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DeKalb County Government  
Sycamore, Illinois

**Highway Committee Minutes  
February 1, 2018**

A meeting of the Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board was held on Thursday, February 1, 2018, 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. Osland, Mr. Plote, Mr. Stoddard and Vice Chair Willis. Mr. Bunge was absent. The County Administrator, Mr. Gary Hanson, County Engineer, Mr. Nathan Schwartz, Operations Manager, Mr. Joshua Merchant and Mr. Wayne Davey, Support Services Manager were also present. Ms. Polanco joined the meeting after roll call was taken.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion made by Mr. Osland and seconded by Mr. Stoddard to approve the minutes of the regular January 4, 2018 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Vice Chair Willis moved and Mr. Osland seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Discussion followed and Vice Chair Willis amended her motion to delete item 7 from the agenda due to non-receipt of documentation from IDOT to act on this item. Mr. Osland agreed with this amendment of the motion. Motion to approve the agenda as amended passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments.

**SELECTION OF HIGHWAY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON:** Chairman Frieders stated the Committee was in need of a new Chairperson due to his appointment as Vice Chairman of the full County Board. Mr. Osland moved and Mr. Stoddard seconded the motion to nominate Mr. Plote as Chairman. After calling for other nominations and hearing none, Chairman Frieders declared the nominations closed. The Committee members present voted unanimously to elect Mr. Plote the Chairman of the Highway Committee. Mr. Plote assumed his position as chairman and Mr. Frieders as a member of the Highway Committee at this time.

**RESOLUTION #R2018-03: AWARD RESOLUTION FOR THE 2018 GENERAL COUNTY LETTING**

Mr. Schwartz informed the Committee that bids are requested every year for maintenance materials utilized by the County and Road Districts. These bids cover aggregate, patching material and hot-mix this year. By accepting these bids, prices are set for the year and will not increase. All bids are awarded and the lowest cost is calculated by taking the bid price of a product and adding in the cost of travel from the quarry/plant to the job site. The County Engineer recommended approval of this resolution. **Mr. Frieders moved and Vice Chair Willis seconded the motion to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed unanimously.**

**RESOLUTION #R2018-04: AWARD RESOLUTION FOR THE 2018 ROAD DISTRICT AGGREGATE PROJECTS**

The County received three bids for aggregate projects requested by the Road Districts for the upcoming year. All four projects saw Macklin, Inc. from Rochelle, Illinois submitting the low bid meeting specifications. Afton Road District requested 11,400 tons of CA-6, Type B aggregate to be spread on Anderland, Keslinger and Minnegan Roads. The Macklin bid was \$119,700 for this project. Shabbona Road District requested 5,000 tons of CA-6, Type B aggregate spread on Houghtby Road. Macklin submitted a bid of \$52,500.00 for this project. Squaw Grove Road District requested 3,000 tons of material and Macklin's bid was \$35,850.00. Paw Paw Road District requested 3,500 tons of material and rejected Macklin's bid of \$40,775. The full County Board is required to approve awards for the Road District that utilize Township MFT funds. Therefore the resolution presented here is for award only to Afton and Shabbona Road Districts. Squaw Grove will be using local funds and the Highway Commissioner will be awarding his bid from Macklin. Mr. Schwartz recommended approval of these two awards. **Mr. Stoddard moved and Vice Chair Willis seconded the motion to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed unanimously.**

**RESOLUTION #R2018-05: AWARD RESOLUTION FOR THE 2018 DRAINAGE PIPES**

Mr. Schwartz explained to the Committee the Department requested bids for drainage pipes expected to be needed during the current year by the County as well as all 19 Road Districts. By combining the needs of the Road Districts with the County's a lower unit cost is often realized. Two suppliers submitted bids with Contech Engineering Solutions of Oak Brook, Illinois submitting the low bid meeting specifications. The amount of their bid was \$72,800.34 for various pipes and bands. Mr. Schwartz

recommended approval of this award. **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 #R2018-06: AWARD RESOLUTION FOR ONE NEW CAB AND CHASSIS**

The County replaces one plow truck on an annual basis in order to maintain an efficient and reliable fleet of plow trucks for winter and summer operations. This year the Department is replacing one 2007 Sterling LT8500. Two bids were received and the low bid meeting specifications was submitted by JX Peterbilt of Rockford, Illinois in the amount of \$95,798.00. A trade-in of \$11,000 for the 2007 Sterling was provided. Options totaled \$4,068.00 for a net cost of \$88,026.00. TransChicago submitted a lower bid in the amount of \$75,911.00; however, TransChicago did not meet specifications as required by the Highway Department. Two major specifications not met were the delivery time and the required gear ratio of 6.83. The Committee agreed that these specifications were important to ensure our new vehicle was available for the next snow removal season and that it was equipped to best serve the needs of the Department. Mr. Schwartz recommended approval of this award to JX Peterbilt. **Vice Chair Willis moved and Mr. Osland seconded the motion to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending approval of this award to JX Peterbilt. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **RESOLUTION #R2018-07: LOCAL AGENCY AGREEMENT FOR FEDERAL PARTICIPATION FOR BARBER GREENE ROAD REPAVING PROJECT**

