

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Patty Cox
Kevin Greenfield
Kevin Meachum (arrived @ 5:31 p.m.)
Kevin Bird
Phil Hogan
Pat Dawson
John Jackson

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Bruce Bird, County Engineer
Mark Funk, Highway Department

Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

MEMBERS ABSENT

The meeting was called to order by Chair Patty Cox at the Macon County Office Building.

MINUTES

Mr. Greenfield made a motion to approve the August 26, 2015 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Hogan, motion carried 6-0. Note: The September, 2015 meeting was cancelled because there were no items for the agenda.

CLAIMS

Mr. Greenfield made a motion to accept the report of the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Jackson, and the motion carried 6-0.

Public Comments - None

Old Business - None

(Mr. Meachum has joined the meeting)

New Business:

Macon County Board Resolution appropriating funds for design engineering of Section 14-00268-03-EG, the Reas Bridge Road Lake Decatur Bridges Replacement Project (Beltway).

Bruce Bird explained that this is one of the two sections of the Beltway. This is the actual design engineering for the replacement of the bridges across the lake. They are in poor shape and we really need to get started on those. The engineer is Chastain & Associates. The total amount is \$1,089,945.

Mr. Greenfield made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee for consideration with the recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Hogan and the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution appropriating funds for design engineering of Section 14-00268-02-EG, the Brush College Road South Connection Realignment Project (Beltway).

Bruce Bird explained that this is another portion of the beltway. Brush College has to be realigned just north of Mound, just north of the MAC truck dealer there. The alignment will curve across the open field towards 48 and tie into 48 just south of the existing ADM warehouse. Brush College has to be

realigned to a connection there because the eventual location to where the beltway ties into 48 is at the current Brush College road intersection. This has to be moved out of the way first. It is a nice stand alone project because it will actually help the traffic flow down to ADM and through the area smoother and better just by making this change. It will also help the flow of traffic for the Farm Progress Show too. The total amount for the engineering on this project is \$430,382. Hanson is the design engineer on this.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee for consideration with the recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Hogan. Mr. Greenfield asked if, on the first two resolutions, the expense comes out of the \$10 million. Mr. Bird confirmed explaining that we front the money and the state reimburses 100%. Mr. Greenfield asked about the 2nd resolution and whether an approval had been received from the FHA yet for segregating that out of the Beltway. Mr. Bird said no, the request has been made and they are going to go ahead and run this through and approve it assuming they are going to approve the request. Hanson is aware that it may or may not be requested. If for some strange reason it gets pushed, for say, a year or whatever, they are fine with that. They are not concerned about that. They will hold their price and just wait. All the parties are aware of that. The motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution appropriating funds for construction expenses on Section 15-00269-00-PV, the Argenta Concrete Pavement Project.

Bruce Bird explained that this is a little section that was done in downtown Argenta that involved a cost sharing with us & the Village. They waited to do the final appropriation on this until they found out what the cost of the project was. It actually came in a little less than the bid amount. The total is \$85,924.24. We fronted the money and the Village of Argenta has already reimbursed us their share of that project.

Mr. Meachum inquired about the quality of the contractor's work. Mr. Bird said they needed a little pressure, but they did fine in the end.

Mr. Meachum made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee for consideration with the recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution appropriating additional funds for construction expenses on Section 15-00273-00-SM, the 2015 Farm Progress Patching Project.

Bruce Bird explained that this amount was added to the project by Richland College. He reminded the members that on both this & the original amount, we front the money and it is reimbursed to us 100% by Richland. The amount is \$29,963.87

Mr. Greenfield made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee for consideration with the recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Hogan. Mr. Kevin Bird clarified, asking Mr. Bruce Bird if we did get all that money back. Mr. Bruce Bird confirmed. The motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution appropriating funds for construction expenses on Section 11-00241-00-BR, the CH 29 Boody Road Bridge Replacement Project.

