

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Patty Cox
Kevin Greenfield
Kevin Meachum
Kevin Bird
Phil Hogan
Pat Dawson (arrived @ 5:35 p.m.)
John Jackson

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Bruce Bird, County Engineer
Joe Moretti
Stuart Jacobs

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 11/18/15 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Hogan, motion carried 6-0.

CLAIMS

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

Public Comments - None

Old Business - None

Ms. Dawson joined the meeting

New Business:

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Funds for the Purchase of Right of Way on the CH 41 White topping Project from Stanley D. Lehn, Parcel 10A

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Funds for the Purchase of Right of Way on the CH 41 Whitetopping Project from Patricia Anne Bales, Richard E. Lehn, and Stanley D. Lehn, Parcel 10B.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Funds for the Purchase of Right of Way on the CH 41 Whitetopping Project from Patricia Anne Bales, Parcel 28

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Funds for the Purchase of Right of Way on the CH 41 Whitetopping Project from Patricia Anne Bales, Parcel 35

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Funds for the Purchase of Right of Way on the CH 41 Whitetopping Project from Stanley D. Lehn and M. Jean Lehn, Parcel 36

Mr. Bird explained that all 5 of these resolutions are to approve the purchase of right of way to include various parcels out of the Wyckles Road project. All 5 are tied in with the Lehn family, but they are all individual parcels and so are all treated as individual contracts.

Mr. Greenfield made a motion to approve forwarding the 5 resolutions on to the Finance Committee for consideration with the recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Meachum and the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for Engineering Design on a Bridge on TR 46 Drummer Road over the South Fork of Lake Fork Creek in Austin Township

Mr. Bird explained that this township bridge is currently closed. The total engineering amount is \$79,700 to AECOM which is the new name of the company formerly known as URS. It is on the north side of town on Ash Street near WalMart.

Mr. Meachum asked if they had started doing better business than in the past. Mr. Bird said he has never had a problem with work they've done. Mr. Meachum said he thought they'd started some redesign work on Wyckles Road between Park Road & 121 and were doing stuff that Bruce didn't know about. Mr. Bird said he has not really had a problem with them.

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. Bird and the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for Engineering Design on a Bridge on CH 27 Damery Road over Spring Creek in Blue Mound Township

Mr. Bird explained that the total amount is \$101,488.28 to WHKS. This is for a pair of bridges. It is that short strip of 27 that runs east and west along Damery Road. There is a trucking company right there in the corner. Both bridges are in poor shape, so both will be replaced. They may replace them with one bridge. It depends on what they can do. That will be part of the design process. They are currently weight limited bridges.

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

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for Engineering Design on a Bridge on CH 18 School Road over a Tributary to Friends Creek in Friends Creek Township.

Mr. Bird explained that this is also to AECOM. The bridge is almost in Cisco about a half mile from the county line which is right there at Route 48 by the interchange at Cisco. It is currently a weight limited bridge. The total engineering amount is \$95,580.

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

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for an Engineering Evaluation on a Bridge on TR 226 Kruse Road over Big Creek in Mt. Zion Township.

Mr. Bird explained that this is a big 3 span bridge over Big Creek on Kruse Road that always has the big open gaps on top of the deck. There is obviously some issue with those gaps and the surface condition on the deck, but there is also some issue with some scour around the piers on that bridge. They are going to do an evaluation. This is a 50/50 with us paying half and the township paying half. Based upon that evaluation, either a rehab or replacement will be done. This is a reasonably small cost of \$9,950.34.

Mr. Meachum asked if there is a reason why all these resolutions are going to these individuals and the work is not being spread out. Mr. Bird said it is spread out based on the last couple of months. WHKS does a really good job on these evaluations. They've got some equipment that others don't have. Usually when it comes to an evaluation, Mr. Bird says he usually tries to get them to do that because they do it for a reasonable amount. That is mainly because they have equipment that others don't have and can keep the cost down.

Mr. Greenfield asked when that bridge will be worked on. Mr. Bird said they would take a look at how far down into the deck beams that deterioration has gone. They might be able to come in, if it is structurally sound enough, and put some kind of a concrete overlay on it, but if they are bad enough, they'll have to replace the beams. The sub-structure is in really good shape, so you're not talking about total replacement of the bridge. It will probably be just the deck. Mr. Greenfield asked if it would be this year. Mr. Bird said not this year because the evaluation will have to be done and depending on that, a set of plans will have to be done.

