

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**July 24, 2019**

**5:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Patty Cox, Chair  
Tim Dudley, Vice Chair (arrived @ 5:31)  
Rachel Joy  
Kevin Greenfield  
Phil Hogan  
Kevin Bird

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Bruce Bird, County Engineer  
Stu Jacobs, Highway Dept  
  
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Pat Dawson

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

**MINUTES**

Mr. Hogan made a motion to approve the 6/26/19 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Greenfield and the motion carried 5-0.

**CLAIMS**

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

**Public Comments** – None

**Old Business** - none

**New Business:**

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving a Bid from Miles Chevrolet for a 2020 ½ Ton 4x4 Crew Cab Pickup Truck***

Mr. Bruce Bird explained that this is to replace the Shop Supervisor's truck that has about 200,000 miles on it.

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 6-0.

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving a Bid from Miles Chevrolet for 2 2020 ½ Ton 4x4 4-door Pickup Trucks***

Mr. Bruce Bird explained that these are maintenance crew trucks.

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 6-0.

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving a Bid from Decatur Mack for a 2020 Plow and Dump Truck***

Mr. Bruce Bird explained that this bid is good for 6 months. A request for a second truck that will come out of next year's budget will come back before the committee in November. This is a nice way to freeze the price over 2 years.

Ms. Joy 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 6-0.

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving Funds for the Purchase of Parcel 001 on the CH 20 Box Culvert Replacement Project***

Mr. Bruce Bird explained that this is by Warrensburg.

Mr. Hogan made a motion to forward the resolution on to the finance committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Dudley and the motion carried 6-0.

**County Engineer's Report:**

Mr. Bird reported that the Brush College Road Connector Project has been opened. There will be a ribbon cutting in August. The Chamber of Commerce will take care of that and emails will be sent out. It is open to traffic. People are using it. There is still a little work to do to take out the old ADM truck entrance and put up some gates for them on the new entrance. That project will then be complete and ready for all the Farm Progress traffic to show up here in about a month and a half.

- Chip seal work has been finished.
- The bike path project on Baltimore is coming along well.
- The Village of Niantic project is coming along. They did the cold in place recycling, they did the first layer of level binder, they put the joint sealer down today and they'll do all the final surface paving tomorrow only leaving the shoulders and striping. That is the main road that comes up old 36 right up to the RR tracks. It is basically reconstructing while traffic drives on it and the same thing will be done on Lost Bridge Road.
- The contractor started on Lost Bridge Road last week. The cold in place recycling is scheduled to be started next week on that section of road. It is a neat process.
- The bridge on School Road that was on the June letting was awarded yesterday. There will be a pre-construction conference the first week of August in Effingham. They will get started on that a week or two after that.
- The Township project on Shellabarger Road north of Warrensburg is advertised right now. That should start this fall.
- The utilities on 85<sup>th</sup> Street update will include two bills that will have to be paid for; Panhandle Eastern and one that will be upcoming from Ameren. Talks with Panhandle resulted in them cutting \$200,000 out of their bill. Discussion continues around the language. Mr. Bird said he has a list from Mr. Baggett of what he wants to see changed. There are a couple of things. They wanted us to pay for everything up front, but Mr. Bird said he requested they pay ½ now and ½ October 1<sup>st</sup>. With the help of IDOT, some state funds that can be used up front to help pay for that were identified. This gives a little more time. We will have to use our money on the Reas Bridge Road project later, but this gives us the opportunity to actually get that set aside and built up over the next 9 to 12 months. Things are looking good for getting started. The utility work is ongoing.

Ameren is doing their final connections. The last one on that strand will be done tomorrow. Once that is done, the old poles can be retired and taken down which are in the way of the construction. All the telecommunications stuff is done. It's just Panhandle and the gas distribution line of Ameren's which is on the west side of the project and kind of out of the way. They've just got to get that done. The contractor wants to get going, but he wants to make sure the utilities have their stuff done and out of the way before he comes in.

- The Highway Department guys are still doing a little mowing and some culvert work trying to get that stuff done before school starts.

Chair Cox asked if Mr. Bird knew how much he would be getting in state funds. Mr. Bird said up to \$1 million and he thought we'd end up using it all. It is set up in the agreement to do that.

