



# MACON COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

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## MINUTES

February 25, 2015

The Macon County Transportation Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. located at the Macon County Office Building, 141 S. Main St., Decatur, IL.

### Transportation Committee Members Present:

Patty Cox	Kevin Meachum	Phil Hogan
John Jackson	Kevin Bird	Pat Dawson

### Transportation Committee Members Absent:

Kevin Greenfield

### Highway Department Support Staff Present:

Bruce Bird, County Engineer  
Amanda Askew, Office Assistant

### Others Present:

Mike Baggett, Assistant State's Attorney  
Matt Foster, BGM Engineering  
Ryan Voyles, Herald & Review

### Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Patty Cox at 5:30 p.m.

### Roll Call:

Patty Cox	John Jackson	Phil Hogan
Kevin Bird	Kevin Meachum	Pat Dawson

### Approval of the Minutes:

Phil Hogan made a motion to approve the minutes from January 28, 2015, seconded by Kevin Bird.  
Motion Carried 6-0

### Approval of the Bills:

Kevin Bird made a motion to accept the bills as presented, seconded by Phil Hogan.  
Motion Carried 6-0

### No Public Comments

### No Old Business

### New Business:

#### *Resolution approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the Macon County Board and the Village of Warrensburg:*

Bruce stated this is identical to the one that we had with the Village of Mt. Zion and also Long Creek Water Dept. Because our permit structure requires us to have permit fees and this memorandum basically will allow those public entities to waive those fees.

Motion made by Kevin Meachum, Seconded by Phil Hogan. Motion Carried 6-0

#### *Resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement between Macon County, Hickory Point Township Road District, and Heartland Ag Group Ltd.:*

Bruce stated up at the north end where we did the white topping on the new section of Wyckles up by 121. We put a new box culvert in there by the old Park Eggs location. The downstream channel passes underneath Park Rd, there is an existing box there, and continues down another ½ to ¾ of a mile into the field south of there. It basically needs to be cleaned out. We have a brand new box we put in at Wyckles and the water is standing in there. If we do not get in there and clean the channel out we are probably going to have water issues in that brand new box. Between myself, Kevin, and Heartland Ag Group came up with an estimate to get that channel cleaned out that benefit all three of us. The agreement is set up to allow us to split the cost of that 3 ways. Heartland Ag will do the work. They will bill both of us for our share.

Motion made by Kevin Meachum, seconded by John Jackson. Kevin Bird voted present. Motion Carried 5-0

***Resolution appropriating funds for the 2014 Annual MFT Maintenance Estimate:***

Bruce stated this is for our MFT work that we did last year. We went over the original estimate we had with the State by \$243,768.93 and they need a resolution to appropriate that money out of our balance. This is money that we have already spent the biggest portion of it was the additional cost of the salt. We charge a portion of our salaries to that; we went over on our overtime budget last year. Part of it is that too. The biggest part of the increase is due to fighting the snow that we had last year.

Patty Cox asked do you have the figure on what it is for the salt compared to salary.

Bruce replied I did not break that down. I will tell you what we budgeted for the salt was about \$60 per ton and it came in at \$96 per ton. That portion right there is well over \$100,000 of the difference. Over half of the total is just the salt. Other little things like the Microsurfacing contract and the stripping contract both had a few overages.

Kevin Meachum stated when the salt bids went out, we got salt and then we had to get more eventually to refill our building.

Bruce stated we budgeted for a certain amount and we can buy up to another 10% we used that last year. Kevin Meachum stated we used more than we anticipated and that is the reason we spent so much more. Salt went up to about \$115 a ton.

Bruce stated if you want to buy it right now it is \$125 a ton. In our MFT account right now we have somewhere around 2 million dollars. We do have enough money to cover that.

Motion made by Kevin Bird, seconded by Kevin Meachum. Motion carried 6-0

***Resolution appropriating a funding agreement with IDOT on the construction of a bridge on Sefton Rd. (CH 60):***

Bruce stated this is the standard funding agreement when they have Federal Aid on a structure. The amount that we will be responsible for is \$270,000. As is typical they front the money then they bill us. For whatever reason it takes the state about 3-5 years to bill us for our share.

Motion made by Kevin Meachum, seconded by Kevin Bird. Motion carried 6-0

***Resolution approving a Land Swap with the Macon County Conservation District on the Macon County Beltway:***

Bruce stated this is a parcel of ground (map in packet) that is part of the study to mitigate the impacts to right-of-way that we need. The red area is ground that was purchased by the Conservation District by what is called 4F and 6F funds with the Feds. They can get money with that to buy Conservation ground, but as part of the agreement they have to assign to agree that they can never use it for anything other than conservation purposes. In order to swap that out and to mitigate it as part of our environmental study for the beltway. We had to purchase a like amount of ground that we will swap

with them. They will swap and we will get title to the two red portions on County Highway 30 that we can use eventually whenever we need it for the Beltway. About 3 years ago we purchased the green square. It is about 10 acres that sits behind Joe Coventry's house on County Highway 30. The Conservation District will get those 10 acres. We will get the title to the two small portions out there. This is actually the last thing to taken care of to finish off the Beltway Study.

Phil Hogan asked when we purchased that who owned it.

Bruce replied Coventry. It was about 3 years ago now.

