

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met Tuesday, November 6, 2001 at 7:30 a.m. at the McLean County Highway Department, 102 S. Towanda-Barnes Road, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Bass, Vice Chairman Hoselton, Members Emmett, Owens, Selzer

Members Absent: Johnson

Staff Members Present: Mr. Terry Lindberg, Assistant County Administrator
Ms. Sheri Beckner, Office Specialist II,
McLean County Highway Department

Department Heads/

Electric Officials Present: Mr. Jack Mitchell, County Engineer, County Highway Department

Others present: Ms. Jennifer Sicks, McLean County Regional Planning
Ms. Chris Brauer

Chairman Bass call the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Chairman Bass presented the Minutes of the October 9, 2001 meeting for approval.

Motion by Owens/Emmett to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2001 meeting of the Transportation Committee. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass presented the bills prepared by the Auditor's Office

Motion by Owens/Emmett to approve the bills as presented and recommended by the Auditor's Office. Motion carried.

Chairman Bass presented the Salt Bid letting results from November 1, 2001. It was noted that there was only one (1) bid. This was a re-bid from October 10th and at the time there was one bid from a trucking company that was 119% over estimate. Part of the problem is that the salt companies are claiming a salt shortage. We did not send a proposal to Morton the first time however; they did get the bid this time with 20% over estimate. Next year we intend to be on the State's bid for salt, which should help us with supply, and prices. We thought we were on it this year but Springfield did not have us on the list and would not add us. The state bid was around \$31.00 to \$32.00. Morton's stockpile is in Peoria along with several other companies. Mr. Selzer asked about the other Counties and where they are getting their salt and what their prices are. Mr. Mitchell explained that this is where we found Central Salt out of Kansas City and a majority of the other companies replied that they were not taking on new customers. Salt shortages are mainly due to a bad winter last year and their stockpiles were totally depleted and had to process new salt for this year and ultimately did not make enough.

Mr. Hoselton asked how this fits in the budget and Mr. Mitchell replied that it is over our budget but we are totally dependent on the weather. It was asked if there are any other effective means of performing the same job not using salt. Slag and chloride could

possibly work except on the City routes where it would clog the drains. Sand is another commodity but it is wet and if not dried properly, it will chunk up and could clog the spreaders. Mr. Mitchell stated that there is a corn derivative but the cost is about double and could eventually be an alternative as when the usage increases the cost will come down.

Motion by Hoselton/Selzer to approve the Salt Bid letting results. Motion carried.

Mr. Bass presented the 2000 MFT Audits from the Illinois Department of Transportation. The MFT Auditor comes in yearly to audit the County MFT funds, McLean County Road District MFT funds and the Road Districts Township Bridge funds. The auditors used to be years behind but have caught up and working diligently to keep this as current as possible. We place the audits on file with the County Clerks office.

Motion by Hoselton/Selzer to approve all three audits as prepared by the Illinois Department of Transportation. Motion carried

Mr. Mitchell was then asked to comment on the ROW negotiator proceedings. He stated that the Committee acted back in September to hire Mr. Bill Anderson for this work subject to approval of the agreement by the Attorneys. As we got into it there was a problem in the Agreement with the insurance area and qualifications. Mr. Mitchell suggested that the Committee drop the previous contract with Mr. Anderson and continue scouting for a ROW negotiator.

Motion by Hoselton/Emmett to continue the pursuit of ROW negotiator meeting the criteria of the Attorneys. Motion carried.

Mr. Bass presented the Utility Coordinating Council Resolution and asked Mr. Mitchell to comment. Mr. Mitchell stated that there was a law passed thru the General Assembly this year that was signed by the Governor that allows the State and Counties to establish utility coordination councils. He brought this to the Committee to establish this council. The resolution enables the Chairman of the Board to appoint either himself or a designee to sit on the Council and by law the County Engineer is on the Council. We then will invite all the utility companies the County works with to be included on this Council. If everything is followed, then we present our annual and our 5-year plan to the utility companies. When we actually get the plans to the utilities and have the ROW that is needed then they have 90 days to get their facilities moved. The law is clear that if the utility is on an existing ROW, then they have to move. Some of the utility companies are arguing the "we were here first" theory, your ROW grew to us so you need to pay us to move. This council should negotiate clearing up that argument and get the utility companies moving in a timely manner. Utility companies included are gas, water, and telephone and any other utility effected by the construction.

Motion by Owens/Emmett to approve the Utility Coordination Council Resolution. Motion carried.

The McLean County Highway Department 5-year plan was presented to the Committee by Mr. Mitchell. Mr. Selzer asked if the Committee was to vote or adopt this plan. Mr. Hoselton noted that a portion of the plan has been agreed to by last year's Board meeting however this plan has some changes and needs to be re-approved. Every year we go out and ride the roads but have never really tabulated it before this year.

This is the first year that we have tabulated it and put out to print for everybody. Mr. Hoselton wanted to know if we have moved some of the jobs around. Mr. Mitchell stated that he did not go over project by project to see what exactly has shifted. The only project that has moved ahead is Danvers – Yuton Road which will begin tomorrow. More of it is the projects being delayed. Mr. Hoselton questioned the Shirley, Lexington and Stanford overpasses and wants to know if it is acceptable to IDOT, Mr. Mitchell told him that IDOT has nothing to do with it now that they have given this to us. Mr. Hoselton wanted to know if many changes had occurred from last year's 5-year plan. Mr. Mitchell stated that the biggest change was projects that have been delayed because of funding. The 5-year plan that was submitted had to be changed due to funding. The Average Daily Traffic count is from 1988. We are currently updating the figures on the Carlock-Danvers road and others. Mr. Hoselton asked about the garage at the Highway Department that is in the 5-year plan. It will take two years for the project to be complete. Payments will be made the first and second year.

The revised 5-year plan will be sent to the Administrators office for inclusion in the County 5-year Capital Budget.

Motion by Seltzer to approve the 5-Year plan, second by Mr. Emmett.
Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mr. Seltzer for the Committee to go to Executive Committee Session including Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Lindberg for the purpose of being updated on labor negotiations, second by Mr. Hoselton.

After coming out of Executive Session, The Committee went on field trip viewing Towanda-Barnes Road, Randolph Road, Seminary St. in Downs, Thomas Craft Road and 150 intersection, Holder Rd., Arrowsmith Rd., Rock Road, Culverts, Mansfield Rd. and the Stone Ridge Dairy, and the Saybrook Spur.

Chairman Bass adjourned the meeting at 11:45 A.M.