

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Public Works
CHAIRPERSON: Jody Carroll
DATE/TIME: June 27, 2006 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Berlage
 Carroll

Jackson
 Kent

Schubert
 Toepfer

Other Board Members: Marvin Schultz

Others: Steve Keeffer, Dan Reimer

MINUTES

1. Minutes

Dane Jackson made a motion to approve the May 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. Steve Keeffer also submitted a list of 'larger projects' that are scheduled for construction over the next four years. This list also indicated how these projects could be funded to meet the construction schedule. Some of the township projects will exceed the projected state funding. The county has the option of 'fronting' these projects with local (county) funds, and being reimbursed when the state funding is received. The committee discussed ways this can be achieved. Steve Keeffer also explained that there are some county projects with unique issues that would make it advantageous to solicit the help of a consulting engineer for design services. The committee will consider engineering agreements for these projects.

b. Elizabeth Township 50/50 Project.

The committee considered a petition for aid from Elizabeth Township for culvert repair on Sawmill Road. The repair will involve the installation of rip rap protection and a concrete splash pad to halt an undermining problem. The estimated cost of the project is \$5,000 with the county and township each paying half. Dane Jackson made a motion to approve the project, Domer seconded, and the motion carried.

c. Scales Mound Veta Grande Bridge Engineering Reassignment

The consulting engineering firm, Ozyurt and Stone from Springfield, that has been providing design services for the Scales Mound Township, Veta Grande Road railroad bridge has been acquired by Fehr Graham and Associates from Freeport. Consequently, the engineering agreement that was signed with Ozyurt and Stone has to be reassigned to Fehr Graham. Steve Keeffer explained that the same group of engineers will be working on the project, and the only real change is the name of the engineering firm. Domer Schubert made a motion to approve the reassignment, Alan Kent seconded, and the motion carried.

d. Elizabeth Scales Mound Road Resurfacing.

Steve Keeffer informed the committee of the results of the June 16th bid letting for the Elizabeth Scales Mound Road resurfacing project. As suspected, the price of bituminous concrete has taken a substantial jump due to a doubling in the price of asphalt, and the higher cost of fuel products. The as let price of this project is \$486,406 (36%) over the engineer's estimate. The committee discussed the issues at length. The general unpredictability in the cost of petroleum products makes it difficult to decide if there is any wisdom in not awarding the project now. If the project were to be cancelled and re-let later, the prices may be the same or even higher. The committee was also concerned about the repercussions of not doing the project now and allowing further deterioration of the road surface that may lead to more in-depth expensive repairs later. Domer Schubert made a motion to move forward with the project, Dane Jackson seconded, and the motion carried.

e. Derinda Road Resurfacing.

The committee also reviewed the results of the Derinda Road resurfacing project that was let at the same time as the Elizabeth Scales Mound Road. The as let price of this project was \$377,009 (38%) over the engineer's estimate. The committee would also like to proceed with this project, but there will be a lack of funds in the Matching Fund to meet the local agency obligation. Steve Keeffer and Dan Reimer were asked to look into the possibility of 'loaning' money from another fund available to the highway department. Alan Kent made a motion to proceed with the project contingent on the ability to locate additional funds and amend the appropriate budgets, Domer Schubert seconded, and the motion carried.

f. Route 5 Box Culvert Project Awarding Authority.

The committee was updated with the progress on the Menominee Township Route 5 box culvert project. One approval is still pending, but otherwise the project is ready to move forward to letting. Steve Keeffer suggested that it may be advantageous for the Public Works Committee to ask the County Board for the authority to award the bid on the project to expedite the process, potentially allowing the project to begin 2 or 3 weeks sooner. Domer Schubert made a motion to allow the committee to award this project, Alan Kent seconded, and the motion carried. Dane Jackson abstained.

g. Uniform Service Contract.

The committee reviewed three uniform rental company proposals. The current contract with G & K Services is expiring this month. Rental uniform service is included in the recently approved union contract. The proposals are for denim pants and reflective shirts that meet current traffic flagger requirements. The most economical proposal was from Cintas at a weekly cost of \$58.00 with garment protection, which is \$8 lower than the current cost. The uniform contract is for three years. Alan Kent made a motion to use the Cintas uniform service, Dane Jackson seconded, and the motion carried.

h. Workshop Fuel Discussion.

Dan Reimer presented the committee with a copy of a memo from Terry Kurt regarding the request from the Jo Daviess County Workshop to purchase fuel from the Jo Daviess County Transit tanks. Terry Kurt did not present any legal concerns with the proposal. Since the committee took action on the issue last month, no additional motions were made.

i. Blackjack Road Inspection.

Marv Schultz asked about an item he read in the Sheriff's report regarding an IDOT inspection of Blackjack Road. Steve Keeffer explained that the new IDOT Local Roads Field engineer had some concerns with the unorthodox alignment of Blackjack Road relative to the amount of traffic on the road. He offered to review the road with Steve Keeffer, Sheriff Melton, and the IDOT District 2 'Sign Man' to see if there were any improvements that could be made. As a result of the inspection, several suggestions were made to add additional signage, but IDOT did not offer any additional funding for any improvements. Steve Keeffer is considering the suggestions, but still feels that adding signs will do little to improve the underlying issues.

3. Animal Control

a. Dog License Notification Procedures.

Steve Keeffer presented the committee with a synopsis of the current procedures, forms and letters used to inform dog owners that their dog's licenses need to be renewed. After reviewing all the items, the committee made several suggestions that may improve the process. Steve Keeffer will implement some of the suggestions, and investigate the cost of some of the suggestions. Steve Keeffer will also talk with the State's Attorney to see what his thoughts are on the most effective way to get people to pay their dog license fees. The committee will continue to discuss these issues.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.