

Minutes of the Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, January 6, 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 and Finch

Members Absent: Member Martin

Other Members Present: Member McIntyre and Schafer

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

Department Heads Present: Mr. Eric Schmitt, County Engineer

Others Present: Mr. Jerry Stokes, Assistant County Engineer

Chairman Soeldner called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. He stated that the first item for action is approval of the minutes from the December 2, 2014 Transportation Committee Meeting.

Motion by Robustelli/Metsker to recommend approval of the minutes from the December 2, 2014 Transportation Committee Meeting.
Motion carried

Chairman Soeldner asked the Committee to review the bills and transfers for December 31, 2014. The prepaid total is \$218,497.27.

Ms. Metsker noted that there is a monthly expenditure for employee clothing. She asked if there is a preset amount per employee. Mr. Schmitt responded that as part of the Union contract, there are stipulations of what each member receives.

Motion by Robustelli/Buchanan to recommend
Payment of the December 31, 2014 bills and
transfers as submitted by the County Auditor.
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner noted that the East Side Highway presentation by Mr. Jerry Payonk, Clark Dietz, is cancelled.

Chairman Soeldner stated that the first item for action is the Resolution and Bid Tab for the December 30, 2014 Letting for 2015 County Non-Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Maintenance Projects.

Mr. Schmitt stated that this Resolution and Bid Tab is for the 2015 Non-MFT County Culvert Pipe – Group 22 Material Letting establishing prices for various culvert sizes used for County and Township projects throughout the year. He noted that the bid is set up to allow for two annual extensions of the established prices by mutual consent. He noted that the contract is in the 2nd year of renewal, however due to changes in specifications by Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), the contract was rebid.

Mr. Robustelli pointed out the 18% difference in the bids. He asked if the quality of the material is same with all bids. Mr. Schmitt responded that Contech is a nationwide company. The difference in bids is due to shipping cost. The quality of the material is the same. He added that McLean County has a history with Contech Engineered Solutions.

Mr. Schmitt recommended approval of the following:

2015 Non-MFT Maintenance Sections:

McLean County Section 15-00000-00-GM GR 22 – Culvert Pipe

The successful bidders on the above Section were:

Contech Engineered Solutions	\$272,527.90
1509 w Mt Vernon St, PO Box 203, Metamora, IL 61548	

Motion by Robustelli/Finch to recommend approval of the December 30, 2014 Letting for 2015 County Non- Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Maintenance Projects.
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner continued with the Resolution and Bid Tab for the December 30, 2014 Equipment Letting.

Mr. Schmitt reported that the Kenworth T470 Tandem Cab and Chassis from Central Illinois truck, Inc. was the lowest bid meeting all of the specifications. These three tandems will be used for hauling materials for maintenance and construction work during the summer and plowing snow during the winter. He advised that the purchase of three new tandems in 2015 begins the implementation of our eight year truck replacement cycle for our large truck fleet. Mr. Schmitt stated that each of the three tandem cab and chassis averaged \$16,910 below the budgeted amount.

Mr. Schmitt advised that two pick-up trucks were also on this letting. Due to the Federal tax extension on the purchase of equipment, the County did not receive any bids. The trucks will be rebid on January 16, 2015 and will be presented to the Committee at Stand Up on January 20, 2015.

Mr. Schmitt recommended the following:

3- 2015 Kenworth T470 Tandem Cab and Chassis for \$189,270.00 and the trade in of one (1) 2007 International 7400 and two (2) 2006 International 7400 from:

Central Illinois Truck, Inc.
200 W Northtown Road
Normal, IL 61761

Motion by Buchanan/Metsker to recommend approval of the Resolution and Bid Tab for the December 30, 2014 Equipment Letting.
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner presented the Sec 14-00168-03-RS Towanda Barnes Road – CH 29, MFT Resolution.

Mr. Schmitt advised that this Resolution will appropriate the funding for the resurfacing of Towanda Barnes Road from approximately 600' north of Ireland Grove Road to approximately 750' south of Illinois Route 9. The existing pavement is showing

significant distress and wide spread cracking. The current average daily traffic count is 15,700. He stated that the project will use paving operations similar to those used on the section of Towanda Barnes between US Route 150 and Ireland Grove Road in 2014 by closing the road for two consecutive Saturdays. Eliminating cold joints in the pavement will minimize the impact to traffic on the road and help extend the life of the resurfacing. Mr. Schmitt reported that the cost of the project is estimated at \$1,300,000.

Motion by Finch/Robustelli to recommend approval of the Sec 14-00168-03-RS Towanda Barnes Road – CH 29, MFT Resolution.
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner presented the Sec 13-00029-03-BR – Arteman Bridge – Rock Road – CH 40, Bridge Fund Resolution.

