

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
June 4, 2015**

A meeting of the Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board was held on Thursday, June 4, 2015 at 6:00pm in the Conference Room of the DeKalb County Highway Department, 1826 Barber Greene Road in DeKalb, Illinois.

Chairman Gudmunson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Committee members present were Mr. Bunge, Mr. Luebke, Mr. Metzger, Vice Chair O'Barski, and Mr. Pietrowski. Mr. Frieders was absent. The County Engineer, Nathan Schwartz and the Support Services Manager, Wayne Davey were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Mr. Pietrowski and seconded by Mr. Luebke to approve the minutes of the regular May 7, 2015 meeting. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Pietrowski moved and Vice Chair O'Barski seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

2016 BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Mr. Schwartz presented information to the Committee to begin the 2016 budget process for the Department. All fund balances for budgets operating out of the Highway Department were present and discussed. Mr. Schwartz provided a ten year look back at the balances and explained the rational for high budget balances and declining budget balances over these years. The Department is currently in a spend down cycle, programming and completing high dollar projects. A more detailed look at the individual budgets will be presented at a later date.

The proposed equipment replacement and the programmed construction project plans for 2016 were presented to the Committee for their information and review. These two plans comprise a majority of the expenditure draw on the fund balances. As such it is important for the Committee to receive this information early on in the budget process.

Mr. Schwartz stated that if any Committee members had any questions or comments concerning these items or the budget in general to please contact him at their convenience.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PER 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), MODIFY SALARY RANGES AND SALARIES OF SELECT HAY CODE POSITIONS WITHIN THE DEPARATMENT

Mr. Metzger moved and Vice Chair O'Barski seconded a motion for the Committee to enter Executive Session for the above stated reason. Roll Call vote taken with six yes votes and zero no votes. The Committee entered Excessive Session at 6:31pm.

Chairman Gudmunson moved and Vice Chair O'Barski seconded a motion for the Committee to exit executive session. Roll call vote was taken with six yes votes and zero no votes. Motion passed unanimously. The Committee exited Executive Session at 7:06pm.

Motion made by Mr. Metzger and seconded by Vice Chair O'Barski to approve the salaries of the Maintenance Foreman and the Support Services Manager as presented by the County Engineer. Roll call vote was taken with six yes votes and zero no votes.

Motion made by Vice Chair O'Barski and seconded by Mr. Luebke to recommend to the full County Board that the approved salary range of the Operations Manager, Support Services Manager and the Maintenance Foreman be adjusted as presented by the County Engineer. Roll call vote was taken with six yes votes and zero no votes. Motion passed unanimously.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS: Mr. Gudmunson stated he had no additional comments to be made at this time.

COUNTY ENGINEER'S COMMENTS: Mr. Schwartz presented the transportation improvement progress report for June.

The Chicago Road resurface project will begin with the coring of shoulders on Monday, June 8th. Completion is schedule by the end of the month.

Coltonville Road Bridge is being delayed due to steel rolling dates. All sources who make the steel beams for this project are backed-up due to Tollway and private construction. Mr. Schwartz is working with the contractor to come up with a start date that will be beneficial for all concerned as well as the traveling public.

Five Points Road Bridge was opened to traffic on May 1, 2015. There were some comments concerning the sidewalk that was installed on the west side of the bridge. This was included but not intended to be ADA compliant at this time. It was constructed in anticipation of the Village of Kingston constructing a sidewalk from Il Route 72 north

at a later date. Comments were made that maybe we should have a sign closing this portion of sidewalk. Mr. Schwartz indicated his conversations with IDOT confirmed the County is not subject to any liability issues because the sidewalk is in place for future use. The Committee requested Mr. Schwartz contact the State's Attorney's Office to confirm that the County should not face any liability issues dealing with this matter.

Keslinger Road Bridge was opened to traffic on May 18th with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Afton Township provided refreshments after the ceremony in the Township Hall. Mr. Schwartz thanked the Committee members for attending.

McNeal Road Bridge will be a candidate for major bridge funding. If that funding is approved this bridge will be pushed back until 2021. Motel Road Bridge has been selected for major bridge funds and is scheduled for 2020.

Plank Road resurfacing from Illinois Route 23, east to Lindgren Road, and Shabbona Road from US Route 30 north to Perry Road are scheduled for 2016 and both have been approved for Federal funding.

The South Paw Paw Road Bridges will have their preconstruction meeting on June 5, 2015 in Ottawa. At that time we will have a tentative start date.

The Suydam Road Bridge over Buck Creek will begin on June 8th and be completed by August 31, 2015.

Mr. Schwartz informed the Committee of two proposed legislative activities that the County Engineers will be following. They are:

- 1) Work continues on a long range transportation funding bill. Currently the State is operating under a two month extension of the current transportation plan.
- 2) The EPA is still proceeding with a new definition of Waters of the United States. The new proposed regulations could be interpreted as including all highway ditches, field depression that allow water to pool and then run into a ditch that empties into a creek which flows to jurisdictional waters and other areas where water drains into waters of the United States. This definition has caused a great deal of concern and received numerous comments opposing such a rule.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Gudmunson inquired about the July meeting. Mr. Schwartz indicated at the present time there are no items that would need the Committee's attention during July. It was the consensus of the committee to cancel July's Highway Committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Gudmunson 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 O'Barski and seconded by Mr. Luebke and the motion passed unanimously.** The June 4, 2015 meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Gudmunson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

John Gudmunson
Chairman