

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

Highway & Transportation

December 16, 2005 – 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Room 1, Brookens Administrative Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bensyl, Carter, Feinen, Gross, Jay, Langenheim,
O'Connor, Weibel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cowart

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Blue, John Cooper, Debby Wagner, Barb Wysocki,
Deb Busey

Call to Order

Vice-Chair Jay called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The recording secretary called the roll. Declaring a quorum present, Mr. Jay proceeded with the meeting.

Approval of Agenda/Addendum

MOTION by Gross to approve the agenda and addendum; seconded by Bensyl. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – November 10, 2005

MOTION by Carter to approve the minutes of November 10, 2005 as presented; seconded by Gross. Motion carried.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Monthly Reports

County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims – November 2005

MOTION by O'Connor to receive and place on file the County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims for November 2005; seconded by Weibel. Motion carried.

County Engineer

Resolution appropriating County Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the salary and estimated expenses of the County Engineer for the period from December 1, 2005 thru November 30, 2006.

MOTION by Bensyl to recommend County Board approval of the resolution appropriating County Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the salary and estimated expenses of the County Engineer for the period from December 1, 2005 thru November 30, 2006; seconded by Carter.

When asked if this salary level allows us to meet our matching requirement Mr. Blue explained that it will be 50% motor fuel tax and they can use federal aid funds as long as we use that 50%. The salary has to be 95% of the state recommended salary and it is at least that.

Motion carried with a 7/0 roll call vote. Voting aye were Bensyl, Carter, Feinen, Gross, Jay, O'Connor and Weibel. Voting nay were none – 0.

Resolution awarding of contract for the hauling of materials for Township Motor Fuel Tax Program – 2006.

Mr. Blue provided each committee member with a copy of the bid tab showing a summary of who they received bids from, material volume price and total amounts. He explained that although gas prices have increased, the total increase in hauling costs were only 5% over last year. When asked about the variance in price, Mr. Blue explained it depends on how far the material has to be hauled.

MOTION by Carter to recommend County Board approval of the resolution awarding of contract for the hauling of materials for Township Motor Fuel Tax Program – 2006; seconded by Weibel. **Motion carried** with a 6/0 roll call vote. Voting aye were Carter, Feinen, Gross, Jay, O'Connor and Weibel. Voting nay was none – 0.

Bensyl abstained from voting.

Resolution appropriating County Motor Fuel Tax Funds for payment of a Pavement Management Contract with Applied Research Associates

Mr. Langenheim arrived at 9:11 a.m.

County Engineer Cont.

Mr. Blue reminded the committee he presented a power point presentation at the November meeting which explained the Pavement Management program. The amount proposed with his presentation was around \$75,000; today there is an increase to \$84,000. He explained that our County is unique because a lot of our roadways, depending on which lane you are traveling, are built out of different materials. Many years ago there were concrete pavement single lanes built in Champaign County. Over the years an asphalt section has been built on the other side of the 130 miles of roadway that had just the single concrete lane, this means that the roadways will react differently depending on who is driving on them. Their original proposal was to drive our system in one direction and rate it, he explained to them the difference in our roadways and suggested they drive both sides of each roadway; as a result the proposal went up \$9,000. They propose they will begin the fact finding in the next months and the roadways will be tested in March when they are at their weakest. They will get back to us in mid summer so we can use that tool for budgeting in 2007.

MOTION by O'Connor to approve the resolution appropriating County Motor Fuel Tax Funds for payment of a Pavement Management Contract with Applied Research Associates; seconded by Bensyl.

When asked about getting quotes from different firms for this work, Mr. Blue explained that this is the only firm in the world that has this technology; there is no one who can compete against them. He explained they will be getting grant money from the federal highway administration because some of the testing has never been done on a County road system. Between now and March, we have to go through our roadway plans and find out what each section is, we have to get all that information together and to the consultant so they can put the info into a data base for use when they drive the roadways.

MOTION carried with an 8/0 roll call vote. Voting aye were Bensyl, Carter, Feinen, Gross, Jay, Langenheim, O'Connor, Weibel. Voting nay were none – 0.

