

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Public Works
CHAIRPERSON: LaDon Trost
DATE/TIME: June 22, 2020 1:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Allendorf
 Korth
 Trost

Heuerman
 O'Connor

Hill
 Toot

Others: Steve Keeffer, Dan Reimer

MINUTES

1. Minutes

Bob O'Connor made a motion to approve minutes from the February 24, 2020 Public Works meeting, Bob Heuerman seconded. The minutes were approved.

2. Citizens' Comments

None

3. Highway Department

a. Old Business

1. Project Schedule Update

Steve Keeffer prepared a map of the county with all active projects delineated. The committee discussed many of the projects and their progress/status.

2. Committee Objectives and Goals and the County Board Retreat

The committee discussed the committee objectives and goals from the recent county board retreat.

3. Uniform Rentals

Steve Keeffer updated the committee on the uniform rental situation. The vendors that we have talked to typically want a five year agreement to recoup the cost of the garments. Two vendors have indicated that they would be willing to work with a one year term, but the county would have to buy the garments if we switched vendors after a year. The service with the lowest costs does not offer t-shirts with the high visibility striping but does have high visibility button up shirts. Steve Keeffer is going to discuss some options with the employees to see if there is way to accommodate those that would like t-shirts versus button shirts and come back to the committee with the results.

4. Loran Road Project Discussion

The committee revisited a proposed culvert replacement project on Loran Road. At the February meeting, the committee decided to bid the project with two alternatives. Before the project can be bid, the necessary right of way needs to be acquired. The necessary right of way has been negotiated at a cost of \$8,419. Bob Heuerman made a motion to acquire the right of way, John Korth seconded, and the motion carried.

b. New Business

1. Derinda Township Cost Share Project Request

Derinda Township is requesting 50/50 aid for the replacement of several culverts throughout the township. Culvert problems were discovered by the Highway Commissioner soon after the start of the pandemic. He was not able to wait for the county to return to normal business so most of the work has already been completed. The estimated cost of the work that has been done and the work that still needs to be completed is \$60,000, with the county and township each paying half. The committee was concerned that some of the work has already been completed, but understood the unique situation due to the pandemic. Bob O'Connor made a motion to approve the request, Bob Heuerman seconded and the motion carried with Steve Allendorf voting nay.

2. Warren/Rush Township Cost Share Project Request.

A bridge on the Warren/Rush Township line is having some issues with loss of embankment material behind the abutment after high flow events. We have seen this issue in other locations and the fix is to excavate behind the abutment and install timber planking behind the piling. The estimated cost of the work including materials is \$5,000, with the townships and county each paying half. Steve Allendorf made a motion to approve the request, Bob Heuerman seconded and the motion carried.

3. Hanover Property Sale Request

The Mayor of Hanover has approached Steve Keeffer to ask if the county would be willing to sell a small piece of property northwest of the salt storage building at Hanover. The purpose of the sale would be so the adjacent welding business could expand their operations. Steve Keeffer indicated the piece of property in question is not being utilized for any Highway Department operations and nothing is planned to be done with said piece of property. After some discussion, the committee instructed Steve Keeffer to respond to the Mayor indicating that there is a willingness to sell the property and that we will entertain an offer.

4. Rebuild Illinois Program Discussion

Steve Keeffer informed the committee that the bonding element of the recently implemented Capital Bill has been implemented. The county will receive six installments over the next three years that are anticipated to total \$1,000,000. One of the requirements of the program is that the money has to be comingled with the regular County MFT funds but accounted for separately. Another requirement is that the money can only be used for a 'bondable' project which IDOT has determined is a capital project with an expected life of 13 years or more. In other words, the money cannot be used for seal coat or road salt. Steve Keeffer will prepare a list of potential projects for consideration. The money has to be expended by the end of July 2025.

5. Purchase of Base Stabilizer for Blackjack Road

The committee considered the purchase of Base1 liquid base stabilizer for the road recycling project on Blackjack Road. The recycling work that was done last year did not perform as well as expected. The project was started in late summer and the project schedule was hampered by excessive rain and a cold fall. Steve Keeffer would like to grind the pavement one more time, add additional liquid base stabilizer, and incorporate the asphalt that was applied to the road last fall. The intent is to do the work early so the stabilized base has plenty of time to cure before applying the seal coat wearing surface. The cost of the Base1 is \$13,200. John Korth made a motion to purchase the Base1, Bob Heurman seconded, and the motion carried.

6. Roadway Recycling Request

Steve Keeffer has received requests to recycle roadways outside of Jo Daviess County. If the county were to do this work, it would generate approximately \$20,000 in revenue between equipment rental rates and labor costs. The work could take up to two weeks and will require one and at times two employees. After some discussion, the committee decided to try doing the work this year and determine if it something we want to continue to do. Bob Heuerman made a motion to do the requested work, Bob O'Conner seconded and the motion carried.

4. Citizens Comments

Sheriff Kevin Turner spoke to the committee about off road vehicles using public roads. Several townships have passed resolutions to allow off road vehicles to use roads under their jurisdiction contrary to the language of state statutes.

5. Board Member Concerns

None

The meeting concluded at 2:24 P.M.