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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Highway Committee Minutes
November 2, 2017**

A meeting of the Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board was held on Thursday, November 2, 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 6:05pm. Roll call was held and Committee members present were Mr. Bunge, Mr. Osland, Ms. Polanco, Mr. Stoddard and Vice Chair Willis. Mr. Plote was absent. The County Engineer, Mr. Nathan Schwartz, Mr. Wayne Davey, Support Services Manager and two other guests were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Vice Chair Willis and seconded by Mr. Stoddard to approve the minutes of the regular October 5, 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.

MFT RESOLUTION #R2017-127: SECTION 18-00000-00-GM FOR SALARY/EQUIPMENT & 2018 MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

Mr. Schwartz indicated this resolution is for 2018 general maintenance projects the County has programmed to complete. Prior to MFT funds being expended, the County Board must authorize the expenditure. This resolution satisfies that requirement. In years past separate resolutions have been completed for each of the maintenance projects. IDOT refers to all general maintenance projects completed during a given year as one section number and directed one resolution be prepared and passed for these projects. This is the second year the County has combined all GM projects under one section number – the County did the same for our 2017 projects. Mr. Schwartz stated the Highway Department has programmed \$1,647,990.00 of MFT funds for the following annual general maintenance projects:

| Maintenance Project | MFT Funds Programmed |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Salaries | \$612,950.00 |
| Equipment Rental | \$400,000.00 |
| Winter Maintenance | \$397,040.00 |
| Seal Coat Operations | \$128,000.00 |
| Pavement Markings | \$110,000.00 |
| | |
| TOTAL | \$1,647,990.00 |

The Committee inquired if these numbers were actual or estimates. Mr. Schwartz stated they were estimates. If these numbers are over the actual costs of these individual projects the excess funds would revert back into the County's MFT unobligated balance. If these number were below the actual cost of these projects then the County would need to authorize additional funds from the MFT account or use an alternative funding stream. No funds would be obligated from the County's General funds for these projects. Mr. Schwartz recommended approval of this resolution. **A motion was made by Mr. Osland and seconded by Ms. Polanco to forward the resolution to the full County Board recommending approval. Motion passed unanimously.**

CHAIR'S COMMENTS: Chairman Frieders thanked the Department for their efforts during the 2018 budget process. The budget process will remain a concern for years to come and Chairman Frieders looks forward to the Department's continued cooperation in this area.

COUNTY ENGINEER'S COMMENTS:

The transportation improvement progress report was reviewed with the Committee. Mr. Schwartz stated that due to Federal project deadlines he has not had an opportunity to move forward with the Highway Department Complex Storage Facility project. Chairman Frieders stated a date should be set to start this project but actual construction can be scheduled for the early part of 2018. Mr. Schwartz stated he would like to have the site developed this year with the footprint of the building cored out and aggregate placed to allow for settlement over the winter months. There was some concern for doing that prior to the bidding process. Mr. Schwartz stated that if the returned bids required the building to be smaller than the prepared footprint, the extra space could be utilized for parking.

The Barber Greene Road Bridge deck replacement is progressing as planned and stands at 83% complete. The bridge is scheduled to be opened on November 10th, one week ahead of the completion date.

Rich/Coltonville Road, along with a portion of North First Street and Bethany Road, will be resurfaced during 2018. This project is scheduled for a March 2018 letting and is a joint project with the City of DeKalb and the City of Sycamore. DSATS funding will be utilized for this project and be paid for with 80% STU funds with the County, City of DeKalb and City of Sycamore providing the remaining 20% for their respective portions. The County's portions are North First Street north of Rich Road and Rich Road / Coltonville Road from Glidden Road to Illinois Route 23. The City of Sycamore's portion is on Bethany Road from the YMCA to Illinois Route 23. The City of DeKalb's portion is at the entrance to the new Kish Health Fitness Center currently under construction.

The first phase of the Peace Road Safety Study from Lindgren Road to Peace/Plank/Route 23 stands at 90% complete. Due to the IDOT project deadlines this study was not completed in time for the November meeting. A brief overview of what the final product will look like was provided by Mr. Schwartz. This overview outlined the pavement conditions, signage on the roadway, number of potential conflicts (entrances and sideroads) and accident information from 2012 to June of 2016. This section of roadway has shared jurisdiction between State, County and City of Sycamore law enforcement agencies. Current accident reports are only available through June 2016 from the State of Illinois' database. Although this phase of the study is not completed as of yet, one action to be taken will be the installation of R10-12 Regulatory signs informing motorist that left turns must yield on green ball. Over 60 percent of the accidents on this road involve rear end collisions and turning collisions.

The Department's new lift truck that was scheduled to be here November 1st has been postponed until November 15th. Chairman Frieders requested the lift truck be available for the Committee to look at it during their December meeting.

As a legislative update, the legislature is holding their veto session now. Two bills being watched are HB-4067 which provides that registered voters may petition for a referendum at the next general election to dissolve any unit of local government. The second bill is SB 789 which provides that a county, township or municipality may use MFT funds for public transportation. This bill provides the authority for IDOT to move the \$250 million a year from the state's general fund to the MFT accounts for public transportation service that was discussed during our October meeting.

DSATS is in the process of reviewing the annual traffic counts around the DeKalb, Sycamore and Cortland area. They are looking to take this over and perform this task in-house instead of hiring a consultant. DSATS is also looking into the feasibility of splitting out transit functions from transportation functions to provide better efficiency of management.

As a matter of information, the Sycamore Park District will be holding a public hearing on Tuesday, November 7th from 6:00pm to 7:30pm for the extension of the Great Western Trail from the Sycamore Forest Preserve west to Old Mill Park at Illinois Route 23. The hearing will be held at the Sycamore Park District Club House on the south

side of Route 64 in Sycamore. The Park District will apply for a grant to help cover the cost of this \$3.6 million project. The grant would cover 80% of the cost with the remaining 20% being split between the Park District (70%) and the Forest Preserve District (30%).

OTHER BUSINESS:

Vice Chair Willis inquired if there were any plans to bring Metra to the County. Mr. Schwartz stated in order for that to happen the County would need to have three things in place. 1) They would have to join the RTA and pass a tax supporting transportation; 2) funding in the amount of approximately one billion dollars would need to be secured to add additional rail lines between Elburn and DeKalb; and 3) sufficient ridership would need to be present to support the additional line. The short answer is no, not at this time.

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 Mr. Stoddard and seconded by Ms. Polanco and the motion passed unanimously.** The November 2, 2017 meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



John Frieders
Chairman