

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Public Works
CHAIRPERSON: Jody Carroll
DATE/TIME: November 22, 2005 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Berlage
 Carroll

Jackson
 Kent

Schubert
 Toepfer

Other Board Members: Ron Mapes

Others: Steve Keeffer

MINUTES

1. Minutes

Dane Jackson made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes, Domer Schubert 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. Savanna Army Depot Maintenance Agreement.

An intergovernmental agreement identical to the one used for the past several years was reviewed by the committee. This agreement is between Jo Daviess and Carroll Counties for the winter maintenance (snow plowing) of 1.6 miles of Jo Daviess County highways in the former Savanna Army Depot. For a cost of \$1,600, Carroll County will maintain our section of road in the depot. This has been done since the roads were accepted by the county, and the cost has remained the same. Dane Jackson made a motion to accept the agreement, Sally Toepfer seconded, and the motion carried.

c. Galena Ambulance Fuel Share.

The committee discussed the request by the Galena Ambulance Service asking for a keyed pump system in Galena similar to the one recently installed in Elizabeth so fuel can be sold to the Ambulance Service. Steve Keeffer has inquired with other public agencies in Galena to see if they would be interested in cost sharing the pump system. The other agencies have expressed some interest, but have not committed as of yet. The committee asked Steve Keeffer to send a letter to all the potential interested parties asking for a solid commitment so this process can move forward.

d. Snow Plowing Procedures.

The committee discussed the county highway department's snow plowing operations. The committee thought that it would be prudent to limit the hours of operations to not exceed 16 hours. It was felt that working a plow truck driver more than 16 hours would create an unsafe condition, and exceed the limits of human endurance. The committee asked Steve Keeffer to make the Sheriff's department aware of the 16 hour limit.

e. Equipment Usage.

The committee engaged in a discussion about sharing county equipment. From time to time, townships use county equipment to supplement their maintenance operations. Ideally, county personnel operate the equipment, but workloads and other commitments make this impossible, and township workers have to run the equipment. The committee asked Steve Keeffer to seek input from the State's Attorney, and the insurance company.

f. Fuel bid

Steve Keeffer informed the committee that the fuel bids would be opened before the December board meeting, to be considered at that meeting. Bio-Diesel, and Ethanol will be included in the bid.

3. Noxious Weeds

Steve Keeffer presented the weed commissioner report to the committee.

4. Executive Session

Domer Schubert made a motion to enter executive session at 8:10 P.M. to discuss land acquisition, Alan Kent seconded, and the motion carried.

The committee exited executive session at 8:25 P.M.

5. Other Discussion

The committee discussed the Animal Control Department's relationship with Safe Haven.

The installation of additional signage at the intersection of Elizabeth Scales Mound Road and Stagecoach Trail was verified.

Public parking and handicapped accessibility to the Highway Department building was discussed. There were concerns that the public cannot park closer to the building, and the absence of an official handicapped parking space. It was suggested that staff park in a different location to allow for a handicapped parking spot, and public parking. Steve Keeffer will look into the situation, and discuss this with the committee in December.

There was also a discussion about office space within the Highway Department Building. With more staff being added to the Building and Zoning Department, there was concern about where everyone would be located. Steve Keeffer explained that there was some preliminary discussion about a building addition a few months ago. This will continue to be a topic of discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 P.M.