

Minutes of the Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, June 7, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 404, Government Center, 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

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

Members Absent: None

Other Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: 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. Chris Colaw, Deputy County Auditor

Chairman Hoselton called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. He stated that the first item for action is approval of the minutes from the May 3, 2011 Committee meeting.

Motion by Caisley/Cavallini to recommend approval of the minutes from the May 3, 2011 meeting of the Transportation Committee.
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton asked the Committee to review the bills for May 31, 2011. The prepaid and fund total for May 31, 2011 is \$499,835.81.

Mr. Cavallini asked if the Traffic Sign Store is used for signs other than the signs located in the warehouse at the Department. Mr. Jerry Stoke, Assistant County Engineer, responded that the signs purchased at the Sign Store are specialty signs such as detours or road closures. The signs in the yard are purchased through Allied Municipal, Taylorville, IL.

Motion by McKibbin/Soeldner to recommend payment of the May 31, 2011 bills as submitted by the County Auditor.
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton stated that the next action item on the agenda is the Resolution for the County letting held on May 31, 2011.

Mr. Schmitt, County Engineer, informed the Committee that the bid letting held on May 31, 2011 was for additional signs purchased yearly. He reminded the Committee that the recent Sign Program replaced many of the Township and Municipalities' signs. The annually inspection has been done to check retro reflectivity of the County's signs. This letting is to replace the defective signs. He added that some faces only are being purchased; the original sign will be used and brought to specifications.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the Towanda Barnes Road section of the letting. He reported that the milling and resurfacing will extend 500 feet north and 900 feet south of Route 9. The State did Route 9 before the County made Towanda Barnes 5 lanes. This section of road is in need of repair.

Chairman Hoselton noted that there was only one bidder. Mr. Schmitt pointed out that in the past; we have received bids from Eppel, Pontiac, IL. Due to traffic control required on this short section of road, they may have decided not to place a bid.

Motion by Caisley/Cavallini to recommend approval of the Resolution and Bid Tab for the May 31, 2011 County Equipment Purchase. Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton stated that the next item for action is the Bellflower Spur – Sec 10-00024-04-RS, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) - Truck Access Route Program (TARP) Agreement.

Mr. Schmitt reported that Truck Access Route Program (TARP) funds were applied for to resurface the Bellflower Spur upgrading it to an 80,000 lb route. He referred to the map pointing out the location of the 2 mile section of road. The project is in the 2011 plan.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the 80,000 lb Weight Limit Resolution. He noted that to qualify for the TARP funds, a resolution must be passed to designate the road a Class Three Truck Route.

Mr. Soeldner advised that the Bellflower Spur is a high traffic road.

Mr. Cavallini questioned the recent possibility of state projects being stopped due to funding. Mr. Schmitt advised that all of the County's projects have already been funded and are not part of the State's new budget. He stated that funds are set aside each year for the TARP program. The County does have the needed funding to complete the Bellflower Spur project. Mr. Schmitt added that the project will go to bid the end of July.

Mr. Schmitt recommended approval of the TARP agreement and the Weight Limit Resolution. He advised that the project's divided costs are:

- TARP \$173,000
- IDOT \$586,300

Motion by Soeldner/Caisley to recommend approval of the Bellflower Spur – Sec 10-00024-04-RS, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) - Truck Access Route Program (TARP) Agreement and the 80,000 lb Weight Limit Resolution. Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton presented the Emergency Appropriation Ordinance – Fund 0120-2011.

Mr. Schmitt stated that this budget amendment reflects a portion of the savings the County has saved on recent projects. He noted that the money will be used for oil and chip maintenance projects that had been detained due to the increased cost of oil and chip over the past few years. This will save us from higher cost in future budgets.

Chairman Hoselton asked if any shoulder work was being done. Mr. Schmitt responded that the shoulder disc is used to pull shoulders. The millings are stockpiled and used later for shoulder replacement instead of gravel.

Chairman Hoselton pointed out the Emergency Appropriation Ordinance is in response to the County Board’s inquiry to the use of project savings due to low bidding.

Mr. Black asked if the Department foresees any challenges with the increased gas costs. Mr. Schmitt responded that the County is tracking fuel cost and are currently in line with the 2011 budget. Fuel cost for the County increase with trucking distances. The County is considering next year having the contractor stockpile during the winter instead of trucking materials to the project sites.

Mr. Schmitt advised that this is a good opportunity to catch up on maintenance projects. He recommended the following appropriations.

	<u>ADOPTED</u>	<u>REDUCE</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>
County Highway Department Construction -Rds/Brdg/Clvt 0120-0055-0056-0810-0001	\$889,158.00	\$150,000.00	\$739,158.00

	<u>AMEND</u>	<u>ADD</u>	<u>AMENDED</u>
County Highway Department Maintenance Rds/Drainage 0120-0055-0056-0716-0001	\$412,034.16	\$150,000.00	\$562,034.16

Motion by Cavallini to recommend
 Approval of the Emergency Appropriation
 Ordinance – Fund 120-2011.
 Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton stated that the next item for action is the Old Town Joint Culvert – Sec 2011 Non-MFT Joint Culvert Liner, 2100 East Road.

