

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Public Works
CHAIRPERSON: Jody Carroll
DATE/TIME: September 27, 2010 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Berlage
 Carroll

Jackson
 Creighton

Lorig
 Schultz

Others: Steve Keeffer, Jeff Bader, and Tamera Bader

MINUTES

1. Citizen's Comments

None

2. Minutes

Dane Jackson made a motion to approve the August 23rd meeting minutes, John Creighton seconded, and the motion carried.

3. Animal Control

a. Kennel License

The committee discussed the possibility of a 'Kennel License' to reduce operating costs for owners of kennels. The tag fees for a kennel owner with a lot of dogs can be prohibitive. Jeff Bader and Tamera Bader, who own Hillview Puppies near Scales Mound, explained their operation, and the impact of the regular tag fees. Steve Keeffer had prepared a draft revision to the county ordinance that would allow for a kennel fee that could reduce the costs of tag fees for some kennel owners. A kennel would have to be licensed by the Illinois Department of Agriculture to qualify for the kennel fee. After several minutes of discussion, the committee consensus was to charge a \$1,000 annual kennel fee regardless of the number of dogs at the kennel. The fee could be collected quarterly. Other changes to the county ordinance would allow for an optional three year tag fee to coincide with the three year rabies vaccination. This fee is a reduction over the annual fee, but there will be less administration for the county. John Creighton made a motion to change the ordinance, Mike Lorig seconded, and the motion carried.



a. Project Schedule Update.

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

b. Bethel Bridge/Flood Damage Discussion.

Steve Keeffer is ready to order a culvert to temporarily replace the failed bridge. The culvert should be delivered in three to four weeks. A contractor needs to be selected to remove the existing bridge. The committee discussed the need to fix the damage as quickly as possible. All repairs made to Federal Aid Routes within 180 days will be reimbursed 100% by the Federal Highway Administration. FEMA will begin conducting meetings soon as well. Steve Keeffer will have to assist townships for this process. Jody Carroll made a motion to allow Steve Keeffer to proceed with these projects as allowed by emergency purchases in the county policy, John Creighton seconded, and the motion carried.

c. Hanover Building Update.

Not much has been done to the Hanover Building. Priorities have been adjusted with the recent flood damage.

d. Snow Plowing Meeting Discussion.

The committee discussed the planned meeting with county EMS services and the Sheriff's Department to discuss County Highway Department snow plowing activities. The committee decided in lieu of a separate meeting, to have it as a point of discussion at the regularly scheduled October Public Works Committee meeting. Steve Keeffer will invite the interested parties as well as solicit any questions or concerns they would like addressed.

e. Highway Department Open House.

The committee discussed a new office open house. This event had been tentatively scheduled for this fall. The committee decided that it may be better to have an open house in the spring.

5. Citizens Comments

None

6. Board Member Concerns

Marvin Schultz expressed his concerns with the amount of time it has taken to construct the bridge on Stagecoach Trail. There was a general discussion about construction jobs, progress schedules, and working days. The committee will discuss the pros and cons of the various ways to monitor and ensure timely project delivery.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.