### **Miscellaneous Business:**

Mr. Bird reminded committee members of the discussion in regard to the fuel & oil purchases that took place at the last meeting. He said he had spoken with Morgan Distributing who gave a price which is still significantly higher on oil. The price on gas is the same for both companies which is 2 cents over cost. That makes the cost of the fuel immaterial. The cost paid for oil over the past year was pulled and from July 2018 to June 2019, \$10,297 was spent on oil. That was for everybody. The price that FS gave for their oil was 40% less. You could get fuel from one and oil from the other. Fuel is fuel. It is going to be 2 cents over whatever the market rate is. Morgan said that they quoted the price of their oil, but if you want to compare apples to apples, because they say their oil is so much better than FS oil, they can match it, but it would be a lesser oil. Mr. Bird said they had checked with the manufacturers of the trucks, sheriff's vehicles, etc to see if a switch was made, if it would invalidate warranties and found out that no, it is not going to invalidate warranties. He said it goes back to whatever the committee members want to do.

Mr. Hogan said his recommendation is to stay with Morgan. They have good service and they are local.

Mr. K. Bird said his recommendation would be to go with FS for the oil and stay with Morgan for the fuel. We're all about saving money, so give the oil business to FS because they are cheaper. They've got more at stake in this county than Morgan does. Mr. Bird said he had done some of his own homework on the fuel & oil business situation. Decatur Public Schools bid when they need it and purchase from the lowest each time. The same for the City of Decatur. Conservation District bids annually and FS received their bid. Sanitary District of Decatur bids annually and FS got that. Morgan did not even show up with a bid. Morgan also did not show up with a bid for the Mt. Zion Schools annual bid. Township-wise, Blue Mound, Pleasant View, South Macon, South Wheatland, Long Creek, Hickory Point all use FS. There's plenty to go around and Mr. Bird repeated that he says to switch it up and give half and half, especially if we're going to save that much money.

Mr. Hogan stated that he strongly disagrees.

Mr. Dudley said he would like to see the bids on paper before making a decision. He asked if the oil was the same quality. Mr. B. Bird and Mr. Jacobs compared pricing submitted by both companies. Mr. Bird said that from Morgan, the AC Delco 5W30 is \$17.88 a gallon and from FS, it is \$10.36 a gallon. That is \$7.50 a gallon cheaper. Mr. Dudley asked if they could do a

match. Mr. Bird said they had talked with them when they brought the price in and they said they could match it, but it would be the lower quality of oil because that is what they said would be apple to apple comparison. Mr. Dudley asked if both meet the standards. Mr. Bird said they all meet the standards. Mr. Greenfield asked if FS was giving the higher standard of oil. Mr. Bird said it says Engine Guard full synthetic 5W30 and Morgan Distributing is AC Delco Dexos full synthetic 5W30. They are both synthetic oils. Chairman Greenfield said he agrees about splitting it up to save money. Chair Cox agreed saying that is a big difference. Mr. Hogan asked how long they had been buying from Morgan. Mr. B. Bird said he has been there for 20 years. Mr. Hogan said it is a good product. Mr. Dudley said he is torn. He can see the local thing. They are paying taxes here. If they go out of business, they're not paying taxes. Mr. K. Bird said that FS is paying taxes on 4 plants in this county. Mr. Hogan stated that the FS home office is in Bloomington and Morgan's home office is Decatur, IL. Mr. K. Bird said the service is not that good. Committee members decided that they need a resolution brought to the next meeting so they can vote on it.

Chairman Greenfield reminded committee members of the full County Board meeting where Mr. Yoder's son had given a presentation. He said he has been asked several times where we stand on that lawsuit. He said it is in the hands of the State's Attorney and has no bearing on the County Board. So anybody that is interested needs to talk to Mr. Baggett and it is up to Mr. Jay Scott how things proceed.

Mr. Dudley asked Mr. B. Bird about the grant from the state where the \$1 million had been identified and where it had come from. Mr. B. Bird explained that it is out of the Governor's set aside money for the Beltway. The project is on the Beltway. He said that we are going to spend that money somewhere on the Beltway. That money is available now. This project is part of the Beltway. We're going to use our own money on the Beltway too. We're using that money now which gives us time to build into our budget another million dollars. Mr. Dudley asked if this comes out of the \$10 million that had been appropriated. Mr. B. Bird confirmed and said that even after we use that, we still have over \$4 million left out of the original \$10 million.

Chairman Greenfield gave an update on Reas Bridge funding. He said that Mr. B. Bird and he had gone to Champaign and met with Senator Rose where they had a conference call with the Secretary of Transportation. Since then, the state has passed the Capital Bill. Several conversations have taken place with Senator Rose and Senator Manar. That is a \$50 billion Capital Bill and as of right now, Reas Bridge is not mentioned in any part of it. Senator Manar feels confident that maybe in the Spring, some funding will be set aside for it. But, currently, we are \$8 million short. The truth is, if IDOT comes in and closes that bridge, it will be closed for a long time. It won't be on us. It will be on them.

**Closed Session:** None needed

**Adjourn:**

Mr. K. Bird made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hogan, meeting was adjourned @ 5:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office