Chairman Hoselton asked the financial status of Old Town Township with the County. Mr. Schmitt reported that there is one project that has not been resolved between the Developer, the County and the Township. All current projects have been handled professionally and with timely payments.

Mr. Schmitt reported that a culvert liner will replace the existing culvert. The drainage structure is located approximately 740 feet south of the intersection of 950 North Road and 2100 East Road. The cost of the culvert replacement is \$26,000. The County's share of the cost is \$13,000.

Motion by Soeldner/Caisley to recommend
Approval of the Old Town Joint Culvert –
Sec 2011 Non-MFT Joint Culvert Liner, 2100 East Road'
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton continued with the Engineering Agreement with Lewis, Yockey, & Brown (LYB).

Mr. Schmitt informed the Committee that this agreement is renewed annually for various projects and land surveying needs using the Global Positioning System (GPS) survey technology establishing and recording exact locations.

Motion by Black/Cavallini to recommend
approval of the Engineering Agreement
with Lewis, Yockey, & Brown.
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton advised that the last item for action is the Amendment-Invenergy/White Oak Energy; LLC Wind Farm Road Use Agreement dated February 28, 2007.

Mr. Schmitt stated that this is an amendment to the previous agreement. He noted that wind farm construction is almost completed. County Highway 39 from 1900 N to 2300 N will need upgraded. He advised that it is to the County's advantage to upgrade this 2 ½ mile section of CH 39 to an 80,000 lb road. Invenergy will pay the County \$475,000. The money will be pre paid and used to pay a portion of the upgrade costs in the future. With the level of traffic on this section of road, this is the best long term improvement. Mr. Schmitt noted that Invenergy will be selling the wind farm to Nextera, a subsidiary of Florida Light and Power.

Mr. Soeldner asked if Invenergy has shown any opposition to the amended agreement. Mr. Schmitt pointed out that this amendment establishing the escrow account will clear their liability under the contract; leaving them with only the 2 year warranty period prior to the sale of the wind farm to Nextera.

Mr. Wasson added that, as a normal business practice, Invenergy would have preferred to leave the contract intact; however, with the transfer of ownership to Nextera, Invenergy was receptive to the amendment.

Motion by Caisley/Cavallini to recommend approval of the Amendment- Invenergy/White Oak Energy; LLC Wind Farm Road Use Agreement dated February 28, 200.
Motion carried.

Chairman Hoselton asked for an update on the Horizon Wind Farm east of Lexington. Mr. Wasson reported that Horizon has all necessary ComEd permits. Horizon is negotiating contracts for the sale of power and construction will begin most likely in 2012. He added that this wind farm will be constructed prior to the section located south of Colfax.

Mr. Soeldner asked if the Cooksville/Colfax wind farm will need to return to the Zoning Board. Mr. Wasson responded that Horizon is working to obtain the necessary electrical corridor permits. Timing will determine if an extension is needed.

Chairman Hoselton stated that the next items to be presented to the Committee are items of information.

Mr. Schmitt reported that the Towanda Overpass – Sec 05-00071-04-RS project is completed. Final payment has been made to IDOT. Addition undercutting work was done creating an overage.

Mr. Schmitt advised that the Hudson Underpass – Sec 11-00135-10-RS has been completed and final payment has been made.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the Brucker Bridge – Sec 10-00041-02-BR. He noted that this bridge is the County's last timber pile bridge. Mr. Schmitt stated that the existing structure has been removed. All of the pile have been driven and they are working on pouring the abutments and pier encasements.

Mr. Schmitt noted that the old bridge was a concrete slab on steel I beams and timber pile. When one of the I beams was removed the pier collapsed. The timber pile had

rotted 2-3 feet below ground level. All timber pile bridges are inspected every 10 months; however you can only inspect what you have access to. The Department will do additional inspection of the Township timber pile bridges. Mr. Schmitt pointed out that the timber pile bridges are all currently posted.

Mr. Cavallini asked if there is additional posting and detour signs of the bridge closure on the Lexington/LeRoy Road. Mr. Schmitt responded that the County cannot detour across Township roads with lower traffic standards.

Mr. Caisley asked when the last timber pile bridge was constructed in McLean County and how many Townships still have timber pile bridges. Mr. Schmitt stated that he believes the last construction of timber pile bridges was in the late 1950's and early 1960's. He added that Townships with timber pile bridges are:

- Dry Grove Township
- Dale Township
- Funks Grove Township
- Martin Township
- Gridley Township
- Blue Mound Township

Chairman Hoselton continued with the Stormwater Education Program's 1st Quarter Report.

Mr. Schmitt reported that the Stormwater Education and Public Participation Program under the direction of Mr. Michael Brown, Director of Ecology Action Center is a very successful program. He referred to the report which highlights the tasks of the Stormwater Education and Public Participation Program;

- Education Programs
- Informational Events and Presentations
- Yard Smart Program
- Other Miscellaneous Efforts

Mr. Schmitt addressed the upcoming field trip. He stated that the trip would include the following projects:

- Danvers Road
- Hudson Underpass Project
- County Highway 12 Bridge – North of Towanda
- Brucker Bridge – Lexington/ LeRoy

He suggested the field trip follow the regular Tuesday July 5, 2011 Committee meeting.

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Chairman Hoselton asked if there was any other business to come before the Committee. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 8:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Hospelhorn
Recording Secretary