

**Highway & Transportation Committee
Friday, March 19, 2004
Meeting Rm. 1, Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carter, Crozier, Jay, Langenheim, Schroeder, Shoemaker, Cowart

MEMBERS ABSENT: Feinen, Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Unzicker, Deb Busey, John Cooper, Debby Wagner, Patricia Avery, Tracy Wingle, Chris Doenitz, Matt Hartrich, Rick Wolken, Marvin Johnson, Roger Woodworth, Ken Schmidt, Bill Derges, Adrian Greenwell (IDOT)

Chair Cowart called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Declaring a quorum present, the Chair proceeded with the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM

MOTION by Carter to approve the agenda for the meeting; seconded by Langenheim. There was no addendum. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Schroeder to approve the minutes of December 18, 2003 and January 23, 2004 as presented; seconded by Jay. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

APPROVAL OF PER DIEMS

MOTION by Langenheim to approve a per diem for Chair Cowart for March 5, 2004 for attendance of bid letting; seconded by Schroeder. Motion carried.

MONTHLY REPORTS

County Engineer's Expenses

MOTION by Crozier to receive and place on file the Report of the County Engineer's Expenses; seconded by Langenheim. Motion carried.

County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims

MOTION by Carter to receive and place on file the Report of County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims for January and February, 2004; seconded by Schroeder. Brief discussion followed. Motion carried.

COUNTY ENGINEER

Resolution Awarding of Contract for Replacement of Bridge in Ludlow Road District

Mr. Unzicker stated a bid letting was held on March 5, 2004. A total of four bids were received and Newell Construction of Danville was the low bidder coming in 11% below the Engineer's estimate for the bridge.

MOTION by Jay to recommend to the County Board approval of a Resolution Awarding of Contract for the Replacement of a Bridge Located in Ludlow Road District, Section #03-14888-00-BR to Newell Construction Company, Danville, Illinois in the amount of \$89,267.50; seconded by Crozier. Shoemaker asked how is a board member able to make responsible decisions in regard to awarding bids. Extensive discussion followed. Motion carried.

Resolution Awarding of Contract for Replacement of Two Bridges Located in Ludlow Road District

MOTION by Jay to recommend to the County Board approval of a Resolution Awarding of Contract for the Replacement of Two Bridges Located in the Ludlow Road District, Section #'s 03-14886-00-BR and 03-14887-00-BR to Newell Construction Company, Danville, Illinois in the amount of \$136,739.00; seconded by Crozier. Motion carried.

Resolution Awarding of Contract for Replacement of a Bridge Located in Rantoul/Compromise Rd. District

Mr. Unzicker explained that the higher cost of this project is due to the manner of construction which will allow access for gravel pit to remain open throughout the project.

MOTION by Crozier to recommend to the County Board approval of a Resolution Awarding of Contract for the Replacement of a Bridge Located between Rantoul and Compromise Road Districts, Section #03-06889-00-BR to Newell Construction Company, Danville, Illinois in the amount of \$228,561.00; seconded by Jay. Brief discussion followed. Mr. Unzicker noted this bid came in nearly 16% below the estimated cost of the project. Motion carried.

Resolution Awarding of Contract for Replacement of Bridge Located on County Highway 18

Mr. Unzicker stated that six bids were received for this project. The low bid from O'Neil Brothers of Danville was 6% below the estimated cost of the project.

MOTION by Jay to recommend to the County Board approval of a Resolution Awarding of Contract for the Replacement of a Bridge Located on County highway 18, Section #02-00800-00-BR to O'Neil Brothers, Danville, Illinois in the amount of \$397,514.50; seconded by Crozier. Brief discussion followed. Motion carried.

Resolution Awarding of Contract for Bituminous Materials for 2004 Maintenance of Various Road Districts

A bid letting for bituminous materials was held on March 18, 2004 and only one bid was received. Brief discussion followed.

MOTION by Crozier to recommend to the County Board approval of a Resolution Awarding of Contract for Bituminous material for 2004 Maintenance of Various Road Districts in Champaign County to Emulsicoat, Inc. of Urbana, IL; seconded by Schroeder. Extensive discussion followed questions raised by Shoemaker in regard to the bidding process. Motion carried.

Resolution Awarding of Contract for 2004 Pavement Striping of Various County Highways

Mr. Unzicker stated this contract covers approximately 200 miles of County highways and some of the township road striping. Two bid packages were sent out, but only one was received from Varsity Striping. This year's bid actually came in less than last year's contract.

MOTION by Jay to recommend to the County Board approval of a Resolution Awarding of Contract for 2004 Pavement Striping of Various County Highways, Section #04-00000-01-GM to Varsity Striping & Construction Co., Champaign, Illinois in the amount of \$125,397.664. Brief discussion followed. Motion carried.

Bridge Petition – Rantoul Road District

MOTION by Crozier to recommend to the County Board approval of a Petition Requesting and Resolution Approving Appropriation of Funds from the County Bridge Fund Pursuant to 605 ILCS 5/5-501 for the Rantoul Road District; seconded by Jay. Motion carried.

Champaign County Adopt-a-Highway Ordinance

Mr. Unzicker stated that he and the Highway Maintenance Supervisor have no problem with the Ordinance and complying with the decision of the County Board. He said that bags and vests will be provided by the County and returned on clean-up days by the groups in the program.

MOTION by Langenheim to recommend to the County Board adoption of the Champaign County Adopt-a-Highway Ordinance; seconded by Schroeder. The County will be responsible for erecting the signs on the stretches of highway "adopted" by the various groups. Mr. Hartrich explained the ordinance essentially mirrors that of the State's Adopt-a-Highway program with the exception that the county's ordinance more specifically spells out the duties of the County. Approval of the organizations are subject to the Highway Committee and the full County Board. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS

Determination of Selection Process for filling County Engineer position vacancy

Ms. Busey reviewed the County's policy for filling vacant department head positions. She stated the Highway Chair has already asked her to begin advertisement for the position, which will appear on the website for the National Association of Highway Engineers. She also said the parent committee is to receive the recommendation from the subcommittee. The interview process is to include input from the local road commissioners and other peers of the position. Discussion continued.

MOTION by Shoemaker to request the Board Chair to select the members for the County Engineer Selection Committee; seconded by Langenheim. Avery stated she was to appoint John Jay and Lloyd Carter to the Selection Committee. Jay stated he would not be able to sit on the selection committee and that the Republican Caucus had determined the minority representative should be Don Crozier. (cont'd)

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Avery then asked Jon Schroeder to sit on the selection committee with Lloyd Carter. Schroeder stated he also would not be able to serve on the committee and asked the Board Chair to appoint Crozier as the minority representative. Substitution of Crozier accepted by the mover of the motion. The Board Chair also said that herself and Jennifer Putman would serve as the representatives from the Policy committee. Discussion continued. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

The County Engineer introduced Adrian Greenwell, the IDOT representative for the County.

Respectfully submitted,

Ranae Wolken
Recording Secretary

**Secy's note: The minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.*