

## **Minutes of the Transportation Committee**

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 404, Government Center, 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Hoselton, Members Black, Caisley, Cavallini, Soeldner and McIntyre

Members Absent: None

Other Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: Mr. Terry Lindberg, County Administrator, Mr. Bill Wasson, Assistant County Administrator, Ms. Diana Hospelhorn, Recording Secretary

Department Heads Present: Mr. Eric Schmitt, County Engineer

Others Present: Mr. Jerry Stokes, Assistant County Engineer, Ms. Connie Johnson, Deputy County Auditor, Ms. Jennifer Sicks, Transportation Planner, Regional Planning Commission

Chairman Hoselton called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. He welcomed Mr. Scott Black, County Board District #8 to the Transportation Committee. Chairman Hoselton stated that the first item for action is approval of the minutes from the March 2, 2010 meeting.

Motion by Caisley / Black to recommend approval of the minutes from the March 2, 2010 meeting of the Transportation Committee.  
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton asked the Committee to review the bills for March 31, 2010. The prepaid and fund total for March 31, 2010 is \$513,586.39

Mr. Soeldner asked for an update on the salt supply. Mr. Schmitt reported that the County purchased the required 80% for the year. The shed is full and is ready for next winter. He noted that fuel prices have been lower and the County is in good shape.

Motion by Soeldner / Cavallini to recommend payment of the March 31, 2010 bills and as submitted by the County Auditor.  
Motion carried

Chairman Hoselton stated that the first Item for Action is the Resolution and Letting from the March 31, 2010 County and Township 2010 Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Maintenance Sections and County 2010 Non-MFT Maintenance Sections.

Mr. Schmitt stated that this Resolution is for the annual Oil and Chip Letting for the Townships and the County. He recommended approval of the following bids:

2010 MFT Maintenance Sections:

Steffens 3-D Construction, Inc, 2503 CR 1250 North, El Paso, IL 61738 was the successful bidder on the following sections:

Anchor Rd	Sec 10-02000-00-GM	GR 2	\$89,200.00
Blue Mound Rd	Sec 10-07000-00-GM	GR 2	\$92,607.50
Cropsey Rd	Sec 10-10000-00-GM	GR 2	\$43,325.00
Dawson Rd	Sec 10-13000-00-GM	GR 2	\$39,985.00
Gridley Rd	Sec 10-18000-00-GM	GR 1	\$7,620.00
		GR 2	\$63,815.00
Hudson Rd	Sec 10-19000-00-GM	GR 2	\$49,500.00
Lexington Rd	Sec 10-21000-00-GM	GR 1	\$11,543.75
Martin Rd	Sec 10-22000-00-GM	GR 2A	\$43,381.7
Randolph Rd	Sec 10-27000-00-GM	GR 2	\$26,155.00

Minutes of the Transportation Committee  
April 6, 2010  
Page Three

Beniach Construction Co, Inc, 306 B Southline Rd, P.O. Box 20, Tuscola, IL 61953-0020 was the successful bidder on the following sections:

McLean County	Sec 10-00000-00-GM	GR 2	\$225,650.00
Allin Rd	Sec 10-01000-00-GM	GR 2	\$26,937.50
Arrowsmith Rd	Sec 10-03000-00-GM	GR 2	\$76,640.00
Cheney's Grove Rd	Sec 10-08000-00-GM	GR 2A	\$67,519.20
Chenoa Rd	Sec 10-09000-00-GM	GR 2	\$61,940.00
Dale Rd	Sec 10-11000-00-GM	GR 2	\$49,170.00
Danvers Rd	Sec 10-12000-00-GM	GR 2	\$50,951.25
Downs Rd	Sec 10-14000-00-GM	GR2	\$57,800.00
Dry Grove Rd	Sec 10-15000-00-GM	GR 2	\$42,797.50
Funk's Grove Rd	Sec 10-17000-00-GM	GR 2	\$25,500.00
Money Creek Rd	Sec 10-23000-00-GM	GR 2	\$33,010.00
Mount Hope Rd	Sec 10-24000-00-GM	GR 2	\$30,240.00
Normal Rd	Sec 10-25000-00-GM	GR 2	\$48,720.00
Towanda Rd	Sec 10-28000-00-GM	GR 2	\$26,977.50
West Rd	Sec 10-29000-00-GM	GR 2	\$28,670.00
Yates Rd	Sec 10-31000-00-GM	GR 2	\$77,310.00

Emulsicoat, Inc, 705 E. University Ave, Urbana, IL 61802 was the successful bidder on the following sections:

Empire Rd	Sec 10-16000-00-GM	GR 17	\$29,040.00
Lawndale Rd	Sec 10-20000-00-GM	GR 17	\$43,560.00

2010 Non-MFT Maintenance Sections:

Steffens 3-D Construction, Inc, 2503 CR 1250 North Rd, El Paso, IL 61738 was the successful bidder on the following section:

McLean County	Sec 2010 Non-MFT	GR 2	\$98,027.50
---------------	------------------	------	-------------

Mr. Schmitt noted that the Non-MFT Maintenance Section is for post construction work for the Horizon Wind Farm project.

