

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Public Works
CHAIRPERSON: Jody Carroll
DATE/TIME: March 26, 2007 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Berlage
 Carroll

Jackson
 Kent

Lorig
 Schultz

Others: Steve Keeffer, Dan Donar

MINUTES

1. Minutes

Dane Jackson made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes, Alan Kent seconded, and the motion carried.

2. Highway Department

a. Route 5 Box Culvert Discussion.

Dan Donar from Menominee Township addressed the committee to express his dissatisfaction with the recently constructed box culvert on Route 5 in Menominee Township. This was a project that was designed by the Jo Daviess County Highway Department with structural design services provided by Willet Hoffman and Associates. The project was constructed last fall and is complete except for the chip and seal road surface. The project was funded with a combination of state (Township Bridge Program) funds (80%), county (10%), and township (10%). Mr. Donar thinks too much money was spent on the project. He was particularly concerned about the new fence and a cattle underpass that was constructed and how they would only benefit the property owner. He thought the road could have been relocated to the north to save on project cost. The committee and Steve Keeffer responded to some of the comments, but were unable to ascertain any item the committee could act on. Mr. Donar indicated that he would take his issues to the county board.

b. Project Schedule Update.

The committee reviewed a list of current projects, and discussed their progress and status.

c. Dump/Plow Truck Bids.

The committee reviewed bid tabs from the recently held Dump Truck letting. Separate bids were solicited for a tandem axle truck chassis, and body equipment including a stainless steel dump box and spreader, snow plow, and mid mounted snow wing. The low bid for the chassis was for an International

7400 from Lakeside International (formerly Trucks Incorporated) from Monroe, Wisconsin at a cost of \$51,000 (a \$10,000 increase from last year). Steve Keeffer explained that a large portion of the cost increase can be attributed to new exhaust emissions requirements. Dane Jackson made a motion to award the bid to Lakeside International from Monroe, Wisconsin at a cost of \$51,000, Mike Lorig seconded, and the motion carried. The low bid for body equipment was from Monroe Truck Equipment from Monroe, Wisconsin at a cost of \$50,500 (a \$6,704 increase from last year). This cost increase is due to steel price inflation. Merri Berlage made a motion to award the bid to Monroe Truck Equipment at a cost of \$50,500 Marvin Schultz seconded, and the motion carried.

d. Stagecoach Trail Culvert Extension Bids.

The committee reviewed bid tabs for a box culvert extension project on Stagecoach Trail. This project is located between Lake Road No. 1 and Watson Road on Stagecoach Trail. It will extend an existing concrete box culvert that currently has end sections less than 1' from the pavement edge. The low bidder on the project is M&M Concrete from Stockton, IL at a bid of \$26,272.07 which is \$4,753.07 over the engineers estimate, but more than \$13,000 less than the next bid. M&M Concrete has done other larger projects for the county with no issues. Dane Jackson made a motion to award the bid to M&M Concrete at a cost of \$26,272.07, Merri Berlage seconded, and the motion carried.

e. Annual MFT Maintenance Materials – County and Township.

Steve Keeffer presented bid tabs for the annual MFT Maintenance Letting. These bid lettings are for material used by both the County and Townships for road maintenance. Some of the materials are delivered by the supplier, and applied by the county or township (road rock, culvert pipe, seal coat asphalt, etc.), and others are furnished and applied (contract seal coat, pavement paint, calcium chloride). Most of the bids have substantially increased this year – especially seal coat. Both the county and the townships will have to reduce the amount of work they have been typically doing, since revenues have not kept pace with the cost of materials. MFT taxes are paid per gallon of motor fuel, and not related to the cost of the fuel. As the cost of fuel has risen, the amount of revenue paid to the townships and county has been stagnant and in some cases gone down as consumers try to be more fuel efficient. Merri Berlage made a motion to send the township bids to the county board, Alan Kent seconded, and the motion carried. Merri Berlage made a motion to send the county bids to the county board, Marvin Schultz seconded, and the motion carried.

f. Guilford Township Microsurfacing Bids.

The committee reviewed bid tabs from a recently held Guilford Township Microsurfacing Township MFT letting. The proposed project is located on Wachter Road from Eagle Ridge Drive to Blackhawk Trace. The low bid was from Fahrner Asphalt Sealers from Plover Wisconsin at a unit price of \$1.986 for a project total of \$43,574.83. Marvin Schultz made a motion to award the bid to Fahrner Asphalt Sealers at a unit price of \$1.986, Dane Jackson seconded, and the motion carried.

g. Spring Road Posting Discussion.

The topic of spring road postings was discussed. The benefit of the postings versus the hardships caused by the postings was evaluated. The committee discussed the differences between the neighboring states' road posting policies as well. An exemption for agricultural commodities as well as a 'no through trucks' policy was another consideration. Steve Keeffer has completed the pavement cores, and has discovered that Elizabeth Scales Mound Road has the most pavement thickness at 10 ¼", and Scout Camp Road has the least pavement at 4 ½". Different types of tires and their impact on the road was an additional topic. The committee will keep this item on the agenda.

h. E-mail Correspondence from Chestnut Mountain.

Jody Carroll informed the committee that he has received a complimentary e-mail from Mike Murphy from Chestnut Mountain Lodge. Mr. Murphy indicated that he was pleased with the snow removal/winter maintenance on Blackjack Road this year.

3. Animal Control

a. Letter from the Village of Scales Mound.

The committee reviewed a letter from the Village of Scales Mound regarding city contracts for the dogs running at large assistance. For a number of years the county has entered into agreements with the municipalities in the county for picking up stray dogs within the city limits. The county charges a fee (\$70) for each dog picked up and taken to Dubuque. The Village of Scales Mound does not utilize this program, and has written a letter expressing their concerns. In essence, the Village does not think it is fair to charge an additional fee to a municipality since the county receives revenue from city dog owners the same as it does from rural dog owners, and does not charge anyone for stray dog pickup in the rural areas. Steve Keeffer presented the committee with state statutes that indicate that each level of local government is responsible for dogs running at large enforcement. The committee asked

Steve Keeffer to compile some more information to be considered at the next committee meeting. This item will be continued next month.

b. House Bill 822 Discussion.

Steve Keeffer presented the committee with some information regarding a proposed Illinois House Bill regarding some changes to the Animal Control Act. The County Animal Controls of Illinois (CACI) is recommending opposing this bill because a house resolution from last year was passed to form a task force to look at all aspects of the Animal Control Act. CACI was instrumental in the passage of the house resolution, and would like the task force to complete their work before any other changes to the animal control act are made. The committee chose not to act on this issue.

4. Noxious Weeds

a. Weed Commissioner Status

Steve Keeffer informed the committee that Weed Commissioner Steve Lorig has asked to be replaced. The committee instructed Steve Keeffer to advertise for a new Weed Commissioner, and to ask Steve Lorig if he will remain until a new Weed Commissioner is found.

5. Additional Topics

a. Road Name

Marvin Schultz inquired about the proper road name for the short stretch of road that connects Derinda and Massbach Roads. The road in question is maintained by the county and is referred to as the 'stub' by the Highway Department. There is one house on this road addressed as Derinda Road, but emergency services may have difficulty finding that location since it is not on Derinda road proper. The committee asked Steve Keeffer to do some additional investigation and report back next month.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 P.M.