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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Highway Committee Minutes
September 6, 2018**

A meeting of the Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board was held on Thursday, September 6, 2018, at 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 6:01pm and called for the roll. Committee members present were Mr. Bunge, Mr. Frieders, Mr. Osland, Mr. Stoddard and Vice Chair Willis. Ms. Polanco joined the meeting at 6:11pm. The County Engineer, Mr. Nathan Schwartz and Mr. Wayne Davey, Support Services Manager were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Mr. Stoddard and seconded by Mr. Osland to approve the minutes of the regular August 2, 2018 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Vice Chair Willis 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.

ORDINANCE #2018-19: ALTERED SPEED ZONE FOR GURLER ROAD IN DEKALB ROAD DISTRICT

Mr. Schwartz informed the Committee that the DeKalb Road District Highway Commissioner had requested a lower speed zone for Gurler Road from the DeKalb City limits to 600 feet west of the South Branch of the Kishwaukee River. After a speed study was conducted and an engineering review of this segment of roadway it was determined a residence district could be approved for part of this roadway. A residence district must be at least a quarter mile long with residences or residences and businesses spaced no more than 500 feet apart. Therefore, a residence district could be declared from South First Street west for 2,900 feet. With this residence district in place, the current 50mph speed zone from South First Street east to the City of DeKalb city limits should also be changed to a 45mph zone as well to avoid the appearance of a

speed trap on that small segment of roadway. The speed limit for the City of DeKalb on Gurler Road is currently 45mph. Mr. Schwartz recommended the Committee recommend to the full County Board an altered speed zone be established from the City of DeKalb city limits to 2,900 feet west of South First Street for Gurler Road in DeKalb Road District. **Mr. Stoddard moved and Vice Chair Willis seconded a motion to forward the recommendation for the residence district and altered speed zone to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed unanimously.**

ORDINANCE #2018-20: IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES DEPLOYMENT ACT (SWFDA)

The State of Illinois has passed the Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act which allows for small cell tower siting for 5G upgrade. The State deems it pertinent that the State be upgraded to 5G and carriers will be allowed to place their utilities within the right-of-ways of governmental agencies. In order for the County to be allowed to charge permit fees, as well as annual rent, for these towers an ordinance must be passed by August 1, 2018 that is consistent with the SWFDA. This ordinance allows for the placement the towers to be placed on existing utility poles to include traffic signals, street lights and other support structures. The maximum height of a small cell is the higher of 45 feet or 10 feet over the top of the utility pole. Permit fees are set at \$650.00 for the first application, \$350.00 for two or more applications and \$1,000 for applications requesting a new utility pole. Annual rent can be charged up to \$200 per structure. The administration and approval process of this permitting function would be the responsibility of the County Engineer. The Committee stated some surrounding communities are “pushing back” on this regulation and were waiting to get additional information before proceeding with an ordinance. Mr. Schwartz stated the SWFDA is now law that became effective June 1, 2018 and the 5G upgrade will be coming. If the County wants to regulate and have a say in where these towers will be placed then this ordinance is required. If additional information is received in the future or if the law is changed, the County would revisit this ordinance and make any appropriate changes it deemed necessary. Mr. Schwartz recommended this ordinance be forwarded to the full County Board recommending approval. **Mr. Bunge moved and Vice Chair Willis seconded a motion to forward this Ordinance to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed.**

RESOLUTION #R2018-43: ENGINEERING AGREEMENT FOR BASE LINE ROAD BRIDGE – GENOA/SYCAMORE ROAD DISTRICTS – SECTION 14-06122-00-BR

The Qualification Based Selection (QBS) process was utilized for the selection of Strand Associates from Joliet, Illinois to perform Phase I and Phase II engineering services for the replacement of the Base Line Road Bridge. The top three engineering firms were interviewed and Strand Associates were deemed to be the best qualified to perform the services necessary for this project. The total cost for these services were negotiated to \$151,000. The County would utilize County Bridge Tax funds for 50% and the remaining 50% would be shared between Genoa and Sycamore Road Districts based

on their respective EAVs. The County's portion would be \$75,500.00; Sycamore Road District's portion would be \$57,380.00 and Genoa Road District's portion would be \$18,120.00. This bridge is scheduled for replacement during the 2019 construction season. Mr. Schwartz recommended approval of this agreement. **Vice Chair Willis moved and Mr. Osland seconded a motion to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION #R2018-44: ENGINEERING AGREEMENT FOR PEARL STREET BRIDGE IN THE VILLAGE OF KIRKLAND

Once again the QBS process was utilized to select Baxter & Woodman from Crystal Lake, Illinois to perform Phase I Engineering Services for the replacement of the superstructure (deck) on the Pearl Street Bridge in the Village of Kirkland. The Village applied and was selected for Major Bridge Funds for this project. The Village will also be applying for additional funds to replace the substructure (piers) as well this year. If that funding is approved, the replacement of the entire bridge will be postponed five years. However, the current project needs to move forward in the event the additional funding is not approved, in order to meet letting deadlines for the superstructure replacement during 2019. The costs for the phase I engineering services has been negotiated to \$146,160.74. Major Bridge funds will be utilized for 80% (\$116,928.59) of this cost and the County will pay the remaining \$29,232.15. The Village of Kirkland will reimburse the County the full \$29,232.15 when the project is complete. Mr. Schwartz recommended approval of this agreement. **Mr. Frieders moved and Mr. Stoddard seconded a motion to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTION #R2018-45: ENGINEERING AGREEMENT FOR MCNEAL ROAD BRIDGE IN FRANKLIN ROAD DISTRICT SECTION # 13-05119-01-BR