Mr. Schmitt stated that the existing structure on County Highway 40 built in 1935 has some structural problems on the pier and both outside beams of the bridge. The bridge walls create a safety hazard and a choke point for agricultural traffic on the roadway. This federal project was included in the Highway Department 5-Year Plan. The total cost of the project, including preliminary engineering, right-of-way, construction and construction engineering is estimated at \$845,000. The construction cost will be funded with:

- STP Bridge (Federal) Funds 80%
- Local Match 20%

The estimated cost of the construction is \$775,000, with the County's share estimated at \$155,000. The preliminary engineering right-of-way and construction engineering are estimated to be \$70,000.

Chairman Soeldner asked if the project will be scheduled to have less of an impact on the farmers. Mr. Schmitt responded that the letting for the project will be in June, 2015 the construction in July, 2015 with the completion date in September, 2015.

Motion by Buchanan/Metsker to recommend approval of the Sec 13-00029-03-BR – Arteman Bridge – Rock Road – CH 40, Bridge Fund Resolution
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner continued with the McLean County Prioritization Study Extension Engineering Agreement with Hanson Professional Services, Inc.

Mr. Schmitt advised that this contract will add 10 projects to the study being funded by the Illinois Soybean Association. The study provides the County with an opportunity to do public outreach and education about the future of the McLean County Highway System and funding levels. Extending the contract to study 10 additional projects will

provide the opportunity to study different types of project and help the Department to develop long term maintenance and construction plans and procedures that can be continued in the future to establish long range plans. The cost of the additional 10 projects will not exceed \$10,000.

Mr. Buchanan asked if the main focus of the study was to prioritize projects. Mr. Schmitt responded that the study will help the Department prioritize projects; however it will provide a cost/benefit ratio for comparison of projects.

Mr. Finch clarified that Hanson Professional Services Inc. will also help in identifying potential funding sources and time lines for applications.

Mr. Jerry Stokes, Assistant County Engineer advised that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has funding for safety programs. The cost/benefits ratio is a major component when applying for these funds.

Mr. Robustelli stated that along with the cost/benefit analysis the Department is also receiving professional training and a model to be applied when planning for future highway projects.

Motion by Robustelli/Finch to recommend approval of the McLean County Prioritization Study Extension Engineering Agreement with Hanson Professional Services, Inc.
Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner presented the Emergency Appropriation Ordinance – (1) Fund 0120 – Full-Time Employees Salary and Overtime Pay (2) Fund 0121 – Full-Time Employees Salary.

Mr. Schmitt reported that the Highway Fund amendment is needed to transfer funds in the Highway Fund for Full Time Employee Salary and Overtime Pay expenses from unused funds available in other line items in the Highway Fund. He recommended the following:

	<u>CURRENT BUDGET</u>	<u>REDUCE</u>	<u>AMENDED BUDGET</u>
County Highway Dept. Construction Rd/Bridges/Clvts 0120-0055-0056-0810-0001	\$373,878	(\$30,900)	\$342,978
Purchase of Right-of-Way 0120-0055-0056-0810-001	\$ 12,050	(\$10,000)	\$ 2,050

Purchase of Office Equipment

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0120-0055-0056-0832-0001	\$ 3,850	(\$ 2,500)	\$ 1,350
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Purchase of Computer Equipment

0120-0055-0056-0833-0002	\$ 5,000	(\$ 1,200)	\$ 3,800
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Telephone Services

0120-0055-0056-0795-0003	\$ 6,000	(\$ 2,000)	\$ 4,000
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Contract Services

0120-0055-0056-0706-0001	\$ 37,700	(\$ 16,000)	\$ 21,700
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Engineering & Design

0120-0055-0056-0716-0002	\$ 33,000	(\$ 14,750)	\$ 18,250
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CURRENT
BUDGET

ADD

AMENDED
BUDGET

County Highway Dept.

Full-Time Employees Salary

0120-0055-0056-0503-0001	\$1,217,454	\$68,350	\$1,285,804
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Overtime Pay

0120-0055-0056-0526-0001	\$ 187,250	\$ 9,000	\$ 196,250
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Mr. Schmitt advised that the Bridge Fund amendment is needed to transfer funds in the Bridge Fund for Full Time Employee Salary from unused funds available in another line item in the Bridge Fund. He recommended the following:

CURRENT
BUDGET

REDUCE

AMENDED
BUDGET

County Highway Department

Purchase of Right-of-way

0121-0055-0056-0820-0001	\$ 35,000	(\$ 6,500)	\$ 28,500
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CURRENT
BUDGET

ADD

AMENDED
BUDGET

County Highway Department

Full-Time Employees Salary

0120-0055-0056-0503-0001	\$215,788	\$ 6,500	\$222,288
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Mr. Buchanan asked if these types of transfers are common at the end of a fiscal year. Mr. Wasson advised that this is common especially with the severe winter of 2014.