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. Jackson and the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for a 50/50 Cost Share Project on TR 51A Boody Road over Dry Branch in Pleasant View Township.

Mr. Bird explained that this is a 50/50 repair job on a bridge that is currently closed. The estimate is \$91,075 which will be split in half with Pleasant View Township. We will front the money and they will reimburse us.

Mr. Hogan 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 on the Spacemark Road Construction Project in Hickory Point Township.

Mr. Bird explained that this is just to balance the cost on the project. An additional payment of \$883.95 needs to be paid to balance. The remaining funds that came from the Illinois Jobs Now capital bill money of around \$900,000 will be transferred down to the CH30 / CH41 project which is coming up.

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 in favor, Mr. Kevin Bird voting present and 0 no votes.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving a Revised Joint Agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation on the CH 30 Elwin Road and CH 41 Wyckles Road Connector Project.

Mr. Bird explained that this is where the money gets balanced out. The participating amount that is left over with the State that we can apply to it is \$889,548. The bid amount is a little over \$1.7 million

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

Macon County Board Resolution Approving a Revised 2016 MFT Estimate of Maintenance Cost

Mr. Bird explained that this is an amendment to the annual maintenance resolution which was passed in November. He said that at the time, he had said that there were several things that were being eliminated because of the uncertainty of the MFT and that if he needed to add anything in, he would come back to do it. That is the purpose of this resolution. The amount that is being added in is the amount for seal coat work. It is 81,000 gallons at an estimated cost of \$162,000. All of the chip seal work for last year was not done. The rock is still there, so this is just to buy enough oil to put that rock that was purchased last year down. The point to have a decent rock letting is past. Normally, it is done in the fall when better prices can be gotten. He said he is hedging his bets about what is going to happen with the MFT. They reached the deal in Springfield and they will get the MFT through June unless they re-appropriate it like they did last year. He said he was hedging his bets against that happening again. He said they've got the money and can cover this without problems.

Chairman Greenfield asked if they would be doing any more of the oiling like they had done in the Village of Long Creek. Mr. Bird said yes. That is micro-surfacing. He said their portion is in. There had been an agreement between the County and the City to do it as a joint project, but the City has begged off every year except for this upcoming year. It looks like it will be us, the City, Hickory Point Township, Long Creek Township & the Village of Mount Zion. There are a lot of entities going in on it. The advantage of that is that they will get to pool all the square yards to be done. There is a lot of attention from the contractors who do that work and we get a really good price. It benefits everybody. There are two contractors who do that. One is from Elgin and one from St. Louis. We will get two bids on it and they go pretty hard after each other.

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 & the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Appropriating Funds for Construction Expenses on the CH 30 Elwin Road and CH 41 Wyckles Road Connector Project

Mr. Bird explained that this goes hand in hand with the agreement earlier and is to appropriate the final amount of funds that is part of that project. There are two main sources of funds: MFT & funds out of the Capital Project, the IGN funds. The project was let on July 8th which was about the time the State shut off the MFT funds. About two months later they said we couldn't spend any more of the capital money either because they were running dry on that. Both sources of funds for that project were cut off. The low bidder said he would hold the bid. The MFT funds were finally restored and just last Thursday, the State sold bonds and we got a call on Friday from them telling us the capital funds have been restored too. We are finally able to award the project. It was let in July and awarded in January. That has never, ever been done before. It's a good deal for us. It is 10% under the engineer's estimate. There was only one bidder and it's a really good project. We are finally going to be able to finish off that whole stretch of CH30 & CH41 across the south end of town. This is also the one that is in conjunction with the project the State has where they are putting in turn lanes and improving the intersection at Wyckles & Rt 48. They had that on their letting on Friday and it came in \$7,000 or \$8,000 under the Engineer's estimate too. Both projects are a definite go. There is about a week or two where Route 48 is going to have to be totally shut off going through there. They will have to re-route traffic down CH 32 from Blue Mound all the way over to Macon. They will put some extra signs up and do some things to help that traffic, but it will be a mess for a week or two.

