

Minutes of the Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, December 2 2014 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 400, Government Center, 115 East Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman Soeldner, Member Harris, Metsker, Buchanan, Martin and Finch

Members Absent: Member Robustelli

Other Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator, Ms. Hannah Eisner, Assistant County Administrator, Mr. Don Knapp, First Assistant State's Attorney Civil, Ms. Jessica Woods, Assistant State's Attorney, Ms. Diana Hospelhorn, Recording Secretary

Department Heads Present: Mr. Eric Schmitt, County Engineer

Others Present: Mr. Jerry Stokes, Assistant County Engineer, Ms. Jennifer Sicks, Regional Planning, Mr. Kurt Bialobreski, Hanson Professional Services and Ms. Beca Wagner, Hanson Professional Services

Chairman Soeldner 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 November 4, 2014 Transportation Committee Meeting.

Motion by Harris/Buchanan to recommend approval
of the minutes from the November 4, 2014
Transportation Committee Meeting.
Motion carried

Chairman Soeldner asked the Committee to review the bills and transfers for October 31, 2014. The prepaid total is \$2,243,185.47 with transfers totaling \$29,000.00.

Chairman Soeldner informed the new members that if they had any questions concerning the bills this is the time to ask. He noted that there are two transfers:

- \$20,000 is being transferred from 0716-0002, Engineering and Design Expenses to 0740-0002, Equipment Maintenance and Repairs
- \$9,000 is being transferred from 0716-0002, Engineering and Design Expenses to 0716-0001, Maintenance of Roads/Drainage Structures.

The Auditor has reviewed the bills and all are in compliance with the Board Adopted Ordinances..

Mr. Schmitt, County Engineer, reported that the added funding is needed after last winter's severe weather. There are numerous repairs and maintenance needing to be done.

Mr. Buchanan asked if the Department bills could be distributed earlier so the Committee had adequate time to review.

Mr. Schmitt noted that the bills this month were received the day the packet was mailed. The bills are included in the packet if they are received ahead of time.

Mr. Finch asked if these are already incurred expenses that need to be paid promptly. Mr. Schmitt responded that they are. Chairman Soeldner added that the Auditor stated that all bills are in compliance with the Board adopted ordinances.

Ms. Metsker asked would the Department be contacted in advance if they were not in compliance. Mr. Schmitt noted that the bills would not be paid if they were not in compliance.

Ms. Eisner, Assistant County Administrator advised that prepaying the bills is the practical approach to see that the bills are paid on time. The County Board has delegated the authority to the Auditor to pre pay these bills. If there is a particular question, it is brought to the attention of the Department and Administration to be resolved.

Mr. Buchanan asked if the bills are prepaid could they be approved the following month to give the Committee more time to review. Chairman Soeldner stated that most of the bills are standard expenditures.

Mr. Schmitt noted that the Transportation Committee is the only Committee that distributes the Committee bills for approval.

Mr. Martin stated that the Auditor has already approved the bills. The Committee's responsibility is to assure that the Auditor and the Department is paying the bills correctly.

Hannah clarified that the County Board had to approve the expenditures. The Auditor does not have the authority to make these payments without the Board's approval. The practice of how the Committee reviews the bills differs between the Committees.

It was the consensus of the Committee that the bills would be emailed to the Committee the day they are received to give the Committee adequate time to review the bills.

Motion by Buchanan/Harris to recommend
Payment of the November 30, 2014 bills and
transfers as submitted by the County Auditor.
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner introduced Mr. Kurt Bialobreski and Ms. Becca Wagner, Hanson Professional Services, Inc. for a presentation on McLean County Infrastructure Prioritization Study through the Illinois Soybean Association (ISA).

Mr. Schmitt stated that McLean County has been selected for a Prioritization Study of Infrastructure. Hanson did a study for Peoria County last year. That complete report is available on line.