Chairman Hoselton noticed that Rowe Construction, a local contractor, is over the engineer's estimates. He asked if contractors are notified of the estimated costs before the letting. Mr. Schmitt stated that the contractors are not notified of the estimated costs before the letting. When the contractor submits a bid, however, they do know the quantities of each material.

Minutes of the Transportation Committee  
April 6, 2010  
Page Four

Mr. Caisley questioned how Beniach Construction Co. Inc., a company from Tuscola, is able to successfully bid lower than the local contractors. Mr. Schmitt stated that Beniach has two distributors and oil and chip is their primary business as is also for Steffens 3D Construction. Rowe Construction is doing less bidding now that there are businesses specializing in oil and chips in this area.

Mr. Schmitt pointed out that Randolph Township was over the estimate by 8.08%. He stated that the Department does still recommend awarding the bid. The project was estimated as rural miles and at the last minute the Road Commissioner changed the project to miles in a subdivision. There is a difference in costs.

Mr. Soeldner asked if there was a reason for the Lexington Road to be 40% below the estimate. Mr. Schmitt responded that it is a different type of work. Group 1 is doing only sections of the road. This project is a hybrid of Group 1 and Group 2. He stated that the Department has not done this type of work before and was high on the estimate. Mr. Schmitt noted that prices are relatively the same as last year.

Motion by Cavallini / McIntyre to recommend approval of the Resolution and Letting from the March 31, 2010 County and Township 2010 Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Maintenance Sections and County 2010 Non-MFT Maintenance Sections.  
Motion Carried.

Chairman Hoselton informed the Committee that the next item to be presented to the Committee for action is the 2010 Allin Road District Joint Culvert Bridge Petition.

Mr. Schmitt informed the Committee that under the Highway Code, one of the first responsibilities of the County Bridge Fund is to pay for joint culverts. There is a 50/50 cost split with the Townships. To be eligible for the 50/50 joint cost split, the cost for the culvert project must be over .02% of the assessed evaluation of the Township. They must also be taxing at a qualifying tax rate.

Mr. Schmitt stated that this culvert is located on 1300 North Road, ¼ mile west of 150 East. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$50,000.00. The County's share of the project is \$25,000.00.

Mr. Black asked if the Township has approved its 50% share of the cost. Mr. Schmitt responded, that the Township Road Commissioner petitions the County for the joint culvert.

Motion by Caisley / Cavallini to recommend approval of 2010 Allin Road District Joint Culvert Bridge Petition.  
Motion carried.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the 2010 Yates Road District Bridge Petition #2 located on the west side of the intersection of 2700 North Road and 3160 East Road. He noted that this culvert proposal is to use twin 30 inch arch pipe replacing the single 24 inch pipe. Mr. Schmitt stated that water covers this entire intersection. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$6,500.00. The County's share of the project is \$3,250.00.

Mr. Schmitt advised that the other joint culvert is the 2010 Yates Road Joint Culvert #3 located on the north side of same intersection of 3160 East Road and 2700 North Road. Twin 36 inch pipes will replace the single 24 inch pipe. Additional water from the North West goes over the road as well. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$7,900.00. The County's share of the project is \$3,950.00.

Motion by Soeldner / McIntyre to recommend approval of 2010 Yates Road District Joint Culvert #2 Bridge Petition and 2010 Yates Road District Joint Culvert #3 Bridge Petition.  
Motion carried.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the next item, the 2010 Yates Road District Non-MFT Joint Bridge Repair Petition, School Land Bridge located 1,320 feet east of the intersection of 3160 East Road and 2900 North Road. Mr. Schmitt stated that the bridge was built in the late 50's early 60's. The dirt slopes under the bridge have washed away, exposing the piling. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$7,000.00. The County's share of the project is \$3,500.00.

Motion by Caisley / Black to recommend approval of 2010 Yates Road District Non-MFT Joint Bridge Repair Petition, School Land Bridge.  
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton stated that the next item for action is the Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation, Lawndale Road District, Sec 07-20124-00-Br, Hammitt Bridge.

