

**Champaign County Board  
Committee Minutes**

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**Highway & Transportation Committee  
Friday, May 8, 2009 – 9:00 a.m.  
Highway Department Building Meeting Room**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cowart (Chair), Bensyl, Beckett, Carter, Jay, Kurtz,  
Langenheim, O'Connor

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Knott

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeff Blue, John Cooper, Debby Wagner, Pius Weibel,  
Susan McGrath,

**Agenda Item**

**Call to Order**

Chair Cowart called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A roll call confirmed a quorum present.

**Approval of Agenda/Addendum**

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

**Approval of Minutes – April 17, 2009**

**MOTION** by Jay to approve the minutes of April 17, 2009 as presented; seconded by Carter. **Motion carried.**

**Public Participation**

There was no public participation

**Monthly Reports**

**County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims**

**MOTION** by Beckett to receive and place on file the County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims for April 2009; seconded by Carter. **Motion carried.**

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## County Engineer

### **Approval of Greenway & Trails Guidelines**

Rita Morocaima-Black explained, in 2004, a Greenways & Trails plan was approved for the County. RPC developed the plan and after it was approved and in place they were asked to complete three tasks. The first was to create sign guidelines which is a list of all the standards that need to be used when building facilities for bikes and pedestrians. They did research and prepared a document that was approved about a year ago, and then a request was made by the committee to approve each document so there would be consistency with standards everywhere in the County. Along with the guidelines, they were asked to create logos and signage so anyone using the trails and bike lanes will know where they are and all entities will have the same dimensions and information on the signs. The third task was to find funding sources on federal, national and local levels. All this was completed and today she is asking for approval of the guidelines and logos and signage.

Mr. Blue stated he didn't print out the 40 page design guidelines but they are available on the website. The total amount for completing all the tasks was about \$30,000 and there is still some money left. When asked about using the guidelines in the future he explained it is similar to having IDOT standards for building roads so there are expectations for the roadways, this is what was done for trails so there is an expectation to be followed.

Mr. Langenheim asked if we are authorizing any expenditure and Mr. Blue stated we are not.

When asked about areas that already have signs posted, Ms. Morocaima-Black explained there were members of the Forest Preserve District on their committee, they have approved the guidelines and when it comes to signs, they could remove the current signage and add the new ones.

Mr. Beckett stated if we are going to have a trail system we have to start with standards but that doesn't mean they are approving spending money. We are only obligating ourselves to anything if we build a trail in the future; these are the guidelines we will follow.

**MOTION** to approve the Greenways & Trails Guidelines and Logos and Signage; second to the motion. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Blue explained the jurisdiction was never properly transferred from the township to the city and the township has now put up roadblocks to the construction even though it has been bid and is on-going. They have allowed all contractors to work in the Village of Savoy limits and there are a few weeks of work left within that area before they will have to move to the area that is township jurisdiction. We don't want to have interest in Curtis once it has been constructed and the thought is that it would become the jurisdiction of Champaign and Savoy and they would have the maintenance on it for its life. They are asking to move up the time table for the conveyance of that right of way to Savoy so they can move ahead with their annexation of that piece so construction can continue.

Ms. McGrath stated this would normally occur at the end of the project and we are moving it up in order to allow construction to continue. This started eight years ago with the construction improvement and at that time a timetable had to be set out and approved by all to receive any federal money; its not only important for construction to begin to keep with the timetable but it is also important for keeping the funding.

**MOTION** by Beckett to recommend County Board approval of the Conveyance of Curtis Road Right of Ways to Village of Savoy; seconded by Langenheim.

Mr. Beckett asked if by doing this now means that the City of Champaign and the Village of Savoy have agreed to whatever result the annexation is. Mr. Blue stated the City of Champaign and Savoy have an annexation agreement between them that draws lines.

Ms. McGrath stated the township cannot file suit to stop a conveyance or annexation, the village has a right to do this because it will be in their jurisdiction.

Mr. Blue stated he talked to Dick Helton about this and they have been in negotiation with the Lo family to annex the entire area and he feels as good as you could that they are going to be able to get this done at their May 20<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

**Motion carried.**

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## **June Highway Committee Meeting Date**

Mr. Blue explained he will be out of town for the June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting but he could be present if the committee moved the date to the 12<sup>th</sup>. Committee

consensus was to keep the June meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> with Mr. Cooper presenting the Engineers Report.

**Other Business**

**Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes**

**MOTION** by Beckett to concur with the recommendation of the State's Attorney's office and maintain all closed session minutes as closed; seconded by Kurtz. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Kurtz congratulated Mr. Blue for being awarded a national award by his peers and stated he brings a great sense of expertise to his position

**Determination of Consent Agenda Items**

No action items will be placed on the County Board Consent Agenda.

**Adjournment**

Chair Cowart declared the meeting adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tiffany Talbott  
Administrative Secretary