

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Public Works
CHAIRPERSON: Jody Carroll
DATE/TIME: September 27, 2005 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Berlage
 Carroll

Jackson
 Kent

Schubert
 Toepfer

Others: Steve Keeffer

MINUTES

1. Minutes

Dane Jackson made a motion to approve the August meeting minutes, Sally Toepfer seconded, and the motion carried.

2. Highway Department

a. Project Schedule Update.

Steve Keeffer presented the committee with a list of current projects, and their respective status.

b. Sale/Auction of Used Graders.

The committee discussed what to do with the two used graders that will be replaced by the recently purchased used end loader. The dealer, who sold the end loader, did not want to take the graders in on trade. Steve Keeffer informed the committee that there was a heavy equipment auction in October in East Dubuque, and it may be a good way to get optimum prices for the machines. The committee thought this would be a good way to sell the machines. They wanted a representative from the Highway Department to attend the sale, and to set a realistic reserve. Domer Schubert made a motion to sell the graders at the auction, Dane Jackson seconded, and the motion carried.

c. Building/Site Updates.

Steve Keeffer conveyed information to the committee about possible changes to the Elizabeth site to increase office space and equipment storage. It would be difficult to add office space to the existing building. All of the square footage is occupied by the three offices using the building, and they could all use more space. Some type of office addition is the only reasonable approach to add more office space. Steve Keeffer suggested that the most logical location for this addition would be off of the northeast corner of the building

into the existing parking lot. A preliminary estimate of this type of addition would be \$60 per square foot – depending on the size the cost could run up to \$100,000.

The equipment storage issue requires the construction of a large unheated building. The most economical type of building would be of pole construction. Steve Keeffer considered all the equipment that the highway department currently owns, and thought a 10,000 to 12,000 square foot building would be necessary. A building of this size could cost up to \$150,000. This cost could vary due to prevailing wage, number of overhead doors, etc. Placement of a building of this size on the Highway Department property is challenged by existing buildings and overhead power lines.

d. Nora Township 50/50.

The committee considered a petition from Nora Township for aid in installing and repairing guardrail on a culvert and bridge in Nora Township. The culvert is on Canyon Road, and the bridge is on Howardsville Road. The estimated cost of the project is \$10,000 with the township and the county each paying half. Merri Berlage made a motion to fund the project, Domer Schubert seconded, and the motion carried.

e. Township Maintenance Assistance.

The committee engaged in a discussion about concerns over some of the maintenance practices of some of the new highway commissioners. After much discussion, the committee suggested that it would be a good faith gesture for the highway department to offer one days worth of one on one grader operation instruction to the new highway commissioner at no charge. The committee instructed Steve Keeffer to write a letter to the new highway commissioners informing them of this offer.

f. Galena Ambulance Fuel Share.

Steve Keeffer has been approached by the Galena Ambulance Service inquiring about a keyed pump system in Galena similar to the one recently installed in Elizabeth so fuel can be sold to the Ambulance Service. The Ambulance Service is willing to pay the full price of the keyed system. The committee asked Steve Keeffer to ask the other public agencies in Galena if they would be interested in cost sharing the pump system.

g. End Loader Snow Wing.

Steve Keeffer inquired about purchasing a snow wing for the recently acquired end loader. From the quotes currently received, it appears that a wing can be purchased for less than \$10,000. Some other quotes have not been submitted yet, and one brand of wing has not been inspected. The committee asked Steve Keeffer to look at operational wing setup of all the brands before purchasing. Dane Jackson made a motion to allow Steve Keeffer to spend up to \$10,000 on a new snow wing for the Case end loader, Alan Kent seconded, and the motion carried.

3. Executive Session

Merri Berlage made a motion to enter executive session at 7:45 PM. to discuss land acquisition, Domer seconded, and the motion carried.

The committee exited executive session at 8:13 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 P.M.