Mr. Schmitt reported that this agreement is for one of the BRP (Bridge Rehabilitation Program) now known as the Highway Bridge Program, projects. This is our yearly allotment from the Federal Government, received through the State for bridge replacement. The total estimated amount is \$320,000. 80% will be paid by Federal Funding (\$256,000) and 20% by the local agency, 10% County funds (\$32,000) and 10% Township funds (\$32,000).

Mr. Schmitt referred to the map of timber pile bridges, pointing out the bridges that require posting. He noted the location of the Hammitt Bridge which the State required to be closed. The Bellflower Bridge was originally scheduled to be done with this year's Federal funding; however, due to the closing of the Hammitt Bridge, the Department will replace this bridge instead. The project goes to letting in July. The construction will begin in September and completed by the end of November.

Motion by Cavallini / McIntyre to recommend approval of the Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation, Lawndale Road District, Sec 07-20124-00-Br, Hammitt Bridge.  
Motion carried.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the 2010–2012 Timber Pile Bridge Inspections Engineering Agreement with Hampton, Lenzini, & Renwick, Inc (HLR). He stated that, after this year's construction season, the County will have 11 timber pile bridges. Mr. Schmitt advised that this agreement is slightly different from the last agreement in that this agreement is an extended agreement for three years. In the past the timber pile bridge inspection agreement was to inspect all the bridges in one year. The County's cost was per bridge. With the current agreement being over a three year period, HLR will charge the County an hourly rate.

Mr. Schmitt stated that the posted bridges went from being inspected every two years to being a special feature inspection on timber piles every six months. The others will be inspected once a year.

Motion by Caisley / Cavallini to recommend approval of the 2010 – 2012 Timber Pile Bridge Inspections Engineering Agreement with Hampton, Lenzini, & Renwick, Inc (HLR).  
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton continued with the Emergency Appropriation Ordinance, fund 0120.

Minutes of the Transportation Committee  
April 6, 2010  
Page Seven

Mr. Schmitt noted that the \$98,027.50 is from Horizon Wind Farm Energy for part of the bid for oil and chip post construction work on County Highway 28 between 2850 East and 3200 East.

Motion by McIntyre / Soeldner to recommend approval of the Emergency Appropriation Ordinance – Fund 0120.  
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton informed the Committee that the next items to be presented are Items of Information. The first item for information is the Project Summary for the Towanda Overpass, Sec 05-00071-04-RS.

Mr. Schmitt reported that this project has restarted after being suspended for the winter. He stated that a lot of progress has been made in the last month. They will be pouring the last major piece of mainline pavement today.

Chairman Hoselton asked if the County has provisions or guidelines requiring the Contractors to complete projects in a timely manner. Mr. Schmitt replied that the County has either Working Day Contracts or Completion Day Contracts in place to protect the County. The Towanda Overpass is a Working Day Contract. He noted that most State projects, federally funded are Working Day Contracts due to the fact that we do not have control when the actual contract is awarded. Mr. Schmitt stated that local projects are usually signed with Completion Day Contracts.

Mr. Jerry Stokes, Assistant County Engineer pointed out the working days, according to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) are from May 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Schmitt added that according to the IDOT spec book you cannot charge any work days from November 30<sup>th</sup> through May 1<sup>st</sup>. The Contractor is currently working on the Towanda Overpass and is not being charged working days until May 1<sup>st</sup>. He estimated that, if the weather holds, the finishing touches will be completed the first of May.

Mr. McIntyre asked if there were other overpasses that the County is responsible for. Mr. Schmitt responded that the County is also responsible for the overpass at Shirley and Lexington. He advised that the Lexington Overpass is complete and the Shirley Overpass is in good shape.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the Old Route 66 Bike Trail, Sec 01-00001-01-BT. He informed the Committee that the IDOT letting for the Old Route 66 Bike Trail from Fox Creek Road to Shirley was on March 5, 2010. The low bid of \$1,404,021.71

Minutes of the Transportation Committee  
April 6, 2010  
Page Eight

was submitted by Rowe Construction, 7.99% under our estimate of \$1,526,000.00. The work will likely begin in May with completion expected in October.

Chairman Hoselton stated that Mr. McIntyre would like to address the Committee concerning the East Side Highway.

Mr. McIntyre advised that he would like to revisit the East Side Highway Study. He stated that next month the Transportation Committee will be voting on the selection of Engineer, Clark Dietz for the next phase of the East Side Highway Study with a cost of up to \$13,700,000. Mr. McIntyre questioned that the Engineer is aware of the allotted amount and that the work will be done without a bid. Mr. Lindberg stated that the County has an appropriated amount of \$13,700,000 as part of the Capital Bill. He pointed out that the County has gone through a very rigorous selection process. The law prohibits using price as a factor when acquiring professional engineering or consulting services. Mr. Lindberg advised that once a top selected vendor is chosen, negotiations begin with them as to how the project will be done and what the cost will be. He noted that this is where the County currently is. At any time during the negotiations, if the County is uncomfortable with the costs or the costs exceed your resources, negotiations are suspended and the process begins again with the next lower ranked vendor. Mr. Lindberg assured the Committee that the process that Mr. Schmitt, his Staff, the State Government, Federal Government, and Regional Planning was as rigorous as the statute allows.

