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DeKalb County Government  
Sycamore, Illinois

**Highway Committee Minutes  
May 5, 2022**

A public meeting of the Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board was held on Thursday, May 5, 2022, at 6:00pm.

Chairman Plote called the meeting to order at 6:06pm and called for the roll. Committee members present were Mr. Deutsch, Ms. Emmer, Vice Chair Luebke, and Ms. Willis. Absent were Ms. Jones and Mr. Osland. The County Engineer, Mr. Nathan Schwartz and Ms. Stacy Richardson, Support Services Manager were also present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Motion made by Mr. Luebke and seconded by Ms. Emmer to approve the agenda as presented. Motion to approve the agenda as amended passed unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Mr. Deutsch moved and Ms. Willis seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the regular April 7, 2022 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:** Chairman Plote stated he had no comments at this time.

**COUNTY ENGINEER'S COMMENTS:**

County Engineer received a request of a No Engine Braking Zone, he asked the committee for their consensus. Discussion began on urban vs rural areas zones, residential areas, use of rumble strips, posting only use in emergencies, and law enforcement. The committee asked the County Engineer to have a talk with the Sheriff and bring to next month's meeting.

County Engineer and City of Sycamore have received requests for new Peace Road access points near Rt 23 from an existing business and a proposed development project. When Peace Road was built the agreement between the County and City of Sycamore was with limited pre-determined access points. Discussion was held as any modification has to be approved whether it's a full or half access, direct in/out access, curb cuts for an access, decisions need to take into consideration that there is still a lot

of undeveloped land along Peace Road. No formal action taken at this time.

County Engineer updated the committee that the Shabbona Pathway Project is not definite at this time. County has a portion along Shabbona Road from the school to Preserve Road within this pathway.

The Department's new mechanic is working out quite well, an Engineering tech begins May 26<sup>th</sup>, we also have an Engineering Intern for the summer who begins May 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the Permit Tech position has been posted. The DSATS 360 Project videoing will probably be part of the intern's work and IMO as the goal is to get all of the County streamlined for the Google street view. County Engineer is currently giving several presentations on this at APWA and County Engineer various conferences.

The County Board passed a Procurement Policy through which our department has submitted four requests for expenditures in the \$5000 - \$30000 mark requirement. We are one of the first departments to take the steps on the new process. Barber Greene Road and Peace Road intersection lighting and electrical power issues were highlighted. County Engineer would like to ask DSATS to take on updating the whole lighting intersection project, moving the electrical which is currently underwater to the other side, costs to run wires, update lights will be a project well over \$150,000.00.

The transportation improvement progress report was reviewed with the Committee.

- New Lebanon Road bridge replacement construction stands at 30%, ready for deck beams after concrete abutments cure, July 4<sup>th</sup> open
- Peace Road Bridge widening preliminary engineering is moving along and stands at 40% complete, an archeologist coming to dig for historical artifacts, this is in wetland area.
- Pearl Street Bridge preliminary engineering just started, the committee approval in February through the IGA agreement with Village of Kirkland & agreement to participate in federal funding for their preliminary engineering for bridge built in 2024.
- Plank Road Study project stands at 40% complete. Since the last committee meeting, County Engineer met with the individuals that attended last highway committee meeting discussing their Plank & Lindgren Road concerns.
- Rollo Road culvert surveying began
- Two projects went for bid at IDOT last week, both under the estimated costs.

Suydam Road paving estimate was \$1,739,000.00 with the bid coming in at \$1,699,000.00. North 1<sup>st</sup> Street joint with City of DeKalb estimated was \$866,000.00 with the bid price of \$843,000.00, portion is to get Rich Road to Rt 64 at 80,000 pounds year round road.

- One of four of the hot mix contractors wishes to begin work next week, the crack-fill contractor work has been pushed back a week due to the wet weather.

On the Legislature update, the feds in Washington passed a new capital program called IIJA that will be looked at in the future when more details are formed. DSATS has turned in to the RIDE IL funding available for a bike path project they hope will get selected along City of DeKalb's Fairview Road.

County Engineer answered general committee questions on bike routes, reduced speed zones, and question of jurisdiction on adjoining County line roads especially for drainage tile.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Hearing no other business Chairman Plote asked for a motion to adjourn. **A motion was made by Mr. Luebke, seconded by Ms. Willis and passed unanimously.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roy Plote  
Chairman