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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Highway Committee Minutes
April 5, 2018**

A meeting of the Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board was held on Thursday, April 5, 2018, 6:00pm in the Conference Room of the DeKalb County Highway Department, located at 1826 Barber Greene Road, DeKalb, Illinois 60115.

Chairman Roy Plote called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and called for the roll. Committee members present were Mr. Frieders, Mr. Osland, Ms. Polanco and Vice Chair Willis. Mr. Stoddard was absent and Mr. Bunge joined the meeting at 6:18pm. The County Administrator, Mr. Gary Hanson, the County Engineer, Mr. Nathan Schwartz and Mr. Wayne Davey, Support Services Manager as well as other guests were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Vice Chair Willis and seconded by Mr. Osland to approve the minutes of the regular March 1, 2018 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Ms. Polanco moved and Mr. Frieders seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

RESOLUTION #R2018-23: AWARD RESOLUTION FOR A NEW SHOULDER MACHINE

Mr. Schwartz informed the Committee that bids were requested for a new shoulder machine to replace the Department's 22 year old machine currently being used. One bid was received for this item from Bonnell Industries from Dixon, Illinois in the amount of \$38,893.11. Bonnell offered a \$2,000.00 trade for our current shoulder machine and there will be a \$650.00 freight charge, for a total cost to the County of \$37,543.11. The new machine is operated by hydraulics and will be attached to one of the County's wheel loaders when in use. The new machine will be quieter and more economical to operate as the County changes its road shouldering schedule from every 15 years to 10 years by placing 38 miles of aggregate shoulders per year. This change should help prevent the edge of pavement from breaking up and control drop-offs at the edge of

pavement. The Committee inquired if there was any way to keep the aggregate in place after it is put down or pulled back to the edge of the roadway. Mr. Schwartz stated when new aggregate is placed it is rolled. However, when the shoulders are pulled back to the edge of the road they are not. Usually the trailing vehicle runs the outside tires over the newly disturbed gravel to help keep it in place. Mr. Schwartz will address this with Operations and see if a better alternative can be arrived at. Mr. Schwartz recommended this award resolution be forwarded to the full Board recommending approval. **Vice Chair Willis moved and Ms. Polanco seconded the motion to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION #R2018-24: AWARD RESOLUTION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW EQUIPMENT STORAGE BUILDING AT HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT CAMPUS

The County received one bid for this project in the base amount of \$929,250.00. Because this bid was considerably over the amount of funding available for this project **the committee will take no action on this resolution at this time.** Discussion was held concerning the next steps to be taken. Mr. Schwartz will reach out to the stakeholders and let them know the results of the bid letting and see if there are any modifications that they would like to make to maybe reduce the cost of the building. One major concern received from potential bidders was there was not enough time to put together a bid for this project. The County Engineer will re-advertise and maybe schedule a pre-bid meeting with interested parties to ensure all questions/concerns can be addressed prior to the advertising of this project. By having questions addressed upfront, addendums could be kept to a minimum or eliminated to reduce confusion. Also this project may be bid as two separate projects – one metal support system, one wood support system. That way contractors that build wood buildings can submit their standard plans and those that construct metal buildings can submit their standard plans. Mr. Schwartz will continue to work on this project for re-advertisement with input from the Committee and the stakeholders.

CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS: Chairman Plote stated he is pleased the road postings are off and stated he had no other comments at this time.

COUNTY ENGINEER’S COMMENTS:

The transportation improvement progress report was reviewed with the Committee. Mr. Schwartz stated the storage building has been addressed earlier.

The Barber Greene Road widening and resurfacing project was awarded to William Charles Construction Company with their low bid meeting specifications of \$1,070,502. The Coltonville, Rich, Bethany Roads and North First Street project was also awarded to William Charles Construction Company with their low bid meeting specifications of \$890,772.

The East County Line Road Bridge being constructed under the supervision of Kane County will begin this year in May. D Construction will be the contractor for the \$1,563,386 project.

Interviews for selection of the consultants doing the preliminary engineering for the Peace Road intersection improvements at Illinois Route 64 and the Plank Road safety shoulder project will begin in the next two weeks. This is part of the QBS process required for these projects.

Peace Road Safety Study will be provided at the special meeting to be held on April 18th prior to the Full County Board Meeting. Discussion will be held at the Committee's May's meeting.

The Somonauk Road Bridge south of US Route 30 at Hinckley is on the County's website requesting bids by April 18th. This project will be presented at the April special meeting as well for the Committees' recommendation. The cost has been increased for this project to allow for some re-alignment of the curve and roadway just south of the bridge.

The Somonauk Road culvert replacement at Union Ditch #1 (Gurler Road) project is also on the County's website requesting bids by April 18th and will also be presented at the April special meeting for the Committees' recommendation.

Other projects the Department are involved with is the mill and fill projects for Locust Street and Exchange Street around the jail as part of the jail expansion project. The County will be stockpiling clean fill on property located east of Somonauk Road on Gurler Road, north side of the road for use at a later date. This fill is coming off of the tollway project and is being provided at no charge. Part of the tollway project involves repairing several overpasses in DeKalb County. To begin, Keslinger Road overpass is closed to all traffic currently and will be closed until the middle of July. Somonauk Road overpass will be down to one lane beginning Monday, April 9th and traffic will move under the direction of temporary traffic signals. Completion is also scheduled by mid-July. Peace Road and Glidden Road exits/overpasses will be also be repaired during this project.

As a legislative update, one item is of importance that is currently pending and will more than likely become law in some form. Currently roadways are classified as Class I, II, III – Truck Routes and the rest are considered to be local roads. House Bill 5167 would eliminate all Class III truck routes and the current Class III truck routes would become non-designated routes. This issue deals with the length of trucks and making sure they can successfully negotiate a turn at appropriate truck route intersections.

As reported last month DSATS has hired a Transit Consolidation Coordinator that will work on an interim basis to formulate plans to join the VAC public transportation with the NIU transit system. Plans are moving forward to separate Transit functions from MPO

functions. This would allow personnel who deal with MPO functions to concentrate on those areas and spend time on planning functions. This will free up a considerable amount of time for the County Engineer who would not be directly involved in the Transit matters for DSATS. The Committee expressed concern over time being spent on DSATS matters by the County Engineer. Mr. Schwartz assured the Committee that the parties involved with DSATS are pulling their weight and working toward the common goal of planning and securing funding for road projects.

OTHER BUSINESS: Chairman Plote inquired if the Department had seen any increase in permits dealing with storm water management as a result of the County's regulations for solar farm/communities. Mr. Schwartz indicated he has not experienced an increase in reviews yet but is confident an increase will be forthcoming.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Plote 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 April 5, 2018 meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roy Plote
Chairman