Motion made by Kevin Meachum, seconded by John Jackson. Motion carried 6-0

**County Engineer's Report:**

Bruce stated we have had a rather dull and lifeless winter up until the last two or three weeks. We have been keeping busy. Some of you may have heard that early this past Saturday one of our drivers had an incident where he rolled a truck. The driver is okay. It is the oldest truck we had in our fleet. It was going to be the next one we were going to dispose of and replace. It looks like right now the frame on the truck is bent. I am not entirely certain it is going to be worth salvaging. We may be able to use it for parts. The most important thing is that the driver is okay.

We are setting up all of our construction work for this year. We have right-of-way secured on one Township bridge and one County bridge. We have two projects that are carried over. One is a bridge on Boody Rd. and also to finish up Spacemark. We have two other sections we are looking at including the bridge on Sefton Rd. If we can get the right-of-way we will let that. Right now it is set to be on the June letting. Unfortunately that means we will not get started on it until September. The other project is the west end of CH 30 and CH 41. I think we have an agreement now with all three of those landowners. We just have to get all their signatures on paper.

In regards to the house Patty, you had asked about with the sight distance issue there. We have tried to contact the homeowners numerous times. The last time I wrote a letter giving them until March 15<sup>th</sup> to contact us. If they don't contact us we will go out there and trim right off the right-of-way straight up. Matt Foster from BGM is here in the audience. The Village of Argenta has a request of us. We did not get it in time to get it on tonight's agenda. This is on our County Highway that runs north through town. Coming off of 48 north on our County Highway we have jurisdiction of that road up to and including the intersection. From that intersection all the way through town up to the north limits of the Village that is a Village street with a County Highway extension over the top of it. The Village would like to redo the south end there by the bank and up to the RR crossing. The State Statues say with a County Highway extension that it remains an extension with the jurisdiction remaining with the Village once the street is reconstructed. So the Village would like to do a 50/50 project with us. It would be a very short section there. Two things, they want us to jump in and work with them on that. The second thing is that once it's done they would like us to have the jurisdiction on that. It would be a very short segment. As per the statute if you are going to reconstruct the road it pretty much follows into that. If you have any questions from Matt at what they are looking at he would be more than happy to answer those questions. Kevin Meachum stated I agree with everything you are saying. Will we maintain the plowing?

Bruce replied yes our guys always have the plows down when they go through. We have our striping contractor go through there as well.

Kevin Meachum stated so it will be business as usual other than they will have jurisdiction of this short span.

Bruce replied no we will have the jurisdiction when it is done. That is as per statutes with a County Highway extension across a municipal street.

Kevin Meachum asked are you going to a feasibility study and find out what kind of cost is attached to this short stretch.

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Bruce replied that is one of the things Matt will be working on.

Kevin Meachum asked what will the cost be on this?

Bruce asked Matt if he had that?

Matt Foster with BGM stated the Village had already spent about \$6,000 at the beginning of all this they thought that the intersection was theirs. When we were working with Bruce on the County Sign Grant program that is coming up it became known to us that the intersection is not the Villages and is the Counties. They have already put together a set of plans that would go from the north edge of Elm Street up to the RR tracks. I think the number I put in there was somewhere in the neighborhood of \$12,000 in design. We anticipate the improvement to be in the neighborhood of \$90-95,000. We had taken it out to bid back in the fall. We had got a bid for the work that we were going to do of \$65,000 which was outside of their budget. They decided to reject it and see what else we could do. One of the big issues there was the RR tracks and dealing with the Railroad.

Kevin Meachum asked how long this stretch is.

Matt answered about 300 feet.

Bruce asked what is the source of funds that the Village is going to use.

Matt answered local funds. The original idea was to put in a 7" thick concrete pavement. If we were to match this section that goes to the south that you guys did last year. The Village would not have a problem switching that over to asphalt pavement if that made the County happier. There are some constructability issues that would be improved by using that.

Bruce agreed especially in the middle of the intersection.

Matt stated they would be fine with that if we are looking at a joint improvement.

Patty asked Bruce do you have the funding in your budget to do this.

Bruce replied we can fit it in. The reason I asked about the source of funds. If I use local funds to match their local funds then we do not have to get IDOT involved. That will speed up the process of getting the plans approved and getting the thing out to bid. We will have this on the agenda next month.

Kevin Meachum asked since this is going to be our jurisdiction, Bruce, are you going to be doing the construction inspection in this.

Matt replied the original intent is that it would be such a small job that we were going to hire a contractor to do it on a lump sum basis and the Village was going to handle keeping track of that. I did mention that to them that if the County gets involved they would want to do it on a unit price contract and an inspector out there. We have qualified inspectors.

Kevin Meachum stated so does the County.

Bruce stated, Matt that is something we can discuss over the next month.

Kevin Meachum stated I do not want to get into this I am just asking the questions because it all comes with a fee.

Matt replied exactly we and the Village would work with you guys on that.

**Miscellaneous Business:**

**Closed Session:**

5 ILCS 120/2(c) (5)

Purpose: To discuss the possible purchase of real property for the use of the County.

Motion made by Kevin Meachum to go into closed session, seconded by John Jackson.

Motion carried 6-0

**Adjourn:**

Kevin Bird made a motion to adjourn, seconded by John Jackson. Motion Carried 6-0

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Meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

***The next Transportation Meeting will be Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.***

Minutes submitted by:  
Kathy Gerhold & Amanda Askew  
Macon County Highway Department