Mr. Bialobreski stated the purpose of the study it to help the County prioritize projects. The study is funded through Soybean Check Off. He stated that the study was based on data driven metrics such as adverse travel, safety and costs along with road preservation through maintenance to establish priorities.. Consideration of the importance of assets and comparison of projects in the overall transportation network are more important as funding becomes tight.

Ms. Becca Wagner explained the methodology used. She reported that projects are given a benefit/cost ratio for comparison. This ratio is based on societal benefits:

- Adverse Travel Reduction – detour routes
- Pollution Reduction – fuel used and transmitted into the air
- Crash Reduction – Society cost

The cost is based on:

- Life Cycle Costs – initial costs and overall costs to extend the life span of the bridge or road.
- Constituents Awareness – Farmers, Stakeholders meetings

She stated that the study will also involve talking to the stakeholders in the County to get a better understanding of what is important to those using the county roads and bridges. This also helps in making decisions on which projects to do.

Mr. Bialobreski asked if the Committee had any questions.

Ms. Harris asked if the analysis is done on location. Mr. Bialobreski responded that they would meet with Mr. Schmitt and Mr. Stokes and discuss their current improvement plan. The process would involve onsite evaluation of safety, condition of the road and travel demand to determine a benefit ratio.

Mr. McIntyre asked what the Soybean Check Off program is and the cost involved for the study. Mr. Schmitt responded that the Soybean Association will pay for the evaluation of 10 projects. The Department is asking to add an additional 10 projects at the cost of \$10,000.

Mr. Bialobreski reported that the Soybean Check Off is a per-bushel fee paid by the farmer to the Soybean Association. The Soybean Association represents soybean farmers interests and does education awareness throughout the State.

Mr. Schmitt stated that the final report from the study will give each project a rank based on the benefit/cost ratio. This will provide a for the Department as it prepares the 5 Year Plan.

Mr. Bialobreski advised that funding sources are identified in the final report. He added that many times funding is granted based on the benefit/cost ratio.

Chairman Soeldner asked if Hanson Professional Services, Inc. talked to Regional Planning, School Districts and other entities to discuss their future plans. Ms. Wagner responded that 5 stakeholder meetings will be held to address this.

Mr. Finch asked if the additional 10 projects are added, will the cost of \$10,000 be for engineering and planning. Mr. Schmitt advised that the \$10,000 will pay for the Engineering Agreement that will be brought to the Committee in January, 2015.

Mr. Bialobreski advised that the study is a tool for Mr. Schmitt to make recommendations to the County Board. The elected officials will still have the say as to what is approved. The study will help them make a more informed decision.

Ms. Metsker asked Mr. Schmitt if the study would include Township roads. Mr. Schmitt responded that the projects will only include County Roads. The County does not have authority over the Townships. Projects can only be recommended to the Townships.

Ms. Metsker asked the longevity of the study. How often will it need to be redone? Mr. Bialobreski reported that the study is fairly new. He advised that it be done again in 3-5 years. Mr. Schmitt added that the projects looked at will be on an individual project basis; however it will provide a guide for the overall system. He noted that he does see the process as something that could be reproduced in house in the future. It is possible if the process is done in house, that it can be offered to the Townships as advice for a more efficient approach to road maintenance; however there is limited funding available to the Townships.

Ms. Harris suggested benefit/cost ratio can be integrated into the citizen awareness program.

Chairman Soeldner thanked Mr. Bialobreski and Ms. Wagner for their time and information.

Chairman Soeldner stated that the first item for action is the Resolution and Bid Tab for the November 25, 2014 Letting for 2015 county and one (1) Township Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) and 2015 County Non- MFT Maintenance Projects.

Mr. Schmitt stated that this Resolution and Bid Tab is done annually. These materials will be used throughout 2015 for various maintenance items. The majority of the materials are freight on board, where we go to the supplier to obtain the material. The remaining material is stock piled at the Route 9 property. The MFT Maintenance materials are primarily used on the roadways and are paid out of the Motor Fuel Tax Fund. The Non-MFT materials are used for bridges and culverts and are typically paid out of the Bridge Fund. He recommended approval of the following bids:

2015 MFT Maintenance Sections:

McLean County Section 15-00000-00-GM GR 3

The successful bidders on the above Section were:

Stark Materials	\$9.75 per Ton	\$5,850.00
1805 W. Washington St, Bloomington, IL 61701 Stringtown Pit		
Rowe Construction	\$10.00 per Ton	\$6,000.00

A Division of United Contractors Midwest Inc.

