

**Champaign County Board  
Committee Minutes**

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**Highway & Transportation Committee  
Friday, October 10, 2008  
Highway Department Building Meeting Room**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cowart, Beckett, Bensyl, Carter, Jay, Knott, Kurtz,  
Langenheim, O'Connor

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeff Blue, John Cooper, Pius Weibel, 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**

**MOTION** by Jay to approve the minutes of September 5, 2008 as presented; seconded by Knott. Mr. Weibel wanted a correction made to the minutes under County Engineer on the Curtis Road Amendment #4 with Resolution that he could not have seconded the motion because he is not a member of this Committee. Minutes were approved subject to a correction being made after checking with last month's tape recording of the meeting,

**Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

**Monthly Reports**

**County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims – September 2008**

**Motion** by Beckett to receive and place on file the County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims for September 2008; seconded by Langenheim. Motion carried.

**County Engineer**

**Resolution appropriating \$50,000 from County MFT Funds for Preparation of Land Acquisition Documents**

Mr. Blue explained that these funds are for Sodemann & Associates for surveying and preparing legal documents to acquire approximately 50 parcels of Right of Way for the improvement of County Highway 18 (Monticello Road) from Route 45 westerly to the Piatt County Line, eleven miles, which will then enable County Highway Personnel to negotiate with the property owners.

**MOTION** by Beckett to approve the resolution; seconded by Langenheim. Discussion followed.

Mr. Kurtz questioned the amount of accidents that have occurred on this roadway to warrant the improvement. Mr. Blue explained that a Rural Safety Audit was conducted and that within the last few years from Interstate 57 westerly 1.5 miles, there had been a dozen accidents. Safety improvement dollars will pay for the improvement from Route 45 westerly to 1.5 miles west of Interstate 57. County Motor Fuel Tax Funds will be used for the remaining six miles to the Piatt County Line. Mr. Blue explained what improvements this project would entail.

If negotiations for right of way are completed by next summer, which may not be possible, bids could be taken for this project next year. The cost of this project is estimated to be between, 4 to 5 million dollars. This is the only MFT project for the next two years and 1.5 Million dollars in Safety Improvement Funds have been allocated.

Cowart moved to approve. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Bridge Petition Kerr Township**

Mr. Blue explained that this is a culvert in need of repair in Kerr Township and therefore it is a joint petition in the amount of \$4,200 and the County will pay half of the total repair costs out of the bridge fund.

**MOTION** by Jay to recommend county Board approval of the Bridge Petition for Kerr Township; seconded by Bensyl. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Blue brought to the Committee for informational purposes a Budget Amendment that will be going to the Finance Committee next month for the County Bridge Funds. Due to the ethanol plant not being built on CH. 22, EDP funds for these

two bridges did not come through. Both bridges are almost finished and funds are needed to pay the contractor.

**Other business**

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

**MOTION** by Knott that closed session minutes remain closed; seconded by Beckett. **Motion carried.**

**Closed Session**

Roll call vote was taken and committee moved into closed session pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2 ( c ) 1 to consider the employment, compensation discipline, performance or dismissal of an employee.

**Determination of Consent Agenda Items**

Items 6A and 6B will be placed on the County Board Consent Agenda.

**Adjournment**

Chair Cowart declared the meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debby Wagner