

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

HIGHWAY & TRANSPORTATION

*Meeting Room 1
Brookens Administrative Center
April 5, 2002*

MEMBERS PRESENT: Busboom, Carter, Cowart, Faraci, Hovel, O'Connor

MEMBERS ABSENT: Frerichs, Graham, Langenheim

OTHERS PRESENT: Charisma Tan-Sanchez (Assistant State's Attorneys), Dennis Unzicker (County Engineer), Tracy Wingler (Maintenance Supervisor), Brian Taylor (CC Forest Preserve), Marvin Johnson, Robert Sherman (Road Commissioners)

Chair Cowart called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Faraci to approve the minutes of March 21, 2002; seconded by Carter. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

APPROVAL OF PER DIEM

MOTION by Carter to approve a per diem for Lorraine Cowart's attendance at a bid letting held March 20, 2002; seconded by Hovel. **Motion carried.**

MONTHLY REPORTS

County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims

MOTION by Hovel to accept and place on file the County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims for March, 2002 as follows: County Motor Fuel Tax Claims - \$65,085.76; Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims - \$82,128.56; seconded by O'Connor. **Motion carried.**

COUNTY ENGINEER

Request to Close County Highway 55 (North Maplewood) for Soap Box Derby Races

MOTION by Busboom to approve a request from the Village of Rantoul to close North Maplewood Drive on May 18, 2002 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and on June 8, 2002 from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for Soap Box Derby races; seconded by O'Connor. **Motion carried.**

Request for Storage Shed Replacement – CC Forest Preserve

Mr. Unzicker explained that a request has been received from the Champaign County Forest Preserve for the County to replace a storage shed that must be removed from their property as part of the County Highway 14, Homer Lake Road construction project. Mr. Unzicker stated the building, part of which is located on the right-of-way, is too close to a ditch and must be removed for safety purposes.

Brian Taylor, Champaign County Forest Preserve, said the shed is probably 100 years old; however, it is used to store seasonal equipment. The Forest Preserve is requesting the County share in the cost of replacing the building.

Mr. Unzicker noted that under these circumstances, the County would normally pay for the value of the building. He suggested the Forest Preserve submit an estimated value of the building for the May meeting.

Request for Accelerated Payment for U.S. Route 45/Anthony Drive Project

Mr. Unzicker reported the City of Urbana has requested the County change the payment schedule previously established by agreement for the U.S. Route 45/Anthony Drive intersection improvement project. Per agreement, the County is obligated to pay three annual installments of \$310,000, the request is to pay as work is done. Mr. Unzicker noted that the County could pay the entire \$930,000 this year due to delays in the start of construction on the Olympian Drive and Staley Road projects and approximately \$290,000 in savings on the County Highway 9 construction project.

Mr. Faraci pointed out the County would lose interest earnings on the money if paid earlier than anticipated. He estimated the loss could be \$15,000 to \$75,000. Mr. Unzicker predicted the total pay out would occur by the middle of next year, if the County agrees to pay as work is completed, as proposed.

MOTION by O'Connor that the County pay the total amount of commitment, \$930,000, as bills are received from the City of Urbana for the U.S. Route 45/Anthony Drive intersection improvement project (Farm & Fleet/O'Brien business relocations) rather than paying three annual installments of \$310,000 each per agreement; seconded by Carter. **Motion failed.**

Request for Assistance on Improvements to a 2-mile Portion of Prospect Avenue (Hensley Road District)

Hensley Road District Commissioner Bob Sherman was present to request the County provide funding assistance for improvements to a two-mile portion of North Prospect Avenue. He said Hensley Road District does not have sufficient funds to pay for the project. It was suggested that Mr. Sherman request assistance from the City of Champaign since the high traffic on the road is the result of traffic enroute to the mall. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$144,000.

MOTION by Busboom to defer action to the May 10, 2002 meeting and that the County Engineer be directed to obtain a cost estimate, traffic count, and inquire about City of Champaign participation in the funding the project; seconded by Carter. **Motion carried.**

Resolution – Survey of Property in Compromise Township

MOTION by Hovel to forward to the County Board a Resolution Authorizing The Survey Of Property To Be Acquired For The Construction Of A Township Road in Compromise Township with a recommendation for approval; seconded by Busboom. **Motion carried.**

MOTION by Faraci to forward to the County Board a Resolution Authorizing The Acquisition Of Property For The Construction Of A Township Road In Compromise Township, subject to inclusion of legal descriptions, with a recommendation for approval; seconded by Busboom. **Motion carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Cowart informed the Committee that a request to hire above mid-point for the position of Senior Engineer is being processed. Mr. Unzicker said he will be present at the next Personnel & Public Officials Committee meeting to explain the request. He noted that Malgorzata D. Adamczyk (Gosia), who is currently employed by the State of Illinois, will begin working for the County on May 6, 2002.

Adjournment

Chair Cowart declared the meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Menges
Executive Secretary