P O Box 609, Bloomington, IL 61702-0609	Heyworth	
Carri Scharf Materials	\$11.00 per Ton	\$6,600.00
7 Carri Dr, Bloomington, IL 61705		
Valley View Industries	\$12.10 per Ton	\$7,260.00
8785 E 2500 North Rd, Cornell, IL 61319 Livingston Co.		

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VCNA Prairie Aggregates	\$13.25 per Ton		\$7,950.00
15256 E 1200 North Rd,	Pontiac, IL 61740	Pontiac	

McLean County Sec 15-00000-00-GM GR 4

The successful bidders on the above section were:

VCNA Prairie Aggregates	\$10.00 per Ton		\$30,000.00
15256 E 1200 North Rd,	Pontiac, IL 61740	Pontiac	
Valley View Industries	\$10.25 per Ton		\$30,750.00
8785 E 2500 North Rd,	Cornell, IL 61319	Livingston Co	
Rowe Construction	\$10.50 per Ton		\$31,500.00
A Division of United Contractors Midwest Inc.			
P O Box 609,	Bloomington, IL 61702-0609	Carmichael	
Carri Scharf Materials	\$12.00 per Ton		\$36,000.00
7 Carri Dr,	Bloomington, IL 61705	Heyworth	
Stark Materials	\$12.00 per Ton		\$36,000.00
1805 W. Washington St,	Bloomington, IL 61701	Sholty	

McLean County Sec 15-00000-00-GM GR 4A

The successful bidders on the above section were:

Rowe Construction	\$10.00 per Ton		\$5,000.00
A Division of United Contractors Midwest Inc.			
P O Box 609,	Bloomington, IL 61702-0609	Rowe Yard	
Stark Materials	\$10.00 per Ton		\$5,000.00
1805 W. Washington St,	Bloomington, IL 61701	Commercial	
Carri Scharf Materials	\$11.25 per Ton		\$5,625.00
7 Carri Dr,	Bloomington, IL 61705	Route 9	

McLean County Sec 15-00000-00-GM GR 7

The successful bidder on the above section was:

River City Supply	\$110.00 per Ton		\$4,400.00
1523 N Cottage Ave,	Bloomington, IL 61702	Rowe Yard	

McLean County Sec 15-00000-00-GM GR 8

The successful bidder on the above section was:

McLean County Asphalt Co, Inc.	\$107.00 per Ton		\$6,420.00
1100 W Market St,	Bloomington, IL 61701	Yuton	

McLean County Sec 15-00000-00-GM GR 9

The successful bidders on the above section were:

McLean County Asphalt Co, Inc.	\$79.00 per Ton		\$7,900.00
1100 W Market St,	Bloomington, IL 61701		
River City Supply	\$85.00 per Ton		\$8,500.00
1523 N Cottage Ave,	Bloomington, IL 61701		

McLean County Sec 15-00000-00- GM GR14

The successful bidder on the above section was:

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Limestone Transit, Inc. \$17.89 per Ton \$10,734.00
1206 W Oak St, PO Box 80, Fairbury, IL 61739-0080

Cheney's Grove RD Sec 15-08000-00-GM GR 14

The successful bidder on the above section was:

Limestone Transit, Inc. \$17.29 per Ton \$19,019.00
1206 W Oak St, PO Box 80, Fairbury, IL 61739-0080

2015 Non MFT Maintenance Section:

McLean County Sec 2015 Non-MFT GR 5

The successful bidders on the above section were:

