

STEPHENSON COUNTY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Public Works Committee of the Stephenson County Board met at the County Highway Office on September 5, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

Members present were: Sandra Kubatzke, William Hadley, Andrew Kuhlemeier, Jim Kuhlmeier, Alvin Wire, and Brenda Boynton

Members absent: Lynn Koch

Lynn Koch enters at 9:10 a.m.

Also present were: Chris Isbell and Marcia Hammer

Chris stated there will be no Executive Session. A motion was made by Sandra Kubatzke and seconded by Andrew Kuhlemeier to approve the corrected agenda.

Yeas 6 Nays 0 - Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alvin Wire and seconded by Andrew Kuhlemeier that the minutes of the meeting held at the Stephenson County Highway Department on 08/08/08 be approved as typographically corrected.

Yeas 6 Nays 0 - Motion carried.

A motion was made by Andrew Kuhlemeier and seconded by Sandra Kubatzke that the Claims be allowed.

Yeas 7 Nays 0 - Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chris stated that Mr. Blum received a letter from Barbara Dolen concerning an accident she was in at the intersection of Cedarville Road and Rock City Road in May and wants to know if something can be done. Chris stated that enforcement by the Sheriff's Dept. has been increased at that location. After discussion, additional steps that could be taken include a suggested speed

limit sign, yellow flashing light, and crossroad sign.

RESOLUTIONS:

A motion was made by Sandra Kubatzke and seconded by Andrew Kuhlemeier to recommend approval of Resolution HD 08-28 to the full board. This resolution is for a contract with Willett, Hofman and Associates for engineering services for proposed improvements known as Section 08-09116-00-BR, Hillcrest Road over a branch of the Pecatonica River, and for payment of same not to exceed \$26,743.60.

Yeas 7 Nays 0 - Motion carried.

A motion was made by Andrew Kuhlemeier and seconded by Alvin Wire to recommend approval of Resolution HD 08-29 to the full board. This resolution is for County Bridge aid for improvements on Excelsior Road and known as Section 97-17119-00-DR.

Yeas 7 Nays 0 - Motion carried.

OTHER:

ILPW MAN:

Chris presented the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network Agreement (updated 8/22/08).

CREDIT CARD:

Chris reported that a credit card infrequently used by the highway department was frozen by the credit card company due to unauthorized purchases. No charges were incurred by the highway department for those transactions.

SALES TAX REFERENDUM:

Since the Public Safety Sales Tax Referendum was removed from the fall ballot, Chris proposed a permanent public safety and transportation sales tax referendum in the amount of one cent be placed on the spring ballot and

allocated as follows: one-half cent to Highway, one-quarter cent to be divided amongst the Townships based on miles, and one-quarter cent to municipalities based on population.

No action taken at this time.

Committee Comments:

Chris stated that the budget will be ready and distributed to the members at the county board meeting. Chris stated that we still need to cut \$40,000 from this year's budget, but that the Village of Lena currently owes \$35,000 with an additional \$5,000 to be invoiced. A special budget meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, September 17th at 6:30 p.m. at the Highway Department.

Chris also stated that there is no accepted state bid for salt yet, but has been hearing that it could possibly cost up to \$140/ton this year when the price last year was \$40-45/ton. At that price, the county would be buying a very limited amount. Chris said now making our own salt brine is looking more economically feasible even though it would cost about \$2,000 per truck for 12 trucks, and we would have to buy a storage tank.

Sandra Kubatzke said she has received calls asking why we are doing a culvert replacement on Brush Creek Road. Chris explained that the culvert is in poor condition and needs to be replaced.

Andy Kuhlmeier was requested to ask if we could fill cracks in the road with something other than hot mix which is slippery for motorcycles.

Jim Kuhlmeier stated that 3 fire trucks recently went over the posted bridge on Cedarville Road. Chris will write a letter to the Cedarville Fire District, Chiefs Association, and 911 alerting them that even though they are exempt from road weight limits, the law does not apply to posted bridges.

Jim Kuhlmeier said that Ron Kane had discussed with him new photo topography equipment and was wondering if it would benefit the highway department. Chris said it may be possible to improve our accuracy in figuring drainage, but it would mostly benefit economic development.

A motion was made by Andrew Kuhlemeier and seconded by Sandra Kubatzke that the meeting adjourn/recess at 10:45 a.m.

Yeas 7 Nays 0 - Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Hammer
Committee Secretary

DRAFT