

MEETING: TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approved 1/19/2015

DATE/ TIME: Monday, November 17, 2014 - 8:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Sinn, Nancy Proehl, Rosemary Palmer, Andrew Rinehart, and John Ackerman

ABSENT: Joe Wolfe and Russ Crawford

MINUTES: **MOTION BY ACKERMAN, SECOND BY PALMER** to approve the minutes of October 20, 2014. **MOTION CARRIED** on voice vote.
Approve

Chairman Sinn took a moment to thank John Ackerman for his service as a County Board member, specifically a member of the Transportation Committee. He thanked him for his hard work at keeping track of items that pertained to the transportation system of Tazewell County.

NEW BUSINESS:
NACE Convention

Mr. Fink informed the committee that the annual NACE convention will be held in Daytona, Florida this year, and he would like to attend. The convention is a way to continue his Professional Engineering education credits. The convention will be paid from County Highway Funds, Conferences and Seminars budget for 2015. Mr. Fink also noted that he plans to be on vacation the week prior to the conference and may pass closer to Daytona, thus saving some travel costs.

RESOLUTION: **MOTION BY RINEHART, SECOND BY PROEHL** to approve the request. **MOTION CARRIED** on a voice vote.

IPLSA Convention

Mr. Fink informed the committee that Mr. Dan Parr would like to attend the IPLSA conference in Springfield to continue his education credits for his Professional Land Surveyors license. Mr. Fink added that since Mr. Parr has his Surveyors license he is able to manage a large portion of the right of way needs for a lot of projects very well. He stated it is nice to have that capability “in-house.”

RESOLUTION: **MOTION BY ACKERMAN, SECOND BY PALMER** to approve the request. **MOTION CARRIED** on a voice vote.

Annual Equipment

Chairman Sinn informed the committee that a resolution is required to take bids for the purchase of new equipment and to pay for leased equipment from County Highway Tax Funds.

RESOLUTION: **MOTION BY RINEHART, SECOND BY PROEHL** to recommend to the County Board approval of a resolution appropriating County Highway Tax funds for the following items: mowing tractors lease, backhoe lease, flatbed trailer replacement, wing snow plow, tandem replacement, end loader lease, and miscellaneous items. **MOTION CARRIED** on a voice vote.

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**Annual Road and
Bridge Projects**

Chairman Sinn informed the committee that a resolution is required to take bids for road and bridge projects. Mr. Fink stated the list of projects covers everything the Highway Department anticipates for the coming fiscal year and all are included in the 2015 budget. Mrs. Proehl inquired about township projects and why they are not listed. Mr. Fink stated the lettings for townships go through this office when Motor Fuel Tax is used, but the County does not require a resolution to accept bids for townships since it is not County work.

RESOLUTION:

MOTION BY PALMER, SECOND BY RINEHART to recommend to the County Board that the County Engineer be authorized to take bids. **MOTION CARRIED** on a voice vote.

**Annual County
Maintenance Resolution
(BLR 14220)**

Mr. Fink explained the County Maintenance Resolution appropriates county motor fuel tax funds for the annual county highway maintenance program for Fiscal Year 2015. The resolution is sent to IDOT for approval and bids will be received here in this office, as appropriate, for each item.

RESOLUTION:

MOTION BY ACKERMAN, SECOND BY RINEHART to recommend to the County Board approval of a resolution appropriating a total amount of \$2,910,000.00 of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the following maintenance programs: \$142,000.00 for Paint, \$24,000.00 for Beads, \$274,000.00 for Salt, and the balance for road work. **MOTION CARRIED** on a voice vote.

**Sec. 15-00000-00-CS
County Engineer's Salary/
Vehicle Compensation
(BLR 09221)**

Chairman Sinn stated the committee would move to Executive Session to further discuss details of the County Engineer salary. **MOTION BY ACKERMAN, SECOND BY PROEHL** to move the Committee into Executive Session under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) – Personnel at 8:11A.M.

Chairman Sinn moved the Committee out of Executive Session at 8:35 A.M.

Chairman Sinn stated a resolution is necessary to recommend a 2.5% increase in the county engineer's salary for 2015 as well as set the mileage reimbursement for travel and another resolution is necessary to utilize federal surface transportation funds to pay half the salary since the salary is at least 95% of the IDOT recommended amount.

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RESOLUTION:

MOTION BY ACKERMAN, SECOND BY PROEHL to recommend to the County Board for approval both resolutions to establish the county engineer salary for January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 at \$118,900.00 per annum, and his stipend pay for mileage to remain at \$700.00 per month, with an additional mileage reimbursement for travel outside Tazewell/Peoria metro area for county functions at the current mileage rate and to appropriate county motor fuel tax funds to pay such salary and authorize half of such salary to be paid with the county's federal surface transportation funds. **MOTION CARRIED** on a voice vote.

**Support New State
Transportation Capital
Program**

Chairman Sinn asked Mr. Fink to present the resolution in support of a transportation capital program for state and local government in Illinois. Mr. Fink presented the resolution which included an outline of a capital program being proposed by TFIC (Transportation for Illinois Coalition). Mr. Fink led the committee thru the resolution and background materials. He also presented and explained a graph showing Tazewell County's motor fuel tax revenues contrasted by the county highway maintenance cost increases that revenue has faced and the resulting loss of purchasing power that is being experienced. The committee discussed the issues.

MOTION BY ACKERMAN, SECOND BY PALMER to support the transportation capital program currently proposed by TFIC (Transportation for Illinois Coalition), subject to County Board approval. **MOTION CARRIED** on a voice vote.

PROJECT UPDATES:

Mr. Fink directed the committee's attention to the list of project updates provided in the packet.

He stated the Safety Study (07-00000-00-ES) that was started when several driving related fatalities were affecting the Tazewell County area has been complete, but IDOT is requesting a final report.

Mr. Fink stated the right of way from NRG has still not been acquired to move forward with the Wagonseller projects. He stated time has expired. Mrs. Proehl reminded the committee of a concern she has voiced before. She stated she cannot see the reasoning behind improvement of the Manito Road intersection at Wagonseller Road when the railroad viaduct over Manito Road remains as an obstruction immediately east which is outside the county's control. Mrs. Proehl explained she is aware that it is not something that will be improved for quite some time, but that being said, she feels that improvements at Manito Road and Wagonseller Road would be a mistake.

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**OTHER MATTERS:
Bridge Inspection Fees**

Mr. Fink stated Mr. Paul Augspurger is the Program Manager for bridge inspections and has the responsibility of making sure the County is compliant. The Highway Department also provides this service to other municipalities and townships since 1996 when an informal agreement established the highway department would be reimbursed their costs for providing the inspections on an average cost per structure for performing structure inspections. The fee was established then at \$75 per structure and has remained the same since. Mr. Augspurger calculated the current average cost per inspection at \$100. Mr. Fink noted the cost needs to be raised. Mrs. Proehl inquired if the bridge inspection fee falls under the county wide fee study that was recently discussed. Mr. Ackerman stated no action has been taken on that discussion at this time. Chairman Sinn stated this fee falls under the County Engineer's responsibility, and Mr. Fink has the capability to establish the increased fee.

No December Transportation Committee meeting or County Board meeting.

Mr. Ackerman stated he has served on the Committee under three county engineers now. He stated he feels the Transportation Committee is one of the most outstanding staples for leadership and functionality. Mr. Ackerman stated the flow of the Committee has been exceptional as well as the expertise at the table. He also thanked Chairman Sinn and said it has been an honor working with him.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Sinn adjourned the meeting at 9:14 A.M. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Transportation Committee will be held on Monday, January 20, 2015, at 8:00 A.M.