Valley View Industries, Inc. \$11.50 per Ton \$5,750.00
8785 E 2500 North Rd, Cornell, IL 61319 Ifft Quarry
VCNA Prairie Aggregates \$10.00 per Ton \$6,500.00
15256 E 1200 North Rd, Pontiac, IL 61740 Pontiac

McLean County Sec 2015 Non-MFT GR 6- Grad 4

The successful bidder on the above section was:

VCNA Prairie Aggregates \$26.00 per Ton \$13,000.00
15256 E 1200 North Rd, Pontiac, IL 61740 Pontiac

McLean County Sec 2015 Non-MFT GR 6A- Grad 5

The successful bidder on the above section was:

VCNA Prairie Aggregates \$28.00 per Ton \$14,000.00
15256 E 1200 North Rd, Pontiac, IL 61740 Pontiac

McLean County Sec 2015 Non-MFT GR 6B- Grad 3

The successful bidder on the above section was:

VCNA Prairie Aggregates \$25.00 per Ton \$12,500.00
15256 E 1200 North Rd, Pontiac, IL 61740 Pontiac

McLean County Sec 2015 Non-MFT GR 19

The successful bidders on the above section were:

Rowe Construction \$5.00 per Ton \$10,000.00
A Division of United Contractors Midwest Inc.
P O Box, Bloomington, IL 61702-0609 Carmichael
Carri Scharf Materials \$6.90 per Ton \$13,800.00
7 Carri Dr, Bloomington, IL 61705 Heyworth
Stark Materials \$7.25 per Ton \$14,000.00
1805 W. Washington St, Bloomington, IL 61701 Becker

Chairman Soeldner asked if costs increased. Mr. Schmitt responded that there was an increase in limestone which is only available from one source.

Motion by Harris/Metsker to recommend approval of the Resolution and Bid Tab for the November 25, 2014 Letting for 2015 County and one (1) Township Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) and 2015 County Non- MFT Maintenance Projects.
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner continued with the Resolution for County Equipment Purchase – State Bid for F350 Pickup Truck.

Mr. Schmitt reported that after research on cost and availability the Department recommends the purchase of the 2015 F350 1-Ton Regular Cab Pipe Crew Service Pickup Truck from the State Bid contract. The State Bid program allows for the most economical purchase of this truck based on the price available through the program for the truck and the installation of the service body. This was budgeted at \$27,750 and the cost as proposed is \$28,545.

Motion by Harris/Metsker to recommend approval of the Resolution for County Equipment Purchase – State Bid for F350 Pickup Truck.
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner presented the Update of County Ordinance Imposing Weight Limitations.

Mr. Schmitt advised that County Highways have different posted weight limits. The Ordinance reflects changes to the Weight Limits of County Highways made because of improvements to the roadways during 2013-2014. Individual Weight Limit Ordinances were approved for most of the projects on an individual basis as the projects were completed. This brings all the changes together in one Ordinance. The update is done every two years. He pointed out the changes made noting most roads were upgraded to an 80,000 lb. road. Unless otherwise posted, every road in the State of Illinois is an 80,000 lb. road. Mr. Schmitt explained the spring posting freeze-thaw cycle. The information is available on the County Highway website.

Motion by Finch/Harris to recommend Approval of the Update of County Ordinance Imposing Weight Limitations.
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner presented the Sec 14-00168-03-RS – Towanda Barnes Rd CH 29:

1. Motor Fuel Tax Resolution
2. Engineering Services Agreement – Farnsworth Group

Mr. Schmitt recommended approval of the Towanda Barnes Road MFT Resolution to appropriate the funding of the engineering work for the resurfacing of Towanda Barnes Road from Ireland Grove Road to Illinois Route 9. He stated that the resolution will appropriate the funding for the engineering services to be provided by Farnsworth Group, Inc. and the Highway Department's staff time for the design and construction of the project.

Mr. Schmitt also recommended the approval of the Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement for MFT Funds with the Farnsworth Group, Inc. He stated that the engineering services will provide the plan sheets required for the pavement markings, raised reflective markers, and detector loops required at the Oakland Avenue intersection. He added that the County is working with the City of Bloomington to improve the type of signal detectors at the Oakland Avenue intersection. The City has jurisdiction of Oakland Avenue and 2 of the 4 legs of the intersection.