Mr. Lindberg stated that scope of the work to be done is currently where the County is in negotiations. Some of the work has already been completed. It is important to be as efficient as possible in deciding how much of that work done is allowed to be considered completed and not have to be repeated. Some will need to be repeated to meet state and federal requirements. He noted that this is not a bid process but is as thorough as we can make it.

Mr. McIntyre asked who decides if the Engineering Consultant is fulfilling our expectations. Mr. Schmitt stated the Highway Department and the Project Steering Committee will oversee the consultant's performance.

Mr. McIntyre asked who is responsible for the decision of where the East Side Highway is placed. It appears to him that the County is being told where it will go. Mr. Lindberg responded that a wider corridor has already been recommended. At the completion of this phase the recommended corridor will be narrowed and a recommendation will be brought to the Board. At that time the Board would have the option to accept or not accept the recommended corridor. He noted that a lot of rigorous consulting and engineering work has been done to determine the



recommended corridor. Mr. Lindberg advised that the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal and the County have voted to accept the current recommended corridor which is a product of numerous different options. It is also in the County Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Jennifer Sicks, Transportation Planner, Regional Planning Commission, stated that the corridor is subject to further refinement and modifications, pending the outcome of this phase of the study. She noted that the remaining portion of the Phase I study is subject to very rigorous federal standards and federal oversight. Ms. Sicks advised that from this study will come a recommendation for a defined corridor and an alignment for the road. This conclusion will come back to the local governments.

Mr. McIntyre asked if we would vote on this. Mr. Lindberg responded that the Board will vote and they will have access to all of the consultant's data that will support the recommendation they make.

Mr. McIntyre noted that after voting on the Local Agency Agreement for Federal Participation for the East Side Highway Phase I Engineering Study in March, it was his understanding that it would come back to Committee after all questions were answered. He distributed copies of the agreement. Mr. McIntyre feels there was not as much interaction as there should have been at the March Committee Meeting. He pointed that it is his opinion that the Board voted for the Local Agency Agreement, thinking that the corridor had to be reserved.

Mr. McIntyre's concerns are that, if the City of Bloomington or developers would develop the area before right-of-way is procured, or that the County might not receive the money allocated by the State. He asked if the East Side Highway would be a State highway or would it be a County Road. Mr. Schmitt stated that it is the County's preference that it becomes a State Highway.

Mr. Lindberg assured Mr. McIntyre that the County is taking every precaution to insure that the County has the same non-appropriation authority as the state and will make sure the consulting contract protects the County. He pointed out that State highway funding continues uninterrupted unlike other State funding. Mr. Schmitt noted that as part of the contract, there will be a clause stating that if the State does not reimburse the County for payment to the Consultant, the contract is suspended.

Mr. McIntyre stated that he knows there was an enormous amount of work and planning put into the East Side Highway Study, however it is his opinion that there are a lot of people opposed to the entire plan.

Minutes of the Transportation Committee  
April 6, 2010  
Page Ten

Mr. Cavallini advised that this project has been on the back burner for a long time. He noted that it has gone through a variety of steps. Mr. Cavallini is in support of the study and believes that, though the process took longer than expected and the cost was more than estimated, the Contact Sensitive Solutions process gave the public a chance to be heard.

Mr. Cavallini asked if he was correct in understanding that we currently have a recommendation for the corridor and at the end of this next study, the corridor recommendation will be narrowed and a final alignment will be recommended. Mr. Cavallini asked if the \$13,700,000 project would include the narrowed corridor and the alignment. Ms. Sicks responded that it does include both the narrowed corridor and the alignment. She stated that we are at step 18 of a 44 step process required by federal regulations

Mr. Caisley stated that nobody is ever going to be completely satisfied. The Contact Sensitive Solutions process allowed the public to have their input. Before we can proceed further we have to narrow the corridor and the alignment needs to be recorded.

Mr. McIntyre stated that he just felt that the process needed to be discussed further.

Mr. Schmitt stated that, even though the Contact Sensitive Solution process did cost more, it was productive in getting the public involved.

Mr. Caisley acknowledged the fine job the Highway Department did this past winter in keeping the roads in good condition.

Chairman Hoselton asked if there was any other business to come before the Committee. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Hospelhorn  
Recording Secretary