

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

May 22, 2019

5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Patty Cox, Chair
Kevin Greenfield
Phil Hogan
Pat Dawson
Kevin Bird

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Bruce Bird, County Engineer
Joe Moretti
Stu Jacobs
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tim Dudley, Vice Chair
Rachel Joy

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

MINUTES

Mr. Bird made a motion to approve the 4/24/19 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Hogan and the motion carried 5-0.

CLAIMS

Mr. Bird made a motion to accept the report of the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Hogan and the motion carried 5-0.

Public Comments – None

Old Business -

Mr. Bruce Bird handed out information on the Romer Brothers bill that has been discussed the past couple of months. The big thing is the workman's comp insurance percentage, FICA, medicare, federal unemployment tax, state unemployment tax, etc. Because they are tree guys, their workman's comp is real high at 22%. Mr. Bird said he had added everything into the bill, including equipment costs and verified that as well as the payroll. Looking at the totals, IDOT allows a 35% upcharge in the payroll costs, a 10% upcharge for the other payroll additives & a 15% on equipment charges. The total amount of all those, combined, is \$97,786.26. He gave a quote for \$90,000. He asked what the committee members would like for him to pay. Mr. Kevin Bird said to pay the \$90,000 and be done with it. Mr. Greenfield asked if Mr. Bruce Bird had seen the certified payroll to which Mr. Bird said yes and explained that it all matches up. They have an outside company that does their certified payroll. Mr. Greenfield asked why it took 3 months to get it. Mr. Bird said it took the longest to get the workman comp rates because they have a separate bookkeeper that handles that. The certified payroll company said it is anywhere from a 2 to 4 week delay in getting final payroll items back to them. Mr. Bird said that in working with other contractors, unless they have someone in-house that does it, that is comparable. Chairman Greenfield said he isn't buying it. Ms. Dawson asked for clarification on the various companies and people used. Mr. Bird said they have an outside company that does their certified payroll and then a bookkeeper that does their billing for them. Mr. Hogan said he didn't like it that the resolution said not to exceed \$90,000 and then we get a bill for exactly \$90,000. He asked if that had been an estimate. Mr. Bird confirmed that it was. Mr. Greenfield asked if they had been out there for 20 days. Mr. Bird said yes, they were out there all the days listed on the payroll records. Mr. Hogan also confirmed that they were. Mr. Bird said that if they had been out there on an IDOT project, this is what it would come out at. Mr. Greenfield said that they had sent a bill for \$90,000. So, we

asked for a copy of their payroll and they sent payroll figures of \$12,500. Then all of a sudden they came up with more. Mr. Bird asked what they wanted him to pay. Chairman Greenfield said he was sure we are on the hook for it, but he certainly would never use them again. Mr. Hogan agreed. Chair Cox said if the bid said \$90,000, that she thought we might be obligated to pay that but no more. Chairman Greenfield said there is nowhere even close to \$90,000 worth of work. Ms. Dawson asked what they did. Mr. Bird said they had cut a lot of trees down. The number of days they said they were out there matches up with the certified payroll. Mr. Greenfield asked if we get anything back on the contract. Mr. Bird said no, this is all us.

Chair Cox made a motion to go ahead and pay the bill. Mr. Kevin Bird seconded. Ms. Dawson voted present. Mr. Hogan & Mr. Greenfield voted no. Ms. Cox & Mr. Bird voted yes. That is a tie. Motion failed? Mr. Greenfield said we either owe it or we don't. He said he was sure they wouldn't want to negotiate it. We are probably on the hook with it. Mr. K. Bird asked if we have a signed contract. Ms. Dawson asked if it was bid. Mr. B. Bird said it is not a contract. It was a quote. We had to get this done ASAP. Ms. Dawson asked why. Mr. B. Bird explained that there is a recent rule that came out that says you cannot, on any kind of a project that used federal funds, remove trees between April 1st and October 1st because of two types of endangered bats, the northern long eared bat & the Indiana bat, may be roosting in the trees. Ms. Dawson asked who made the ruling. Mr. Bruce Bird said it was the Feds & the EPA. He explained that it is pretty much a moratorium. If you are using federal funds on a project, you cannot do tree work between 4/1 & 10/1 in areas where they may be roosting. It is not a question of if they are actually there or not. The potential exists for them to be there, so you cannot cut the trees. This has been a federal ruling for about 2 years. It makes it extremely difficult to do construction projects. Mr. Bird explained that the tree removal could have been put on the project, but the project is let April 26th, which is after April 1st. So, then the contractor would not have been able to anything until after October 1st because the first thing that has to be done is tree removal. We did this so we could possibly get the thing done this year because that bridge is closed. Mr. Kevin Bird clarified that if we had not done the tree removal, the project could not have been done until next year. Mr. Bruce Bird confirmed. Chair Cox asked what they were going to do about paying the bill. Mr. Bruce Bird suggested asking Mr. Baggett what the tie plus a present vote means and then let him know.