Motion by Buchanan/Harris to recommend approval of the Sec 14-00168-03-RS – Towanda Barnes Rd CH 29:

1. Motor Fuel Tax Resolution
2. Engineering Services Agreement – Farnsworth Group

Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner presented the Sec 17-00113-04-FP – Towanda Barnes Rd CH 29 Supplemental MFT Resolution for Improvement.

Mr. Schmitt reported that the reconstruction project will widen the existing two-lane roadway to a five-lane roadway with traffic signal improvements at Fort Jesse Road and new signals at Raab road. The road experiences significant traffic backups at the Raab Road intersection on school mornings when students are traveling to Normal Community High School. He stated that planning for the project began in 2007 and the funding has been secured for the construction in 2015.

Mr. Schmitt advised that the total bid cost for the project is \$7,292,408.32. This resolution appropriates enough local funding to meet the local share. He stated that the project was \$420,000 over the estimate. The Shirley overpass project will be cut from the 2015 plan to free up funds to cover the extra cost. Due to the small amount of traffic on the Shirley overpass the pavement patching, overlay, and dealing with some drainage problems will suffice. The funding for the Towanda Barnes project includes:

- \$2,300,000 STU
- \$2,760,000 STR
- \$244,800 TARP
- \$1,500,000 Matching Tax
- \$9,500 Town of Normal
- \$9,000 City of Bloomington

This project will greatly enhance the safety of this section of roadway. The project will upgrade the road to a Class III Truck Route and complete the upgrade of Towanda Barnes Road from Towanda to US Route 150 to an 80,000 lb. Truck Route.

Ms. Metsker asked how much longer Mr. Schmitt anticipated Towanda Barnes being a County Highway. Mr. Schmitt responded that Towanda Barnes will be a County Highway for a very long time. For a jurisdictional transfer to occur there would have to be a situation that benefited the City of Bloomington and the Town of Normal as well as the County.

Motion by Buchanan/Harris to recommend approval of the Sec 17-00113-04-FP – Towanda Barnes Rd CH 29 Supplemental MFT Resolution for Improvement.
Motion carried.

Motion by Harris/Finch to go into Executive Session for 2015 County Engineer Motor Fuel Tax Appropriating Resolution at 9:35 a.m.
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner reconvened the meeting to open session at 9:55 a.m.

Motion by Harris/Finch to recommend approval of the Appropriation of \$109,652 for the 2015 County Engineer Motor Fuel Tax Appropriating Resolution.
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner continued with the items of information – Stormwater Education Program, Third Quarter Report 2014.

Mr. Schmitt presented the Ecology Action Center Stormwater Education and Public Participation Program Report for the 3rd Quarter July 1, 2014 – September 30, 2014. The County participates in the program along with the City of Bloomington, Town of Normal and the Bloomington Normal Water Reclamation District. He reported that the Ecology Action Center has completed the following tasks as part of the Stormwater Education and Public Participation program:

- Education Programs
- Informational Events and Presentations
- Yard Smart Program
- Other Efforts – Storm drain stenciling, Watershed website, Bloomington/Normal Clean Up Week, Stormwater Runoff Awareness, Fund raising for Household Hazardous Waste Collection. Mr. Schmitt noted that the Ecology Action Center completes the education components of the County's MS4 Permit.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the IL State Route 9 Property Discussion. He advised the Committee that the County acquired 38 acres on Route 9 in 2001-2002 as a future Highway Department site. The Department uses approximately 10 acres for stock pile of materials. The remaining 28 acres are rented for farming. He reported that the Department would like to discuss the proposal to sell 25-28 acres and use the funds to purchase 2-4 additional acres and for improvements to the current County Highway site. There is a current drainage problem that would be corrected with the installation of new tile.

Mr. Buchanan asked if there is a potential buyer. Mr. Schmitt responded that there would have to be a bid process. The property is zoned Agricultural.