Motion by Buchanan/Robustelli to recommend

approval of the Emergency Appropriation Ordinance –

(1) Fund 0120 – Full-Time Employees Salary
and Overtime Pay

(2) Fund 0121 – Full-Time Employees Salary.

Motion carried.

Chairman Soeldner continued with the items of information – Project Summaries.

Mr. Schmitt reported that the Lexington-LeRoy Road (CH 21) Sec 13-0041-05-RS resurfacing project is complete. The project came in 4% over the estimate due to additional shoulder work done.

Mr. Schmitt stated that the Whitwood Bridge Box Culvert Extensions on the Hudson/Stuckey Road CH 12 is complete. The project came in 3½ % under the estimate.

Mr. Schmitt advised that the Williams Bridge on CH 36, Dawson Lake Road is completed. The project was \$30,000 over the estimate. The overrun on this project relates to poor soil conditions under the existing approaches.

Mr. Schmitt continued with the Surplus Equipment Auction. He stated that the Highway Department is planning to have a surplus auction at the end of January or early February. The auction will be advertised in the local newspaper and held at the Highway Department. He referred the Committee to the distributed list of surplus equipment. Sealed bids will be accepted. Mr. Schmitt advised that the Highway Department will partner with other departments in the County. Mr. Wasson added that the items will be posted on the County Website.

Ms. Schmitt reminded the Committee there will be a Stand Up Meeting before the County Board Meeting on January 20, 2015 to present the January 16, 2015 letting for 2 pickup trucks.

Chairman Soeldner asked if there was any other business to come before the Committee.

Chairman Soeldner asked Mr. Schmitt for an update on the Motor Fuel Tax situation. Mr. Schmitt reported that the State Transportation Committee has said there will not be a motor fuel tax increase at the Federal level. A tax on drilling rights is a possible way to generate fees. Mr. Wasson advised that we will be in contact with our legislator over the next few weeks expressing our concerns on Motor Fuel Tax.

Mr. Schmitt stated that he will do a presentation on Motor Fuel Tax at the February Transportation Committee Meeting.

Chairman Soeldner asked if the sunset of the State Income will have any effect on the County. Mr. Wasson responded that as long as it is consistent with what we know

today, it will have minimal impact on the County. Local governments did not receive any of the increased income tax.

Mr. Schmitt informed the Committee that the County received somewhere between 6-8 inches of snow last night. The Department started plowing the rural roads at 3:30 a.m. Towanda Barnes and White Oak road is plowed 24 hours a day. He advised that the wind will blow through Thursday.

Mr. Robustelli asked the capacity of fuel the County can store. He stated that with the low prices of fuel, this would be a good time if possible to purchase additional fuel. Mr. Schmitt responded that the Department has 13,000 gallon of diesel in the ground and 2,500 gallon of gas. Every truck plowing snow burns about 100 gallon a day. He noted that when plowing snow, the Department goes through 2,000 gallon a day. The possibility of additional fuel storage was discussed.

Member Harris arrived at 8:37 a.m.

Ms. Harris asked what the procedure is if a Committee Member wants to questions one item of the bills, can the remainder of the bills go through as approved. If the question is responded to, we were told the answer goes to Administration or the Department Head. Does the response also go to the Committee that posed the question? Mr. Wasson responded that if we had prepaid an invoice, as we are obligated under state statute to do, and the Committee questioned the payment the information can and would be provided to the Committee.

Ms. Harris asked if we are not actually approving the bills why is not an informational item. Mr. Wasson responded that, under the current procurement policy the Committee is required to review and take action to approve the bills. He noted that Budget modification for payment is completely different and subject to Committee approval.

Ms. Hannah Eisner, Assistant County Administrator added that there have been instances where the Auditor has questioned payment of bills and this is presented to the Committee for review. The Committee has the authority to determine if the procurement does or does not meet the procurement policy.

Chairman Soeldner advised that he believes it is beneficial that the Committee review the bills. Ms. Harris added that she appreciates the opportunity to review the bills before the Committee meeting.

Mr. Wasson noted that reviewing the bills helps the Committee with the understanding of where the funding goes.

Ms. Harris hopes that in regards to the cost/benefit ratio from Hanson Professional Services, Inc., the public is made aware of the Prioritization Study emphasizing the cost/benefits ratio.

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Chairman Soeldner stated that the next meeting of the Transportation Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 3, 2014 Room 400.

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

Chairman Soeldner adjourned the Transportation Committee meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Hospelhorn
Recording Secretary