

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Highway Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Highway Committee Minutes
May 4, 2017**

A meeting of the Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board was held on Thursday, May 4, 2017, 6:00pm in the Conference Room of the DeKalb County Highway Department, located at 1826 Barber Greene Road, DeKalb, Illinois 60115.

Chairman John Frieders called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Roll call was held and Committee members present were Mr. Bunge, Mr. Osland, Mr. Plote, Ms. Polanco, Mr. Stoddard and Vice Chair Willis. The County Engineer, Mr. Nathan Schwartz, Mr. Wayne Davey, Support Services Manager, Mr. Josh Merchant, Operations Manager, County Administrator, Gary Hanson and County Board Vice Chair Tracy Jones were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Mr. Stoddard and seconded by Mr. Bunge to approve the minutes of the regular April 6, 2017 meeting and the special April 19, 2017 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Vice Chair Willis moved and Mr. Osland seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

AWARD RESOLUTION #R2017-82: WATERMAN ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

Mr. Schwartz informed the Committee that bids were taken for the reconstruction of Waterman Road. Three bids were received for this project with Civil Constructors, Inc. from Freeport, Illinois submitting the low bid meeting specifications in the amount of \$1,437,252.35. Mr. Schwartz recommended approval of this award. **Vice Chair Willis moved and Ms. Polanco seconded the motion to forward the award resolution to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed unanimously.**

CHAIR'S COMMENTS: Chairman Frieders stated he would hold his comments until executive session.

COUNTY ENGINEER'S COMMENTS:

Continuing the discussion of the replacement of the Department's aerial lift truck, Mr. Schwartz presented a breakdown of the vehicles found during a search of local vendors and internet auction sites, including both used and new vehicles. After reviewing several units and applying the Department's criteria to these vehicles, Mr. Schwartz presented his final results that would best fit the needs of the Department. Runnion Equipment has a new unit with a cost of \$98,165. The Department has budgeted \$90,000.00 for the replacement of this vehicle and with the expected trade for our current lift truck we should be able to meet that budgeted amount. Various other used vehicles were reviewed and taken out of consideration due to various reasons – either high mileage, not local enough to allow for inspection of the vehicle to be purchased, too high of a reach capacity or too low of a reach capacity or the overall condition of the vehicle. When comparing used equipment to new equipment it became evident that for a difference of less than \$15,000.00, a new vehicle could be purchased over a used one. There are many unknowns when purchasing a used vehicle that should be considered. Mr. Schwartz requested the Committee's feedback for the replacement. The options were to go out for bid for a new vehicle or continue to search the internet and local dealers for a suitable used vehicle. The Committee instructed the County Engineer by consensus to go out for bids for this vehicle, meanwhile continue to look for favorable used vehicle options on the internet and local dealers. ComEd and Ritchie Brothers Auctions were recommended for review for possible used vehicles. The Department utilizes this vehicle approximately 1-2 days per week on average and it could be scheduled to remain in the Department's inventory for 20 years, depending on the condition of the vehicle at purchase.

The transportation improvement progress report was reviewed with the Committee. The Highway Department Complex Storage Facility is 55% through the preliminary engineering stage. The Committee requested to review any final plans prior to any request for proposals being posted or solicited.

The Barber Greene Road resurfacing/widening project is 60% through the preliminary engineering stage. This project will utilize 80% funding from DSATS. The East County Line Road Bridge is still waiting right-of-way from a property owner on the east side of the Bridge (Kane County). Construction appears likely to begin during the spring of 2018. McNeal Road Bridge is pending a Major Bridge Fund application. Selection of projects should be announced shortly and the County will find out if this project was selected. The Peace Road intersection with Illinois Route 64 is being studied by the Safety Assessment Team from IDOT. That assessment is scheduled for May 16-17. The assessment will determine if this project moves forward as recommended by the County or if other design changes will be recommended. The Plank Road shoulder project has been approved and the County Engineer will continue working on long range plans to build a new alignment between Lindgren Road and half way between Devine Way and Gerry Lane. This would allow a safer, straighter, simpler road, allowing traffic to avoid the curves, especially at Moose Range Road. The Somonauk

Road Bridge project is waiting on the sign off from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Schwartz stated he received word today that the letter is in the works and should be here by the middle of May. At that time construction can begin. The contractor has already ordered the steel thereby eliminating any delay that would have caused and the bridge should still be completed prior to the Sandwich Fair. The Somonauk Road paving project from North Street to Bethany Road is at 90% complete for the preliminary engineering. The letting is scheduled for June 1, 2017. The late letting date is due to using IDOT FY2018 funding for the project. Therefore, the contract cannot be executed until July 1. Waterman Road reconstruction is being forwarded to the full County Board recommending award to Civil Constructors from Freeport, Illinois. The Somonauk Road culvert installation at Union Ditch # 1 has the preliminary engineering at 75% completed and the design engineering stands at 25%.

Shabbona Road, from Preserve Road north to the Village limits, is still being discussed with the Village of Shabbona for possible transfer to the Village. If the Village were to agree with that transfer Mr. Schwartz sees that happening no sooner than two to three years down the road.

As a legislative update, Lawmakers returned on April 25th and will be working on legislation until its May 31st adjournment. No new surprises to report at this time.

A DSATS update has been added to our agenda. This Study requires a considerable amount of the County Engineer's time and therefore progress made will be reported to the Committee. Illinois Route 23 paving project was recently awarded to Curran Construction and will begin this year. The IDOT multi-year plan has not been formally approved and submitted as of yet. DSATS consists of several Committees that involve the County Engineer which include, TAC, Policy, Bylaw Subcommittee, Active Transit Subcommittee (bike/walking trails), and Transit Subcommittee (bus routes). All meetings are held at the Highway Department.

The Committee requested the County Engineer present his Highway Budget 101 information at the June Committee meeting.

DISCUSSION OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF THE COUNTY ENGINEER FOR A SIX YEAR TERM

A motion was made by Ms. Polanco and seconded by Mr. Stoddard to enter into executive session per Chapter 5 ILCS Act 120 Section 2(c)(1), the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employee of the public body. Roll call vote was taken with seven yes votes and zero no votes. The committee entered executive session at 7:10pm.

The Committee returned to regular session at 8:38pm.

RESOLUTION #R2017-83: REAPPOINTMENT OF COUNTY ENGINEER FOR SIX-YEAR TERM

A motion was made by Mr. Stoddard and seconded by Mr. Osland to forward this resolution to the full County Board recommending the reappointment of Mr. Schwartz to the position of County Engineer for a term of six years. The County Administrator will complete the resolution with pertinent salary information as discussed by the Committee in executive session. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Frieders asked if there was any additional items that needed to be presented tonight and hearing none asked for a motion to adjourn. **A motion was made by Vice Chair Willis and seconded by Ms. Polanco and the motion passed unanimously.** The May 4, 2017 meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Frieders". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Frieders
Chairman