



Motion by Robustelli/Harris to recommend  
Payment of the December 31, 2013 bills  
as Submitted by the County Auditor.  
Motion carried.

Acting Chairman Buchanan presented the first Item for Action, Resolution and Bid Tab for the December 23, 2013 Equipment Letting.

Mr. Schmitt, County Engineer, reported that the bid tab is for two Tandem Cab and Chassis. He noted that the bids are done in pieces; the cab and chassis are bid first then the hydraulic package with the wing installation is bid. Mr. Schmitt added that due to a snowplow fire in December the Department, for safety reasons, will need to purchase a new bed instead of transferring the damaged bed. He presented pictures of the fire damaged snow plow explaining the damages done to the truck. The driver suffered only minor burns. The damaged vehicle is one that was being traded. The Department is currently working with the insurance company.

Ms. Harris asked if the cause of the fire is known. Mr. Schmitt responded that the exact cause is unknown. There was possibly a pin hole leak in the hydraulics or the fire was an electrical issue. The cost to investigate and determine the actual cause is more than the insurance is prepared to pay.

Acting Chairman Buchanan asked what coverage the County has. Mr. Schmitt stated that the County is self-insured and because this is a moving piece of equipment it is also covered under the outside carrier. Mr. Wasson, County Administrator, added that we believe the insurance will cover the approximate trade value of the truck. Mr. Schmitt recommended awarding the following:

2 – 2014 Kenworth T470 Tandem Cab and Chassis, with extended day cab option and aftertreatment 5-year extended warranty option for \$178,070.00 and the trade of one (1) 2005 Peterbilt 330 from.....Central Illinois Trucks, Inc.  
200 W Northtown Road  
Normal, IL 61761

Mr. Schmitt stated that the bid does exceed the budgeted amount partly due to the update in the bid specs, decreasing the number of bids.

Mr. Robustelli asked the original budgeted amount. Mr. Schmitt advised that the original budget was \$141,000.00. A Budget Transfer will move the additional funds.

Motion by Harris/Robustelli to recommend  
approval of the Resolution and Bid Tab for the  
December 23, 2013 Equipment Letting.  
Motion carried.

Acting Chairman Buchanan continued with the Stop Sign Resolution for the South Downs Road, CH 27.

Mr. Schmitt reported that the Resolution will add two stop signs at access points on CH 27. The U shaped road off CH 27 is part of a subdivision within the Village of Downs. The County maintains all stop signs coming up to a County Highway.

Motion by Robustelli/Harris to recommend approval of the Stop Sign Resolution for the South Downs Road, CH 27.  
Motion carried.

Acting Chairman Buchanan presented the 2013 Supplemental County MFT Maintenance Resolution.

Mr. Schmitt advised that the 2013 Supplemental Maintenance Resolution authorizes \$40,000.00 more for MFT Maintenance. The resolution is for the purchase of salt in December, 2013.

Motion by Harris/Robustelli to recommend approval of the 2013 Supplemental County MFT Maintenance Resolution.  
Motion carried.

Acting Chairman Buchanan presented the Lexington/LeRoy Road – CH 21 – Sec 13-00041-05-RS, Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Resolution.

Mr. Schmitt stated that this Resolution is for engineering staff time for the 2.17 mile resurfacing project on the Lexington/LeRoy Road – CH 21. Truck Access Route Program (TARP) funding was received which allows this project to be added to the 2014 budget.

Motion by Robustelli/Harris to recommend approval of the Lexington/LeRoy Road – CH 21 – Sec 13-00041-05-RS, Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Resolution.  
Motion carried.

Acting Chairman Buchanan continued with the Towanda/Barnes Road (CH 29) Sec 13-00165-01-RS Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Resolution.

Mr. Schmitt reported that this Resolution is for engineering staff time for the 2.61 mile milling and resurfacing project on Towanda/Barnes Road – CH 29 from Ireland Grove Road to U.S. Route 150.

Mr. Soeldner asked if there would be an issue with the Railroad on this project. Mr. Schmitt responded that two years ago the Railroad replaced the crossing. The County will need Railroad insurance and as part of the contract a Railroad flagger is required on site.

Motion by Harris/Robustelli to recommend approval of the Towanda/Barnes Road (CH 29) Sec 13-00165-01-RS Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Resolution.  
Motion carried.

Acting Chairman Buchanan continued with the Items of Information. He presented the Project Summaries.

Mr. Schmitt stated that the Lexington/LeRoy Road resurfacing project from the Mackinaw Bridge to CH 8 is complete. This was a Federal Project. The total cost of the project was \$643,925.95, 98.89% of the original bid.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the Lexington/LeRoy Road from 165 to 2000 North Road. The project is complete. The project cost was \$596,673.53, 100.54% of the original bid. Paper work is finalized.