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

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the 2016 Pipe Culvert & Band Bid

Mr. Bird explained that once they get an idea about how many pipes and bands will be needed and they give a price per foot. We order off of that for the remainder of the year. Townships and small municipalities can piggy-back off the bid too.

Mr. Bird 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 Approving the 2016 Sign Bid

Mr. Bird said they get a unit price per sign and then everyone can piggyback on that. This company is out of Indiana and they are a good company. We've gotten signs from them in the past.

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.

County Engineer's Report:

Mr. Bruce Bird reported that there was a little bit of snow and they actually had to use the plow to push it around. There was a little bit of drifting and we had to go back in a second time.

Other than that, the guys have been busy with tree trimming and crack sealing the roads prior to the micro-surfacing. They will have those two segments, CH55 at the Niantic interchange and all of CH28. They should have both of those done by the time we're ready to go with the micro-surfacing.

EON, the windfarm company, has to get a road use agreement from the Highway Department and the four townships that are going to be affected as part of their agreement with the county. They've been dragging their feet, but suddenly they called and want to get it all done in January - this week. They wanted to do marathon sessions two to three days and get everyone together and negotiate. Sheryl Churney, the attorney from Streator who has negotiated about half of the wind farm road use agreements statewide and will be representing us, could not be available. Chairman Greenfield agreed with Mr. Bird that there would have to be a method of payment agreement that Mr. Baggett has approved. Mr. Bird said he would get something together and have it for the next meeting. He said that a lot of the time with the State, a certain amount of money is set aside that they say they will pay for things, we sign an agreement with them and they give us 90% of the money to pay the bills and we bill out the remaining 10%. He said he would suggest to Mr. Baggett that they do something similar here. The County will be the lead agency, but will involve the townships too. It will be a lot cleaner that way because it would be really difficult if she is negotiating for the county and the four townships at the same time, how is she supposed to split that.

Work was being done on the bridge that is under construction on Boody Road up until around 3 weeks ago when they finally suspended it because of the weather. The beams are all set. The back walls are formed and poured. They just have to be backfilled. That will be sometime when the weather breaks in the spring.

The National Association of County Engineers, NACE, as part of their yearly convention at the end of April has an award for Urban County Engineer of the Year and one for Rural County Engineer of the Year. For the State Association, Mr. Bird said he has been nominated for the competition for the urban award. An application is filled out, but it is a point thing for all the stuff you do. He said he's been told

that he has a pretty high point value, but there are a lot urban engineers in California and New York that do a lot of stuff on the county level too. He said he'd just have to wait and see how it comes out.

Mr. Hogan asked if anything was scheduled for this year for the Sefton Road bridge on the Beltway project. Mr. Bird said they are waiting on a Memorandum of Agreement with the state. Once they have that, it will open the trigger to finalize the plans.

Miscellaneous Business:

Mr. Meachum said he had gotten a few phone calls about issues at the highway department and suspension of housekeeping services and having internal staff doing this. This was not brought to the committee and Mr. Meachum said he would like to know why. Chairman Greenfield said he wasn't aware that it had been discussed when the service was put in place, apologized and said he probably should have brought it to the committee. He explained that they have been in union negotiations and it was brought up as a way to save some money to maybe pay some salaries. Mr. Meachum asked what the savings would be. Mr. Greenfield said \$18,000 a year. He said his plan was to do away with the cleaning service and have the staff do the cleaning.

Chairman Greenfield said they would hold off. He was just trying to save some money.

Mr. Meachum said that leads to another question. He said he was told that the County is in negotiations with the Building Commission about them taking over the County Highway facilities. Mr. Greenfield said he just asked Jerry Lord about a price to possibly do that, but no, we are not in negotiations with them. Mr. Greenfield said there is a lot at the highway department that the Building Commission does not want any part of so we backed off of that.

Closed Session:

Mr. Meachum said he felt that it would be in the best interest of the committee to go to closed session and talk about some personnel issues at the Macon County Highway department.

Mr. Greenfield made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Illinois State Statute Section 2(c) (1) for the purpose of discussion 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:

Mr. Greenfield made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Bird, the motion carried 7-0 & meeting was adjourned @ 6:30 p.m. Minutes submitted by: Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office