

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE MINUTES

HIGHWAY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Friday, September 7, 2007 – 9:00 a.m.

**Lyle Shields Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cowart, Beckett, Carter, Jay, Melin, O'Connor

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bensyl, Knott, Langenheim

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

Agenda Item

Call to Order

Chair Cowart called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A roll call confirmed a quorum present.

Approval of Agenda/Addendum

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

Approval of Minutes – August 10, 2007

MOTION by Jay to approve the minutes of August 10, 2007 as presented; seconded by Beckett.

Ms. Melin stated that the Lo's name is misspelled in the minutes as Lowe. She asked for that change to be made. Motion carried as amended.

Mr. Carter arrived at 9:03 a.m.

Ms. Melin asked for an update on the Washington Street extension project. Mr. Blue stated at the last meeting they talked about he and Ms. McGrath working on something to bring back to the October meeting.

Ms. Melin also asked how many solar lights will be put up at the St. Joseph-Royal Road intersection. Mr. Blue stated four lights will be put up but the cost is for buying eight because once they are put up they seem to disappear quickly.

Public Participation

There was no public participation

Monthly Reports

County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims – August 2007

MOTION by Jay to receive and place on the file the County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims for August 2007; seconded by Beckett. **Motion carried.**

County Engineer

Bridge Petition – Crittenden – Culvert Replacement

Mr. Blue passed out a packet of information to the committee members showing the area of replacement. There are small pipes they are going to replace with box culverts, and this is a petition to help out with the funding and a resolution to appropriate 50% of funds for replacement of those two culverts.

MOTION by Jay to recommend County Board approval of the petition requesting and resolution approving the appropriation of funds from the County Bridge fund pursuant to 605 ILCS 5/5-501; seconded by Beckett. **Motion carried.**

Resolution appropriating \$40,000 for engineering fees for a bridge located on County Highway 9 – Section #07-00936-00-BR.

Mr. Blue stated this is a bridge on County Road 9 showing distress in the abutments and it needs to be replaced in a quick fashion. The contract to be signed estimates the cost at \$40,000 for the engineering fees for the design of the bridge.

MOTION by Jay to recommend County Board approval of the Resolution appropriating \$40,000 for engineering fees for a bridge located on County Highway 9 – Section #07-00936-BR; seconded by Beckett.

Mr. Weibel asked if they anticipate a major change in the style of the bridge. Mr. Blue stated it will remain a single span bridge and the estimated bridge cost is half a million dollars.

Mr. Beckett asked if there has been an increased interest in our bridges because of recent newspaper articles. Mr. Blue stated we have a few bridges that are questionable on the County system but we don't have any that fall as low as a 2 on the sufficiency rating system. The way our bridges are constructed if there is a failure it will not be a catastrophe and we don't have any fracture critical bridges which means one piece fractures the whole bridge falls in, we have replaced those over the years.

Motion carried.

Jurisdictional Transfer – Resolution to appropriate funds for construction in Penfield

Mr. Blue explained we are doing the roadway improvement for CR 22 from Penfield to Royal and the Township Highway Commissioner approached him asking to get some work done in Penfield while the asphalt crews are in the area. There is a piece of CR 22, a block long that the County still owns, called Route 22A. When 22 was realigned years ago through Penfield that block remained on the County's jurisdiction. It is our responsibility to maintain that road and the Township Commissioner has agreed that if we will come in and overlay the roadway and help them overlay the extension of that roadway they will take the road over as a jurisdictional transfer and off the County system. We would overlay that first block which would cost us about \$8,000; we have already done some preliminary engineering to widen Front Street which goes another two blocks beyond where the County Road is and narrows to an oil and chip roadway. We would widen the roadway to 20 feet, Compromise Township would come in and then we would split with the Township on a 50/50 basis a 3 inch overlay of that street which would be around \$9,000 each. We would each pay our own shares to the contractors and upon completion the Township would take over the jurisdiction of the roadway. It is beneficial to everyone.

MOTION by Jay to recommend County Board approval of the Resolution deleting County Highway 22A from County Highway 22 easterly to Main Street (Penfield, Illinois); seconded by Beckett.

Mr. Jay stated this is important because the tractor club uses this roadway for the national show and in his experience with transfers to Townships, the Townships usually end up on the short end of the stick in the long run therefore if the Commissioner is willing we should do our part to get it up to speed for them. Mr. Blue explained the first block is CR 22 just to the east of Main Street, we would pay 100% for that two inch overlay because it is still our road and that is the piece we will jurisdictionally transfer to the township so we are looking at 8,000 for our piece of the roadway and 9,000 for theirs.

Motion carried.

Oaks Road Speed Study – Ordinance for the establishment of an altered speed zone in Somer Road District

Mr. Blue explained this is a request from Somer Township to do a speed study on Oaks Road which is a quarter mile from Cottonwood back to the West, there are a number of houses that have been built up in that area and there are a number of driveways that enter onto that road. Currently there is no speed limit posted so by statute it is 55 mph, after going through the study it shows the recommended speed should be 45 mph. He has discussed this with the Somer Township Road Commissioner and he agrees and is happy about the results.

MOTION by Beckett to recommend County Board approval of the Ordinance for the establishment of an altered speed zone in Somer Road District; seconded by Jay.
Motion carried.

October meeting date – possibility of changing to October 12th

Mr. Blue explained he will be at a conference on October 4th doing a presentation on our pavement program and it will be hard for him to get back for the October 5th meeting.

Committee consensus to change the date of the October meeting to October 12th.

Other Business

Mr. Blue stated the building construction is moving along, all concrete work is 80% done on the floor. They are putting the metal roof on so the building is weather proof. His maintenance crews have spent every single day over there this summer which has resulted in great coordination with our contractors because we are on site, which is also saving a lot of money. The CR 22 project we will be starting in the next few weeks, CR 9 is complete. He explained they did have to do a bridge repair on CR 19 because they found a large void underneath the road.

Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes

Ms. McGrath stated there is a set of minutes from May 24, 2004 at which time the committee went into closed session to talk about selecting the new County Engineer. Those minutes do not disclose any personal information they just talk about the selection process so she recommends opening that set of minutes but leaving the remainder of the minutes closed.

MOTION by Beckett to approve the recommendation of the Assistant State's Attorney and open the minutes of May 24, 2004 while keeping all other closed session minutes closed; seconded by Jay. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Beckett asked for an update on the Henderson property. Mr. Blue explained they redesigned through their property to replace in kind their 24 inch tile underground with a grass swale above it. When you redesign something you have to redo everything and the Henderson's were ready to move ahead and be done. They were under the impression the offer from back in September 2006 was still going to hold up but we have to redo everything. They were upset and making a point of the fact of how much money they have spent on attorney fees therefore he is sure once we make an offer to them they counter offer to include lawyer fees, he expects that is coming in the next month or so.

Determination of consent agenda items

Committee consensus to include item 6 A-D on the County Board consent agenda.

Adjournment

Ms. Cowart declared the meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tiffany Talbott
Administrative Secretary