New Business:

Macon County Board Resolution Approving an Engineering Agreement with WHKS on the TR30 Strawn Road Bridge Replacement Project in Austin Township

Chair Cox made a motion to forward the resolution on to the finance committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. K. Bird and the motion carried 5-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the BUILD FY19 Grant Development Proposal with the Beckett Group

Mr. Bird explained that this is for funding for the beltway.

Chair Cox made a motion to forward the resolution on to the finance committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Hogan and the motion carried 5-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving the CH50 Lost Bridge Road CIR Reconstruction Project

Chair Cox asked if any of this is federal funding. Mr. Bird said no, it is all ours. It is going to be a nice project

Chair Cox made a motion to forward the resolution on to the finance committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Hogan and the motion carried 5-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Funds for the CH19 Niantic Road CIR Reconstruction Project

Mr. Bird explained that this is a project in conjunction with Niantic. This is our share of the project. Total cost is around \$320,000. We will be able to reconstruct that whole stretch from Rt 121 all the way up to the stoplight at Maryland and Country Club south of the school and church of Lost Bridge Road 7" thick when done. It will be really nice when done. It will start probably within a month. It will be open for traffic every night. It is reconstruction in place.

Mr. K. Bird made a motion to forward the resolution on to the finance committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Hogan and the motion carried 5 - 0.

County Engineer's Report:

Mr. Bird reported that there were 3 projects that were carry-overs from last year and are being finished up currently. They are the CH21 Bridge, the one that is on Kenney Road up north and west of Warrensburg. That one is finally done, done, done.

The final seeding and grading and a little clean up work here and there on the white topping project on CH41. The contractor tried to get the road closed again so they could finish the work, but we told them absolutely not.

The bridge on Kruse Road will close back up next week because we have to put the final asphalt surface on the bridge deck. They already did the seeding on that last week. They just have to do the asphalt deck on that. It will be closed 2 to 3 days and then opened back up. Then that will be done, done, done.

The connector road contractor was going to make the final pour of concrete, but the rain chased them away. The forecast is not looking good and it will probably be next week before they can get in there. If they get a nice clear day, they'll be able to get in and get it done. About 80% dirtwork is done. The street signs are going up. It won't take long and that will be opened back up.

Added on projects that will be coming up this year are:

The bike path project. That started this week. They are putting storm sewer in and getting ready to put up retaining walls.

The bridge over the Dalton City blacktop – the Ameren crew moved in today to start moving stuff. Long Creek water had their engineer out there spot checking everything and they are planning on getting started out there as well. There is going to be a lot of utility work before the contractor goes in. Someone asked when the contractor was scheduled. Mr. Bird explained that they just got their contracts from the state today. They'll get those flipped back to the state and a pre-construction conference will be held probably within the next 2 weeks. By the middle of June they should be getting started.

The bridge on School Road is set up on the June letting. This is in the far NE corner of the county about ¼ mile from the County line at the intersection of School Road and Rt 48 almost to Cisco. That is on the letting to get replaced this year.

The resurfacing project in conjunction with the Village of Niantic is set up to do this year.
The resurfacing project on Lost Bridge Road

The bridge project on CH20 west of Warrensburg to fix the drainage, replace box culvert and other issues out there that need cleaning up.

An Illini Township bridge on Shellabarger Road

No matter what happens with the Capital Bill in Springfield, there are plenty of things to keep the department busy this year.

Mr. Jacobs reported that they would be oiling CH25, Oakley Road, Argenta Road, Prairieview Road, Sangamon Road and Reas Bridge Road. That is what will be seal coated this year.

Mowing will start in a couple of weeks if it dries up.
Drainage work is in progress on Lost Bridge Road

Mr. Bird said that is what they will be doing over the summer. There is enough to keep them busy over the summer and then some. If anyone calls or has questions, they can call anytime and they will tell them what they know. The state started the layout work on the “J” turn project in Macon. A Channel 3 reported called to see if Mr. Bird knew anything because they couldn’t get anyone from the state to return their calls. Mr. Bird said he knows absolutely nothing; not who the contractor is, when they plan to start; Chairman Greenfield said Chapin Rose had called him last Friday as he must be starting to get calls on it from people trying to find out about it, what it’s going to be.

Miscellaneous Business:

Chair Cox distributed Rebuild Illinois information that Ms. Kraft had picked up at the UCCI meeting. It is information on infrastructure.

Chairman Greenfield informed the members of the committee that he had spoken with Chair Cox about having Ms. Ann Schneider come to a County Board meeting and give a presentation on the Beltway as far as an update and where we are at with it as well as to inform the board members of what she does for the county. Mr. Bruce Bird explained that within a week and a half they would know if we have a Capital Bill or not and asked if they’d like to wait on that. Chairman Greenfield agreed that the July meeting would probably be best. It should only take about 20 minutes.

Closed Session: None needed

Adjourn:

Chairman Greenfield made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hogan, meeting was adjourned @ 5:50 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office