



**Champaign County Board
Highway & Transportation Committee
County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois**

MINUTES – Approved 3/6/2015

DATE: Friday, February 6, 2015
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Highway Building Conference Room
1605 East Main, Urbana, IL

Committee Members

Present	Absent
Lorraine Cowart (Chair)	
	Lloyd Carter (Vice Chair)
Christopher Alix	
	Shana Harrison
John Jay	
Jim McGuire	
Diane Michaels	
Max Mitchell	

County Staff: Jeff Blue (County Engineer), Deb Busey (County Administrator), Tami Ogden (Executive Assistant to the Administrator), Tracy Wingler (County Highway Department), Linda Lane (Recording Secretary)

Others Present: Patti Petrie (County Board Chair)

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Cowart called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

II. Roll Call

A verbal roll call was taken and a quorum was declared present.

III. Approval of Agenda/Addendum

MOTION by Mr. Jay to approve the agenda; seconded by Ms. Michaels. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

IV. Public Participation

None

V. Approval of Minutes

A. January 9, 2015

MOTION by Mr. Mitchell to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2015 meeting; seconded by Mr. Jay. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

VI. County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims – January 2015

MOTION by Mr. Alix to receive and place on file the County and Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims for January 2015; seconded by Ms. Michaels. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

VII. Jurisdictional Transfer – Pesotum Road District

Mr. Blue explained that this dates back to the early 1990's. He said IDOT is doing a full inventory of roads in Champaign County and they show County Road 16 going into Pesotum along 200 N is still a township road and CH16 turning north and back west. Mr. Blue said this is a cleanup of something that should have taken place back in 1993-1994. He provided memorandums between IDOT and Terry Gardner which talk about this jurisdictional transfer, but that it never happened. Mr. Blue said IDOT has requested this be cleaned up so it is correct in their database. He noted there is a resolution authorizing the County Board Chair to sign the jurisdictional transfer documents, a resolution providing for the addition of County Road 200N, and a resolution deleting CH16. **OMNIBUS MOTION** by Mr. Alix to approve the three related resolutions; seconded by Ms. Michaels. Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously**.

VIII. Petition/Resolution Approving Appropriation of Funds from the County Bridge Fund – Village of Tolono

Mr. Blue noted that this is a small structure in the Village of Tolono that has been closed due to deterioration. He reported the Village contacted the County in January to ask about any County financial help. Mr. Blue said he had talked to the village consultant about using the county bridge fund and explained the stipulations for doing so. He stated the Village of Tolono passed a resolution asking for a 50/50 split of the construction costs. Mr. Blue said the project estimate is \$140,000 so the County's portion would be \$70,000. He explained that Highway will do the bidding and take care of the contract on behalf of the village, will oversee the project, will pay all the bills, and then bill the Village, the same way it is done for small townships. **MOTION** by Mr. McGuire to approve; seconded by Ms. Michaels.

Ms. Petrie asked the time frame for the project. Mr. Blue replied he hopes it's done by June 1 but thought the Village President is saying the fall. Ms. Michaels commented that \$70,000 seems high compared to other box culverts they've done and wanted to know how it will affect their fund. Mr. Blue replied they will not be doing as many projects from the county bridge fund as last year so the money is there. He said the Dewey-Fisher project will be taking most of their time.

Mr. Alix asked if the location map was an official part of the resolution. Mr. Blue answered no. Mr. Alix said he would like to see a structure number added to the resolution and the same language used as other resolutions. Mr. Blue agreed to make that change.

Mr. McGuire asked if this was the same structure that was in the newspaper last month. Mr. Blue said it was. Mr. Jay commented that as smaller municipalities grab the mile and a half and keep extending it that they need to understand that they are also going to have some liabilities included, and that the County may not always be able to pick up the slack. Ms. Michaels asked when property is annexed into a corporate area and has a County road or bridge, does that road or bridge become part of the municipality. Mr. Blue replied yes if it's a township road, but that a county highway will remain part of the county system.

Ms. Petrie wanted to know if there was anything in the statutes that would allow an intergovernmental agreement stating those county roads become part of the expanding community. Mr. Blue answered no, but said they could do a jurisdictional transfer or a maintenance agreement. Mr. Alix asked if the road was in a township would they have the same issue. Mr. Blue said yes. Mr. Alix asked if the threshold is higher based on financial qualification and would they rather it be in a village or a township. Mr. Blue said that villages will qualify easier based on assessed value. Mr. Alix commented that it is more likely the County would participate if it was in a village than a township and Mr. Blue said that was correct. Ms. Busey stated the County includes all townships in assessed valuation, a township can include all villages within the township, but villages can only include the village.

IX. Resolution Appropriating \$150,000 from County Motor Fuel Tax Funds for Engineering Services Related to the Construction of North Lincoln Avenue Section #11-00334-01-EG

Mr. Blue said he talked to Bill Gray about the engineering fees related to the Preliminary Engineering 1 and said Mr. Gray wants to send a bill to the County for their 50% share. Mr. Blue said he asked for an estimate of PE2 and after an analysis they estimated that between PE1 and PE2 the County's 50% share is around \$150,000. He explained that it is laid out in the intergovernmental agreement signed in 2011. He

said this is the beginning of the expenditures for Lincoln Avenue and that the County had spent nothing on this project yet. **MOTION** by Mr. Alix to approve; seconded by Mr. McGuire.

