

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Public Works
CHAIRPERSON: Randy Jobgen
DATE/TIME: January 26, 2015 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Berlage	Jobgen
Hughes	Heuerman
Dittmar	Petersburg
Smith	

Others: Steve Keeffer, Dan Reimer

MINUTES

1. Minutes

Dan Hughes made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 26, 2014, meeting, Randy Jobgen seconded, and the motion carried.

2. Citizens' Comments

None

3. Highway Department

a. Old Business

1. Project Schedule Update

The list of ongoing projects was reviewed and discussed. Steve Keeffer continues to work on the design of the Stagecoach Trail culverts and culvert projects on Willow and Massbach Roads. Additional structures have been identified that need to be repaired or replaced soon.

2. Committee Goals and Objectives

The committee goals and objectives were reviewed.

3. County Board Retreat Items

The committee reviewed the county board retreat items.

4. Blackjack Road/Batey Hollow Road Trees

The committee reviewed an agreement from Larry Begun regarding trees that were moved along Blackjack Road 2 years ago. This new agreement will extend the original agreement an additional 2 years to see if the trees improve. Dan Hughes made a motion to accept the agreement and have Steve Keeffer sign it and return it to Mr. Begun, Rick Dittmar seconded, and the motion passed

5. Intergovernmental Agreement for the Storage of the Unified Command Post

The committee reviewed an intergovernmental agreement that essentially memorializes the rental parameters set at the August 28, 2014 Public Works Committee Meeting. This particular agreement is with the Jo Daviess County Emergency Management Agency and is specific to the Unified Command Post and Haz Mat equipment. Dan Hughes made a motion to approve the agreement, Bob Heuerman seconded, and the motion passed.

b. New Business

1. Motor Fuel Tax Resolution for the County Engineer's Salary

The committee reviewed a resolution for \$81,836.17 for the County Engineer's salary for FY2015. Rick Dittmar made a motion to approve the resolution, Dan Hughes seconded, and the motion carried.

2. Supplemental Motor Fuel Tax Resolution for the County Engineer's Salary

The committee reviewed a supplemental MFT resolution for the County Engineer's salary. The resolution is for \$2,044.17 – the additional cost is most likely a result of the timing of the pay period and the pay raise received from the merit plan. Rick Dittmar made a motion to approve the resolution, Bob Heuerman seconded, and the motion carried.

3. Motor Fuel Tax Resolution for the 2015 Maintenance Program.

Steve Keeffer presented the committee with a resolution to authorize MFT funds for the entire 2015 maintenance program. Past practice has been to prepare this resolution after the spring MFT material letting and based the request on the results of the letting. At the end of the year a supplemental resolution is prepared to cover the cost of other items (typically snow/ice melting materials) and any over runs. IDOT has asked that the resolution be passed before the expenditure of any MFT funds for the current year and to include all items that will be paid for with MFT funds. This resolution is being passed before the letting and includes all the MFT funds that were appropriated in the budget for FY 2015 (\$500,000). Dan Hughes made a motion to approve the resolution, Bob Heuerman seconded, and the motion carried.

4. Supplemental Motor Fuel Tax Resolution for the 2014 Maintenance Program.

The committee reviewed a resolution authorizing an additional \$193,258.51 of MFT funds for the 2014 maintenance program. By and large, this additional authorization is for the winter maintenance commodities (salt and GeoMelt). Rick Dittmar made a motion to approve the resolution, Bob Heuerman seconded, and the motion carried.

5. Spring Road Postings

Annual spring road postings were discussed. A resolution was reviewed that allows the County Engineer to post the county roads at his discretion for not more than 90 days between the dates of February 11 to May 11. Dan Hughes made a motion to approve the resolution, Rick Dittmar seconded and the motion carried.

6. Apple River Township Request for County aid for a Culvert Project

The committee considered a petition from Apple River Township for county aid for a culvert project on Roberts Road. The proposed project is to replace a failing box culvert with a single cell cast in place concrete box culvert. The project is estimated to cost \$90,000. The county and township will share the cost of construction, right of way and engineering. Rick Dittmar made a motion to approve the request, Dan Hughes seconded, and the motion carried.

7. 2015 Pollution Insurance Policy

The annual renewal of pollution insurance was discussed. This insurance is needed because of various highway department activities including the application of herbicides, chip sealing, and vehicle fueling. Steve Keeffer

indicated that he has not received all of the renewal information for the policy yet. The committee consensus was to have a brief committee meeting before the county board meeting to consider the insurance if the complete renewal information is available.

4. Animal Control

a. New Business

1. Dubuque Humane Society Contract

The committee reviewed the annual contract from the Dubuque Humane Society for the housing of stray dogs. The county has contracted with Dubuque for these services for many years. The contract amount has increased to \$14,400 from last year's \$13,800. The cost of the services is \$14,400 for the first 100 dogs and \$144 for each dog housed over 100. Rick Dittmar made a motion to approve the contract with the Dubuque Humane Society, Dan Hughes seconded, and the motion carried.

5. Noxious Weeds

a. Old Business

1. Appointment of a Weed Commissioner

The committee continued the discussion on the weed commissioner position. Merri Berlage forwarded information she received from FSA offices in the area. Most of the surrounding counties do not have the weed commissioner position anymore. Those FSA offices have had to find other ways to enforce weed control on the CRP fields that they manage. The Jo Daviess County FSA office is strongly in favor of having a county weed commissioner. State's Attorney John Hay has determined that the county weed commissioner needs to be an employee, not a contractor. After some discussion, Randy Jobgen offered to meet with Linda Delvaux to see if the weed commissioner duties could be done by the Code Enforcement Officer in the Building and Zoning Department.

6. Board Member Concerns

None

7. Citizens Comments

None

The meeting concluded at 8:33 P.M.