Taking bids on a Backhoe

Mr. Blue explained that when the 2006 budget was approved, there was a new backhoe included on the equipment purchasing list. They plan on going out for bid to get a backhoe although he is not sure if it will be new or slightly used. He wanted the committee to be aware that they will be doing that over the next month and bringing it back for approval in January or February.

Addendum

Curtis Road Project

Mr. Blue explained it is time for bids to be advertised and taken for the Curtis Road Project. In the summer of 2006, IDOT is going to go out to bid for the interchange between Curtis Road and I-57 and within that contract will be construction of Curtis roadway between Staley and Duncan. We do have an agreement with IDOT stating that the City of Champaign and the County would pay portions of the total contract for that with our contribution to IDOT being around \$500,000, including the interchange and construction of the roadway. Duncan over to Windstone is the project that the City and County will be bidding on January 20th with construction starting in March. There is a letter of understanding that was signed in July 2003 laying out the terms of financing for that piece of roadway. From Windstone to Wesley is the project which we have applied for and received an earmark from the federal government for a high priority project. That is due to start engineering this winter. The original Curtis road agreement, which dates back to 2001, states the City and Savoy will pay for 50% of the local share of engineering, utilities and right away for a two lane roadway and the County will pay for 50% of those items on a 2 lane roadway. There has been no agreement to date that commits the County to a 50% share of a 4 or 5 lane roadway which is the proposal on Curtis Road all the way from Staley to First Street. There is a piece of the project where there is no firm commitment from the County to the City of Champaign and Village of Savoy for a 4 lane roadway, there is a commitment from the county to build a 4 lane in a different part of the project. Soon the City will request the County have a commitment to pay for 50% of the local share of a full build on Curtis road for 4 lanes. The City of Champaign has sent a letter, which he has provided to the committee, to clarify the agreement the City and County have for the construction of Curtis from Staley to First Street. Basically the letter states there has been an intergovernmental agreement and that phase 2 and phase 3, which are 2 lanes versus 4 lanes, are all going to built simultaneously and that the County agreed to do that in a letter signed in 2003. The letter also give a status report about everything that has happened for that section of Curtis pointing out number four, which states the cost estimate is around 5 million dollars for that half mile roadway, all easements have been acquired and the City will be the lead agency. The City has already billed the County for a portion of the project, right-away acquisition and engineering costs. He stated he had a meeting with the City to talk about how to handle number 14 in their letter, which states that we are going to engineer the project, as far as construction observation, jointly with the city of Champaign so there will be no funds being transferred. Construction costs, based on a 50/50 federal funds versus local funds, total half of the estimated 5 million and our share is 50% of that. Our total commitment for the construction of Curtis roadway over 2006 and 2007 is \$1,768,000. They have asked that we give them approval to these numbers but he felt it was best to explain where we are at by sending them a letter that would be attached to their letter of understanding.

Addendum Cont.

His letter states we accept everything that has happened to date, we have paid \$491,423.36 out of the 2005 fiscal year budget and, based on the letter of understanding, the County understands our commitment to construction of Curtis from Duncan to Windstone is estimated to be \$1,768,000. It also clarifies how we intend to deal with the billings. There is a 2.26 million dollar commitment over 3 years, that doesn't exceed our million dollar per year commitment we made but he is also telling them a separate agreement will be needed for further construction of Curtis road.

Ms. Feinen asked what that means for other projects that we are committed to if we are already hitting our million dollar cap in 2006 and 2007.

Mr. Blue explained that we do not have any other commitments to urban projects in these years. It is not until 2008/2009 when we start bumping into that million dollar cap. He has talked to the City of Champaign about our million dollar commitment and staff level employees are agreeable that we are doing what we can do to help the urban roadways. He explained that the IDOT redistricting will have a huge impact on us. Funds have been cut in half and they will have a difficult time funding large projects, although CUUATS hasn't received any less money our ability to save that money over a period of time and spend on large projects has been cut. The CUUATS Policy Committee has directed the technical committee to review funding.

MOTION by Feinen to accept and place on file the packet of information they received from Jeff and approval of mailing of the letter under the County Engineers signature; seconded by Langenheim. **Motion carried.**

Other Business

There was no other business.

Determination of Consent Agenda items

There are no items to be placed on the consent agenda.

Adjournment

Vice-Chair Jay declared the meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tiffany Talbott
Administrative Secretary