Mr. Schmitt reported that the Towanda/Barnes Road resurfacing project from north of Raab Road to CH 14 is complete. The project cost was \$971,232.46, 10% under the original bid. Final paperwork is completed.

Mr. Schmitt updated the Committee on the recent snow storm reporting that the Department put in very long days fighting the cold temperatures blowing winds and minor equipment problems. White out conditions caused staff to come off the roads before dark on Sunday. He stated that progress in snow removal will continue today. With temperatures rising, Towanda/Barnes, Old Route 150 and White Oak Road will be salted on Wednesday.

Mr. Robustelli asked if the link on the County Highway's website concerning the condition of the roads has been updated. Mr. Schmitt responded that staff updates the link regularly. Remote access is also now available which will make updating more convenient.

Ms. Harris asked if the Department has any idea the number of people accessing the GIS maps. Mr. Jerry Stokes, Assistant County Engineer reported that on Monday the site had been accessed by a total of 1,600 people over the past 2-3 weeks.

Mr. Soeldner asked if the Department has an abandon vehicle policy. Mr. Schmitt responded that the County contacts METCOM and they dispatch a tow truck. If there are people in the vehicle we do help. METCOM also monitors the County radio frequencies. The County Highway Department did assist in rescue missions during the storm. The missions were coordinated through Mr. Curt Hawk, Director of Emergency Management Agency – EMA.

Mr. John McIntyre asked Mr. Schmitt to report on the preliminary preparation meeting which was held by the County. Mr. Schmitt stated that when the Department received the weather forecast from the County's contract weather service, the County invited the Sheriff's Department, ISU, EMA, Bloomington Public Works, Bloomington Police Department, Bloomington Fire Department, City of Bloomington and Town of Normal Managers Offices, Normal Fire Department, Normal Police and Normal Public Works to attend an update meeting with the National Weather Station.

Mr. Wasson reported that EMA had over 30 stranded motorists' rescues assisted by the County and other local public works agencies. He recognized the effective job done by the Highway Department and staff, many there from Sunday through Monday. Mr. Wasson stated that because of the plow truck loss to fire, the County had restricted back up snow plows left. Mr. Schmitt noted that the truck involved in the vehicular accident has been repaired and is back on the road.

Mr. McIntyre asked how staff was doing physically. Mr. Schmitt responded that 16 people slept at the office Sunday night and 8 spent the night last night. Staff is doing very well.

Mr. Robustelli asked if the problem are with the weather conditions regardless of the equipment's age and condition or is the problem with the age and condition of the equipment. Mr. Schmitt responded that minor problems were created by the cold weather conditions. The County ceased plowing with graders in 2007 and replaced the graders with trucks in 2004-2007. The County has 20 big trucks; on a ten year rotation, two a year are replaced. The Department is beginning to see more cost for repairs in year 9-10. He added that in the next year budget he will assess to recommending going to an eight year rotation instead of the 10 year rotation.

Mr. Robustelli asked if the County was reporting to the media the condition of County Roads. Mr. Schmitt stated that they were. Mr. Robustelli added that it would be helpful to not only send this information to the media but to send the information to the Board members as well. He expressed his appreciation to Mr. Schmitt and his staff for the fine job they do in helping to keep the County safe.

Acting Chairman Buchanan asked for an update on the salt condition. Mr. Schmitt reported the County has an approximately 2500 tons of salt and two tankers of calcium chloride. The State is required to have a certain amount of salt available to those on the State Purchasing Contract. The two salt storage facilities help with flexibility and gives the County a backup supply of salt.

Mr. Matt Sorensen, County Board Chairman, gave an absence update on Mr. Stan Hoselton, Ms. Sally Pyne and Mr. Don Cavallini. Mr. Sorensen stated that Vice Chairman McIntyre convened a meeting of the Rules Committee of the County Board on Monday to address the situation with the Transportation Committee membership. Rules will be presenting to the Executive Committee and then to the County Board a proposed change to the County Board rules allowing up to seven members on a Committee. If this passes another member will be added to the Transportation Committee.

Ms. Harris asked if this would be a temporary change. Mr. Sorensen responded that six members is the standard; however in these types of situations being able to move to seven on a Committee is beneficial for conducting business.

Acting Chairman Buchanan stated that the next meeting of the Transportation Committee will be Tuesday, February 4, 2014.

Acting Chairman Buchanan asked if there was any further information to come before the Committee. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Hospelhorn  
Recording Secretary