. This foreman travels the County checking on the signage, plus Highway Department staff pays attention as they drive around.

Motion by Cavallini/Dean to recommend approval of the results of a letting from February 26, 2003, for County and Township Projects. Motion carried.

Mr. Mitchell presented a resolution for approval for Improvement by County of Stanford-McLean Road, Section 01-00047-08-RS and a Federal Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for Section 01-00047-08-RS. Mr. Mitchell showed the projects location on the County map on the wall. The improvements being proposed on this project are resurfacing with the construction of leveling binder, area reflective crack control, bituminous concrete binder and surface courses, aggregate shoulders and other miscellaneous related items. The State of Illinois administers McLean County's share of the money for this project.

Motion by Dean/Rodgers to recommend approval of a resolution for Improvement by County of Stanford-McLean Road, Section 01-00047-08-RS and a Federal Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for Section 01-00047-08-RS.

Mr. Dean is pleased to see this project moving forward because that stretch of road has a lot of young Olympia High School traffic on it and this will aid with the congestion and hazard.

Motion carried.

Mr. Mitchell presented a Contract for a Negotiator for Right-of-Way Purchases for Stringtown Road Sections 99-00057-09-DR and 99-00057-08-WR with Gerald W. Brady, of Peoria, IL. This contract runs from March 18, 2003 through March 18, 2004. Mr. Mitchell noted that Gerald W. Brady will receive \$650.00 per parcel, not to exceed \$31,200.00. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that the first bidder, Land Acquisition, Co., informed the Highway Department that they had to remove their contract because they did not have the proper insurance for this project.

Motion by Rodgers/Cavallini to recommend approval of a Contract with Gerald W. Brady, not to exceed \$31,200.00.

Chairman Bass commented that the Highway Department has labored with trying to engage a person or company to do the Right-of-Way projects for McLean County for

many years. Until now, members of the Highway Department's staff have had to do the negotiating.

Mr. Mitchell showed the location of this project on the wall map. Mr. Mitchell stated that new shoulders and ditches need to be made, widening of road will occur, and line-of-sight problems are going to be corrected. This process is necessary to gain the right-of-way to do the length of road in the project.

Chairman Bass asked how many parcels of property are involved in this project. Mr. Mitchell there are 48 parcels in this project. The two intersections involved in this project are going to be improved in visibility and safety.

Mr. Cavallini asked that since there are 48 different parcels, are there 48 different owners? Mr. Mitchell stated that would not be 48 different owners because there are a few parcels that are owned by the same person.

Chairman Bass asked that, if the County Board approved this contract on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March, how long before the contractor starts negotiating the right-of-ways? Mr. Mitchell answered that he expects the work to start immediately. Mr. Mitchell noted that the contract has a term of one year but that the Highway Department would like for negotiations to be completed by the end of July, 2003, except for the parcels that will go into condemnation.

Mr. Terry Lindberg, Assistant County Administrator, asked that the Transportation Committee vote on this contract with the stipulation that it gets approval from Mr. Brian Hug, Assistant State's Attorney.

Motion by Rodgers/Cavallini to recommend approval of a Contract with Gerald W. Brady, not to exceed \$31,200.00, contingent on the review and recommendation from the State's Attorney. Motion carried.

Mr. Dean asked if the Highway Department is doing the \$31,000.00 project in-house. Mr. Mitchell answered that the actual construction work for the ditches will be done by the Highway Department. The work being done at the west end, where there will be some widening and resurfacing, and bridge work, will be done by a contractor.

Mr. Dean clarified that in the past, the \$31,000.00 worth of property negotiations was done by the Highway Department. Mr. Mitchell answered that in the past the Highway Department did do the negotiating. This is the first time this part of the negotiation is being contracted out. Mr. Mitchell that most of the negotiation was done by Mr. Jeff Tracy with the aid of the State's Attorney's Office.

Chairman Bass referred to the Items for Information.

Mr. Mitchell stated that road work on Towanda-Barnes Road has been suspended for the winter.

Mr. Cavallini wanted to know why the texture of the new road on Towanda-Barnes Road so rough and bumpy. Mr. Mitchell explained that about a month ago, a cold spell came through McLean County followed by a warm spell, and this caused the road to hump. The Highway Department has contacted the State's Soil Engineer from District 3. An Engineer is coming down to take some core samples from the south section of the road to test the soil and see what may be causing these humps. Mr. Mitchell stated that what he thinks is happening is that the lime used to stabilize the underground dirt is reacting with moisture and causing physical changes in the soil. Mr. Mitchell will inform the Committee of the results when available. Mr. Mitchell hopes to have all of the problems and project worked out by the end of June, 2003 on the Towanda-Barnes Road Project.

Chairman Bass referred to the Danvers Road status. Mr. Mitchell stated that this project is basically complete. The final touches will be done when the weather warms up.

Mr. Mitchell updated the Committee on the status of the new garage for the Highway Department. Mr. Mitchell stated that he was instructed by the Property Committee to return with a Master Plan for the new Route 9 Garage Facility. The map that Mr. Mitchell has prepared for the Property Committee and a memo outlining how the step to proceed with this project was included in this Transportation Committee packet. Mr. Mitchell will update the Transportation Committee on the result of the Property Committee meeting.

Chairman Bass referred to the Public Hearing for the East Side Bypass in April. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that a Public Hearing is planned for the East Side Bypass in conjunction with the next Transportation Committee meeting. Mr. Mitchell is happy to report that there is consensus among the local governments regarding this project.

Chairman Bass referred to the Three I-55 Interchange requests for Federal Funding. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that Regional Planning received a request from Congressman Tim Johnson as to what local projects McLean County would like to have funded by the next highway bill. The Highway Department submitted the three I-55 interchange projects for Lexington, Towanda and Shirley.

Chairman Bass asked if other members of the Committee had received a letter from Hanson Engineering regarding the Bike Path Trail on Route 66. Mr. Mitchell noted that there has been a plan to have a bike trail the length from Springfield to Chicago. Mr. Mitchell informed the Committee that there is about a mile of old concrete pavement that was the original SBI 4, which was the predecessor of Route 66. This part of SBI 4

Minutes of the Transportation Committee  
March 5, 2003  
Page Six

can become a part of the bike trail from Springfield and Chicago. It would add a historical aspect to the project.

There being nothing further to come before the Committee at this time, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Bass at 8:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carmen Zielinski  
Recording Secretary

E:\Ann\Min\Trans\T\_Mar.03.doc