Bruce Bird explained that this is our matching fund amount. Federal funds are paying for the majority of that bridge replacement. Our matching amount is \$57,875.46. Schmidt Construction just started the main work on that last week. The bridge was already closed. They think they can probably get the

majority of the bridge work done, probably not the dirt work done, but the bridge work done yet this year.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee for consideration with the recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Greenfield and the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution appropriating funds for construction expenses on Section 07-14123-00-BR, a bridge on Kosseick Road in Pleasant View Township.

Bruce Bird explained that these are funds that are our share of the match against the Township Bridge funds. We front 20% of the cost of the construction and the township reimburses us 10%. We split the match amount. The total amount appropriated is \$44,408. The township will pay us back \$22,204.

Mr. Meachum made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee for consideration with the recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Hogan and the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution appropriating funds for construction expenses on Section 13-06119-00-PV, the Spacemark Road Construction Project.

Bruce Bird explained that the total amount appropriated is \$87,787.07. This is a unique resolution. That project is a township project that is paid 100% with State Capital Funds. They front us a portion of the money when the project is let and that money is used to pay out the bills, but the remaining portion is billed back to them by us. With the state budget problems, that is a bit of an issue right now. In order to final let this project, we are appropriating this out of some of our own funds and when the project is complete and closed out, then we will bill the state and they will send us the remainder. We will get this money reimbursed once we finish the project, but we have to pay out the contractor to finish it first. It's kind of an odd way of doing it, but about the only way we can do it. Mr. Meachum said he thought he was hearing Mr. Bird say that the money will probably show up in the next fiscal year. Mr. Bird said yes, it should. It won't really affect next year's budget or the programs. We are going to get this money back. We just have to front it and then get reimbursed. The only thing that could throw a monkey wrench into it is that it is reimbursed out of Capital Funds and they have to float bonds to pay for it and they can't float bonds because they don't have an appropriation to do so right now. We can do our portion and then the folks in Springfield will have to do their portion.

Mr. Meachum made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee for consideration with the recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Hogan, and the motion carried with 6 yes votes and Mr. Kevin Bird voting present.

Macon County Board Resolution appropriating funds for the 2016 Annual MFT Maintenance Program.

Bruce Bird explained that this has to be done every year to set up the MFT money through the state for the various maintenance items throughout the upcoming year. There is always a certain amount that covers labor expenses. There is a certain amount that can be used for equipment rental. Then there is an amount that is used for materials. Typically used are snow & ice control products like rock salt and sand, shoulder aggregate, asphalt millings, patch mix, crack sealing, oil and so on. The total of that amount goes into the tally chart. He said he points this out because they have missed 3 months payments on the MFT because the state does not have an appropriation to give it. They are still collecting and it is sitting in a bank account, but they just can't give it to us. The Central Office is still keeping track of that and are telling us they know what we can have, but they can't tell us what that amount is, but it is expected to be 18% more than the June allotment. They always reference back to the