Ms. Petrie shared that at CUUATS it was mentioned that there is an increase in federal funding for Lincoln Avenue. Mr. Blue reminded everyone that they had requested the remaining IJN money be moved from the Olympian Drive project to the Lincoln Ave project and were denied. He said the remaining IJN money will be used on the rest of Olympian Drive, which should free up more federal money for Lincoln Ave.

Mr. Alix asked if this was the last of the fringe roads. Mr. Blue answered no that Curtis Road over to First Street and about one mile of North Prospect remain.

Ms. Michaels said she thought that as they start sending money out something had been said that they would have the ability to try to re-encumber some of these funds. She thought the amount was about \$300,000. Mr. Alix thought that might be the engineering oversight they were providing on Olympian Drive. Mr. Blue confirmed they are being reimbursed for that.

X. Dewey-Fisher Road Update

Mr. Blue gave a handout on the Dewey-Fisher Road improvement. He said this is the largest project the County has ever taken on. He noted the engineers estimate was \$7,197,000. Mr. Blue said bids were opened January 30 and reminded everyone that this is a State administered contract. He said two bids were received with the lower bidder being Cross Construction at \$7,750,000, and said there was only \$47,000 between bids. Mr. Blue said the difference between the bid and engineers estimate is 7.68%, which is below the 10% threshold that the County usually uses.

Mr. Blue said he was contacted by IDOT to make sure the County wanted to move forward. Mr. Blue summarized the agreements showing the different areas the money is coming from. He said three resolutions have already been passed appropriating \$3,175,000 for this project. He said they have already used \$733,000 to date for right of way and engineering costs, leaving \$2,442,000 for construction. Mr. Blue talked to Paris and Springfield who recommended they proceed with the project but he said he wanted a consensus from the committee before saying yes. He said the state and feds will help with the overages at 80/20 which is the maximum for federal jobs. He said they have enough in the appropriation to cover the County share of the overage. Mr. Blue said he has a lot of faith in Cross Construction, who is local, and felt if they rebid the project the numbers wouldn't come in lower. He also said they wouldn't get the project completed this summer. Mr. Blue recommended the committee accept the bid and said they don't need a formal vote, but that he would like a consensus.

Mr. Alix asked if it was customary for IDOT to participate in overages. Mr. Blue said it isn't unprecedented but that he was told that if there are any more overages not to expect more help. Mr. McGuire said that with construction going on in the area prices may increase and felt they should move on this. Ms. Michaels doesn't see rebidding but thought with the price of oil & gas there may some savings by moving on this now. Mr. Blue said he isn't willing to risk trying to get a lower price and not have the project done this summer. He said they should have a contract and be ready to start work around April 1. He said he hopes to complete the project by October 31.

Mr. Alix asked how the road closure was going to work. Mr. Blue replied that 95% of the project will be under traffic but that there will be some one or two day closures.

Ms. Petrie asked by statute what is the percentage over in a bid that the state would allow an entity to take if it wasn't the lowest bid. Mr. Blue said that low bid must be taken unless there is a very good reason not to. Ms. Petrie said she learned that there have been huge problems with asphalt with recycled materials. She wanted to know how to make certain what type of mix gets used. Mr. Blue said each contractor has mix designs that have to be approved by IDOT. He said they haven't seen much recycled asphalt shingles here, which is what is causing many of the problems, and said that is more in Chicago.

Mr. Blue asked the committee for consensus to move forward with the project and received it.

XI. Olympian Drive Update

Mr. Blue said they tried to restart the project and do some construction work on the bridge over the tracks but the weather changed and they had to shut down. He said when the weather breaks they will jump across the tracks. He said on the other end of Olympian from Clearview to Duncan they got the Lo property purchased. Mr. Blue said they are having a few legal issues with the Atkins property because this piece of property was still in the estate of Clint Atkins, which had been closed. He said they are getting it straightened out and paperwork is in process. Mr. Blue said this will be like the Dewey-Fisher project where it is bid by the State and they are hoping it will be bid in April. He said it is about a 60 day project.

Mr. Mitchell asked if the road will be the same as what is in Clearview. Mr. Blue said yes, it will be two-lane concrete with a bicycle path.

Mr. Jay asked if they had to do anything between Olympian and 150. Mr. Blue said the intersection will be redone. He said Hensley Township owns the road down to the bridge and from the bridge to 150 is the City of Champaign's. He said Hensley is interested in giving up the piece from the bridge to Duncan, but the city isn't willing to take it at this point. Mr. Alix asked what the weight limit on the road is. Mr. Blue replied 80,000 pounds. Mr. Alix said signs need to be posted. Mr. Blue said that was the township's responsibility.

XII. Designation of Items to be placed on consent agenda

Ms. Cowart stated that items VII, VIII and IX are to be placed on the consent agenda.

XIII. Other Business

Mr. McGuire said he saw on Facebook that IDOT put something out that the I57/I74 interchange is to start in 2020. Mr. Blue said he hadn't heard that. He said that project is over \$100 million and said there is no funding stream to pay for it. He said that it will have to be put into a bonding bill or something of that nature to be built. He thought the engineering and right-of-way would be tough to get done by 2020.

XIV. Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. Cowart adjourned the meeting at 9:34 am.