Chairman Soeldner asked if there would be a problem in purchasing the additional 2-4 acres for the Towanda Barnes site. Mr. Schmitt advised that there have been some initial discussions with the land owner.

Mr. Wasson, County Administrator stated that the acquisition of the Towanda Barnes property was made when the thought process was the likelihood that Towanda Barnes would be fully developed commercially in ten years. The property could then be sold at a high dollar value and the Department would be relocated. This development has not taken place nor do the growth rates indicate it happening in the near future. He advised that it is in the best interest of the County to expand on the current site.

Mr. Wasson stated that a portion of the Route 9 property would be retained for stock pile.

Mr. Buchanan asked if the Department is determining the consensus of the Committee before presenting any action item. Mr. Schmitt responded that the information was presented for input from the Committee before beginning the process. He recommended that the 28 acres be released to the farmer for one year and be a contingent part of the sale.

Ms. Metsker asked about access to the property. Mr. Schmitt responded that they will be talking to IDOT about adding another access point or the design could permit access along the frontage.

Ms. Harris stated that if the growth rates do not support the development in the next ten years, are they being short sighted. Mr. Schmitt stated that at current prices, the sale of the current location would not generate enough for funding a relocated facility equal to what the Department has at the current site. He believed expanding the current site is more economical. With the addition of the truck storage shed in 2008 the current site and convenient location is best fitted for the Department.

Mr. Buchanan stated that the 2001 decision was the correct decision at that time. And now converting that to real present value is the correct decision.

Mr. Wasson added that in 2001 there was no consideration given to the amount of maintenance requirement there would be on a five lane Towanda Barnes Road that runs from Route 150 to now Raab Road. With the amount of time and man power now spent on Towanda Barnes, without a jurisdictional transfer, it would be difficult to walk away from the current location.

Mr. McIntyre asked if the East Side Highway would create any future difficulties. Mr. Schmitt responded that could change things, but he does not expect that to happen in the foreseeable future.

Chairman Soeldner continued with the Overweight Permit Fee Discussion.

Mr. Schmitt advised that as part of the budget discussion we have looked to find ways to generate additional revenue. The overweight permit fees have not been changed since 1995. The fees cover the administrative time for the oversight of the process. If this is the consensus of the Committee, he will present a recommendation at the January, 2015 Transportation Committee Meeting.

Chairman Soeldner stated with potential funding problems in the future, Mr. Schmitt has come up with some numbers if the levy was increased to the maximum allowed.

Mr. Schmitt stated that the Highway has three property tax funds. If increased to the maximum rate the increase would generate the following amount which is not away to replace the reduction in MFT funding :

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Max Rate</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Generated Revenue</u>
➤ Highway Fund	7.5 cents	7.133	\$135,146
➤ Bridge Fund	5 cents	close to 4 cents	
➤ Matching Fund	3.75	2.55	73,649
Total			\$209,000

Mr. Schmitt noted that the Bridge Fund is fairly healthy.

Taxing at a maximum rate affects the entire County. The real problem is Motor Fuel Tax at the State and Federal level.

Mr. Finch asked how the County's access to Motor Fuel Tax compares to municipalities in terms of access and levels. Mr. Schmitt referred to the report distributed to the members. In January Mr. Schmitt will be giving a presentation on the Source, Distribution and Uses of County Motor Fuel Tax Funds. He added that Counties receive MFT allotments based on the dollars of motor vehicle registration vs the dollars of motor vehicle registration in the State. Municipalities' MFT is based on population of the municipality vs the entire population of all Municipalities. Township MFT is based on the Township miles of roads the Township has vs the total State Township miles of roads.

Chairman Soeldner stated that the next meeting of the Transportation Committee will be held on Tuesday, January 6, 2014 Room 400.

Motion by Harris/Finch to adjourn
the Transportation Committee Meeting
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner asked if there was any other business to come before the Committee. Hearing none he adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Hospelhorn
Recording Secretary