Mr. Schwartz indicated that the engineering firm selected, also through QBS process, was Baxter & Woodman from Crystal Lake, Illinois for this project. Baxter & Woodman would provide Phase I and Phase II for this estimated \$3 million dollar project scheduled for construction during 2020. The cost for these services has been negotiated to \$299,899.94. Township Bridge Program funds will be utilized to fund 80% (\$239,919.95) and the County and Franklin Road District will split the remaining 20%, for \$29,989.99 each. Mr. Schwartz recommended approval of this agreement. **Mr. Bunge moved and Mr. Osland seconded a motion to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed unanimously.**

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: Chairman Plote stated he had driven over the newly constructed bridge and roadway alignment on Somonauk Road south of Hinckley and was very pleased with the completed project. Chairman Plote requested an update on the cuts made to Chicago Road when all the crossroad culverts were replaced. Mr. Schwartz indicated the cuts are in the process of being filled with hot-mix and all cuts should be filled shortly, weather permitting.

COUNTY ENGINEER'S COMMENTS:

The transportation improvement progress report was reviewed with the Committee. The proposed storage building is still on the table, however alternative options are being looked at to include the purchasing of an existing building that meets the County's needs.

The Barber Greene Road widening and resurfacing project continues and stands at 28% complete. The pipe culverts have been installed and widening the two-lane section is currently underway. This project is currently on schedule.

The East County Line Road Bridge is now open to traffic. Any remaining work that needs to be completed will be handled under traffic.

The Committee acted tonight on the preliminary engineering agreements for the McNeal Road Bridge, Base Line Road Bridge and the Pearl Street Bridge in the Village of Kirkland.

The Peace Road intersection with State Route 64 preliminary engineering is 75% complete and design engineering stands at 15%.

The preliminary engineering for Plank Road Safety project stands at 75% complete and design engineering at 18%.

The Somonauk Road Bridge, south of US Route 30 at Hinckley, is now open as Chairman Plote commented. The bridge was open prior to the Sandwich Fair and what little work is left will be completed under traffic.

Somonauk Road culvert replacement at Union Ditch #1 (Gurler Road) has been rescheduled to begin on Monday, September 10th. The delay was caused by utilities on the bridge that have yet to be relocated. Somonauk Road will be closed first and last approximately one week. After that Gurler Road will be closed. The change was done at the request of the surrounding farmers to better facilitate their harvest activities.

Mr. Schwartz stated he will be submitting the special use permit for the stockpiling of dirt on County property north of Gurler Road. The Committee inquired if the project was going forward as they heard it was not. Mr. Schwartz stated he has not been informed it had been cancelled and he would continue with the permit process. He will also be working on an estimate of cost to complete the project as discussed.

As a legislative update, nothing is happening at the State level. Elections are coming.

A review of the crashes at Illinois Route 23 and Chicago Road was presented to the Committee. Over the latest 5-year period that data is available for, (2013-2017), 17

crashes were reported. Mr. Schwartz analyzed several factors surrounding these accidents to include, type, time of day, day of the week, during what month, weather factors, injuries resulting from what type of accident, etc. From the data reviewed and analyzed for the most part, the major contributing factor was driver error. The Committee suggested a more visible “cross traffic does not stop” sign be placed well in advance of the stop sign itself. Coming from the east and west, this major intersection is the only one that is not a four-way stop and that may be causing some confusion to drivers unfamiliar with the area. IDOT is scheduled to place flashing amber (yellow) lights on the advance intersection warning signs along Route 23 during October of this year. They will also be placing red flashing lights on their stop signs located on Chicago Road. Mr. Schwartz reviewed some additional steps that have been taken throughout the state that included red-light cameras, intelligent warning signs that flash alerting when traffic is approaching the intersection and additional right-of-way to improve sight distance. IDOT will be hosting a traffic engineering and safety conference during October and Mr. Schwartz will be attending to learn if any new information is available to help make intersections safer.

For DSATS, item 23 in the budget narrative for the 2019 County Budget, outlines DSATS functions being transferred to the County from the City of DeKalb during 2019. The costs associated with this function, to include employee salary and benefit cost, are paid out of DSATS grant funds and have no financial impact to the County. One current DSATS employee will be transferred to the County and become a County employee. Three positions were created for DSATS with only one being authorized to be filled at the appropriate level to be determined by the County Engineer. The County Engineer will receive a stipend for his additional added responsibilities in overseeing DSATS. The stipend will be determined by the Highway Committee in consultation with the County Administrator.

Mr. Schwartz stated the annual tour of construction projects has been scheduled for September 24, 2018. The Committee expressed concern due to wind energy systems public hearings were scheduled later for the same day. Several committee members will be attending those hearings. After some discussion it was agreed that the tour would be held from 8:00am to Noon. This would allow for Board members to attend the first scheduled hearing at 1:00pm at the Egyptian Theater.

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 Ms. Polanco and seconded by Mr. Stoddard and the motion passed unanimously.** The September 6, 2018 meeting was adjourned at 8:21pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roy Plote
Chairman