Mr. Schwartz explained to the Committee that Barber Greene Road from Illinois Route 23 to Peace Road will be widened to three lanes and resurfaced during 2018. This project was selected to receive 80% funding through the Federal STU program. In order to receive funding IDOT requires a local agency agreement be in place between the County and IDOT. The resolution and agreement presented satisfies this requirement. The project is estimated to cost \$1,207,500.00 with the County's local share estimated to be \$241,500.00. Mr. Schwartz recommended that the County enter into this agreement as presented. **Vice Chair Willis moved and Mr. Stoddard seconded the motion to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending the County enter into this agreement and authorize the County Board Chairman to sign the appropriate documents. Motion passed unanimously.**

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:** Chairman Plote stated that if committee members needed to contact him for any reason the best time to do that is between 8:00am – 1:00pm. He is usually working from his home office during that time. Chairman Plote urged members to contact him on any issues they might have.

### **COUNTY ENGINEER'S COMMENTS:**

The transportation improvement progress report was reviewed with the Committee. Mr. Schwartz displayed a drawing of the proposed storage building to be built at the Highway Campus during 2018. The proposed building is 216 feet by 72 feet to include 5 bays occupied by IMO, FMO, Highway Department and the Sherriff's Department. Request for proposals will be going out during February. Received proposals will be reviewed by the Highway Committee during their March Committee meeting. Mr. Schwartz was seeking the Committee's input for the proposal. The consensus was the building should have steel trusses with a four foot concrete wall serving as the base of the building with a concrete floor thick enough to handle the weight of items being stored within the building. The individual bays would be separated by interior steel walls and each have their own electrical breaker box. Bay 2 should be heated for the Sheriff's Department. Fourteen foot bay doors would be the largest doors on this building. Options to be included would be wood trusses and the entire building heated. Electrical service will be brought to the building with the option of having the electrical wiring completed by County employees after the building is completed. Mr. Schwartz stated if any of the Committee members knew of any additional builders that the RFP should be sent to, to please provide that information to him.

The Barber Greene Road widening and resurfacing project is scheduled for a March 9<sup>th</sup> letting in Springfield.

The estimate of cost for the Peace Road intersection improvements at Illinois Route 64 has been increased to \$2.1 million with the County's estimated cost of \$210,000. Mr. Schwartz stated the Qualification Based Selection process is currently underway to select the engineering firm to handle the preliminary engineering for this project as well as the Plank Road safety shoulder project.

The Somonauk Road Bridge south of US Route 30 at Hinckley is in the preliminary engineering stage and is at 35% completed, with the bridge design at 25% completed.

Waterman Road, Phase II is at 55% completed with the in-house preliminary design work. Phase II involves ditch and shoulder work and has \$1 million budgeted for this phase.

The Committee inquired into the Peace Road Safety study. Mr. Schwartz stated phase 2 is scheduled to be brought before the Committee during their March meeting.

As a legislative update, there is nothing to report from the State of Illinois. On the Federal side the State of the Union Address provided details for an additional \$200 billion in funding over the next ten years for infrastructure improvements. This funding is to be matched by private funding. When you look at what is considered infrastructure, to include electrical power grids, water ports, roads, bridges, railway

systems, etc. the \$200 billion would be obligated quickly nationwide.

The stay from implementing the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule was set to expire soon. The EPA has now recently pushed the effective date of the WOTUS rule back to early 2020. More legal action may be forthcoming as a result of this.

Back in October, the Committee was informed about certain funding that the State traditionally funded through the General Fund that was now being funded through transportation funds. If you will remember this resulted in approximately \$300 million less in transportation dollars for certain programs. IDOT had stated at that time that if they were to find savings those savings would be placed back into programs that were reduced. Two of the programs that were reduced that affected counties and townships have been restored. Those were the consolidated counties and the needy township programs. The TARP program has not been restored to previous funding levels at this time.

DSATS will be losing two of their staff in the near future. The Assistant Planner and the GIS Intern will be leaving for other career opportunities. This will leave a staff of one until the positions are filled.

Mr. Schwartz presented the Department's Annual Report for the Committee's information. The Committee recommended the Annual Report be presented at the February County Board Meeting if time permitted. Chairman Plote will coordinate this request with the County Board Chairman through the Executive Committee.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None presented

**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 Mr. Osland and seconded by Mr. Stoddard and the motion passed unanimously.** The February 1, 2018 meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roy Plote  
Chairman