June allotment. So, they are telling us, but they're telling us in a different way. Based on those numbers, it is about \$450,000 that we have missed out on. With the uncertainty as to "if" we are going to get those dollars, there are several things that we do not see here. There is nothing in there for sand for snow & ice control, nothing for shoulder aggregate, rock or oil for chip seal work next year, etc... It doesn't mean we won't do it, but in putting this estimate together, an amount compared to what is in the bank now is being used so we are covered. We can always come back and amend these agreements. That has been done from time to time, but unless, and until, they figure out what they're doing and they actually give us our money that they are collecting and putting in the bank for us, Mr. Bird said he would not put those items on there. Currently, in the bank, in MFT, there is just a little less than \$2 million. The total estimate is \$1,660,000 which gives about a \$350,000 cushion just in case, but that is dependent on Springfield doing what they are supposed to do. Chair Cox asked if there was reason to believe that we would not get the money once the budget is settled. Mr. Bird said that State Law says they are supposed to collect it and give it to us. They are collecting, but not giving. Mr. Greenfield said that the Governor had been in town a couple of weeks ago and met with him & the Mayor and led them to believe that there would be a bill introduced to free up that money before the budget was settled. Mr. Bird said there have been 3 bills introduced; two by Democrats and one by Republicans and both sides put things in that they knew the other side was not going to like. So, they all got killed. He said that he had heard that they are trying to do something like that, but until that happens, it's kind of on hold. Mr. Greenfield said the Governor had led them to believe that they would get their money before there would be a budget settlement because he doesn't expect the budget to be settled until sometime in January probably. Mr. Bird said there will be a lot of pressure from other counties. There has been a discussion with all the county engineers statewide for the last week and a half. There is a discussion board and it goes back and forth. A lot of the smaller counties rely on their MFT to pay for a big chunk, if not all of their labor costs. Shelby County is one locally that is going to have a lot of problems. The further south you go, the worse it gets and the smaller the county is, the worse it gets. There is a bunch of them that are going to just run out of money in January or February and they are just going to have to close the doors. We are not in that boat. We have enough money for a year, easily so we are not going to have those kinds of issues, but there are a lot of counties that run into those issues before we do. Hopefully, that will put some pressure on and they'll get things done in Springfield so we can actually do some things. That's what we're supposed to do, but it's really hampering us right now. Ms. Dawson asked if it is thought that we will be reimbursed and we have that kind of cushion, why wouldn't you add in the things like sand and shoulders. Mr. Bird said that at the end of the last budget year, in order to get through that last month or so when they came in and took half of our, the township's & the City's month's allotment in order to balance things out so they could get to the end of June. Mr. Bird said he was not entirely certain they won't do that again. Nobody has said anything about that, but until it is in writing that they are going to give us money, we're not going to count on it. Plus, the resolution can be amended at any time. It's just prudent to sit and wait right now.

Mr. Meachum made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee for consideration with the recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Hogan and the motion carried 7-0.

County Engineer's Report:

Bruce Bird reported that the mowing is pretty much done. They are doing a lot of clean up work and before it rained, quite a bit of ditching work was done. Quite a few pretty good sized projects that we've been wanting to do when the weather would cooperate for two to three years were taken out. A lot of strides have been made in that area. Construction projects include the bridge on Wise Road that has been closed for a long time, but is now open. It has a rock surface, but that will be taken care of next spring. Chip seal work could not be done this time of year. The bridge on Boody Road is getting started on. Everything else in the construction area for this year has been pretty much taken care of and wrapped up. The sign replacement program is underway with all of us to include the townships, villages

and us having gotten our signs and we are in process of replacing all of those. With the pace they are going, it looks like it will be about a 2 to 3 month project to get all those signs up.

Ms. Cox commented about seeing flags at Wyckles and CR30. Mr. Bird said the farmers wanted them to mark the right of way because they wanted to get some chemicals sprayed on their land and didn't want to spray it on the right of way. The State side of that project is set up for January provided they have a budget. If not, it will probably get pushed again.

Mr. Hogan asked if, in the past, completion deadline dates had ever been used. Mr. Bird said yes, on higher travelled roads, but not on lower travelled roads. He said they could, there is nothing stopping it, but the trade off is usually that the prices come in a little higher.

Miscellaneous Business:

Mr. Bird said that for next year's budget, it was said that no equipment would be bought, but he was wondering about large parts and pieces. Last year they bought a couple of replacement plows, not the trucks but just the plows for in front of the trucks. He asked if it would be acceptable to do that. He said they could fit it in and it wouldn't be an issue and it would help out quite a bit. Chair Greenfield asked if it would be a reversible plow. Mr. Bird confirmed. Mr. Greenfield agreed.

Closed Session:

Mr. Meachum made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Illinois State Statute Section 2(c)(1) for the purpose of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 7-0.

Return to Open Session:

Adjourn:

The next Transportation Committee Meeting will be Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Note: The meeting date is earlier in the month due to the Thanksgiving Holidays

Mr. Hogan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Greenfield, the motion carried 7-0 & meeting was adjourned @ 5:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office