

MEETING: TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE/ TIME: Monday, November 7, 2011 - 8:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Sinn, Rosemary Palmer, Terry Von Boeckman, Jim Donahue, Jim Carius, Mel Stanford, Nancy Proehl, and John Ackerman

ABSENT:

MINUTES: Executive Session minutes from October 17, 2011 were passed out in confidential envelopes and read silently by each Transportation Committee member.

Approve **MOTION BY PALMER, SECOND BY DONAHUE** to approve the minutes of October 17, 2011 and the Executive Session minutes of October 17, 2011.
MOTION CARRIED on voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

General Maintenance / Toboggan Ave. Guardrail Mr. Anderson informed the committee that the guardrail repair project is finishing up. He stated John Replogle, the Resident Engineer on the project, has been working with R.A. Cullinan and Son to place new shoulders and repair embankment. R.A. Cullinan contracted out the guardrail work as they do not do much work in that area.

Veterans Road Bridge Update Mr. Anderson stated the project is on IDOT's November 18th bid letting. The project will be funded with 80% federal funding. Mr. Anderson stated the bidding climate is good. Mr. Donahue asked how long the project will take. Mr. Anderson stated 90 Working Days are in the contract which means the project will likely take the entire 2012 construction season. He stated this job will have extra oversight because it is an IDOT contract.

Rural Sign Upgrade Update Mr. Anderson informed the committee about two thirds of the townships are working on or have completed the process of putting up their signs. The third of the townships that have not started have had other projects to work on or the manpower has not yet been available. Mr. Anderson stated the County's signs are currently being put up.

Wagonseller Road Improvements Update (Industrial Expansion) Mr. Anderson stated the grant applications have been submitted, and we have not received a response yet. He stated the process can take two to three weeks.

Broadway Road Bridge Update Mr. Anderson stated the trees were the final task of this project, and they have been planted. Mr. Dan Parr has billed Morton Township and Tremont Township for their shares of the project. Once payment has been received, this project is complete.

Heritage Lake Update Mr. Anderson, Mr. Dan Parr, Chairman Sinn, Mr. Mike Rankin, and Mr. Joe Warrick met with Attorney Bob Brown on October 17, 2011 to discuss the possible Heritage Lake transfer of jurisdiction.

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The next step is to come up with a more accurate estimate that would include improvements on the entire road system (culverts, drainage, signs, roadway, etc.) and meet with the homeowners. Mr. Rankin expressed his concerns at the meeting with Atty. Brown of the financial hardship on Mackinaw Township if the transfer would take place. Atty. Brown told Mr. Rankin "costs to maintain" such as future maintenance needs and equipment needs can be wrapped into the SSA. Mr. Ackerman inquired if the plan is still to transfer jurisdiction of the whole subdivision (all roads) or just the main route (ring road) through Heritage Lake. Chairman Sinn said the petition asked for the whole subdivision, so that is what the focus is for now. Mrs. Proehl stated she has had a few taxpayers ask why Tazewell County is involved in this process and using manpower and money to help. Mr. Anderson stated a petition was submitted, and although there may or may not be a legal obligation, the problem will not go away on its own. The costs of labor and engineering will be assessed, and Atty. Brown will work with the County to have those costs reimbursed by Heritage Lake if the SSA process goes ahead. Mr. Von Boeckman added that as members of the County Board, they have been selected to represent the people of the County. Heritage Lake is a sizeable area, and the Board and the Highway Department are addressing the issue as a service to taxpayers. If the SSA moves ahead, costs will be reimbursed. Mr. Ackerman asked if the side roads would cause harm to the ring road if the decision was made to leave them out of the improvement. Mr. Anderson stated the ring road is built up high enough that it should not cause any problem, but without further analysis he could not be for sure.

**NEW BUSINESS:
Winter Maintenance**

Mr. Anderson stated the Highway Department is preparing for winter. He stated the first order on the new salt contract has been placed, and the salt dome is full and ready to go. Mr. Anderson stated the single crew covers over 200 miles of road and does excellent work. He stated the crew did great work with the blizzard of 2011. They worked until visibility decreased and safety for the crew and others became an issue. They got rest and had roads cleared the next day. Mr. EVELSIZER stressed that being out in bad conditions too long can lead to rescuers needing rescue. He stated they never want that to happen. Mr. Donahue asked if Tazewell County utilizes snow fences. Mr. EVELSIZER stated there is one on Washington Blacktop, however they are not easy to put up or always useful. The fence has to be at least 50 feet off of the right of way to be an advantage or else the fence will drop snow right at the roadway. Mr. Donahue also asked if the crew communicates with TazCom. Mr. EVELSIZER stated communication is the number one key whether it is with each other, law enforcement, or the public. Mr. EVELSIZER stated they also communicate with other contractors such as R.A. Cullinan and Son, Wayne Litwiller, or Miller and Son who can help with more than normal snow accumulations.

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Line Item Transfers

Mr. Anderson informed the committee we are requesting the Finance Committee to approve a few line item transfers that are necessary to finish out the fiscal year. Transfers include: \$500 from County Highway Fund 202, line item 202-311-533-900, Conferences and Seminars to line item 202-311-533-740, Highway Maintenance to offset expenses incurred for random drug testing costs and a failed battery backup. \$300 from County Highway Fund 202, line item 202-311-533-400, Legal Notices to line item 202-311-522-010, Office Supplies to offset expenses incurred due to recent, unexpected printing and postage costs. \$1,200 from County Highway Fund 202, line item 202-311-544-120, Interest to line item 202-311-544-125, Principal to offset incorrect budget numbers assigned for leased equipment. A motion was made by Mr. Donahue, second by Mrs. Proehl recommending to the Finance Committee to approve a line item transfers.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Sinn adjourned the meeting at 8:46 A.M. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Transportation Committee will be held on Monday, December 5, 2011, at 8:00 A.M.

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