

**Transportation Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 18, 2007 - 9:00 A.M.
McHenry County Division of Transportation
Main Conference Room
16111 Nelson Road
Woodstock, Illinois 60098**

Chairman Dan Shea
Vice Chairman Ed Dvorak Mary Lou Zierer
Virginia Peschke Lyn Orphal
Sandra Salgado Anna May Miller

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Shea called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Dan Shea, Virginia Peschke, Lyn Orphal, Anna May Miller, Mary Lou Zierer and Sandra Salgado

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Vice Chairman Ed Dvorak
Lyn Orphal left the meeting at 10:35 A.M.
Sandra Salgado left the meeting at 11:25 A.M.

OTHER ATTENDEES

In attendance were: Ken Koehler, County Board Chairman; Peter Austin, County Administrator; Joseph Korpalski, Division of Transportation Director/County Engineer; Jeff Young, Division of Transportation Assistant County Engineer; Eric Anderson, Harris Bank; Marc Munaretto, County Board Member; Ralph Sarbaugh, Associate County Administrator – Finance; Mary McClellan, State's Attorney Office; Michelle Courier, State's Attorney Office; David Stone, State's Attorney Office; Mark Mathewson, Mathewson Right of Way; Mark Dvorak, Teng & Associates, Inc.; John Hillman, Teng & Associates, Inc.; Laura McGovern, Alfred Benesch & Co.; Robert Rollings, Bollinger, Lach & Associates, Inc.; Joe Murawski, Village of Lake in the Hills Trustee; Chris Manheim, McHenry County Economic Development Corporation (EDC); Charles Eldredge, McHenry County Economic Development Corporation (EDC); Veronica Armstrong, County resident; Don Larson, County resident; Mark Dammyer, Division of Transportation Construction Manager; Walter Dittrich, Division of Transportation Design Manager; Ed Markison, Division of Transportation Assistant Maintenance Superintendent; Jason Osborn, Division of Transportation Principal Transportation Planner; and Donna Adamson, Division of Transportation Receptionist.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Ms. Veronica Armstrong, 6201 Edgewood Road in Crystal Lake, IL. Because Prairie Grove has approved the development along Illinois Route 31, this furthers the necessity of a traffic signal at the intersection of Walkup Road with Edgewood Road / Berry Court.
- Mr. Don Larson, Alden Township. Don reminded the committee about the request for a bike path to be within the Lawrence Road right-of-way west of Harvard.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 21, 2007 MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by Ms. Miller, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the March 21, 2007 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

A vote was taken with all members present voting "aye"; motion carried.

PRESENTATION

A presentation was made by Mr. Eric Anderson from Harris Bank and Mr. Marc Munaretto from McHenry County's Finance and Audit Committee; the presentation was based upon the necessity of purchasing \$50 million in debt by using the a "Pay As You Use" approach with a 10 year debt retirement.

Mr. Marc Munaretto said that the plan was to have a joint meeting on this topic on May 8, 2007 at which time a resolution will be adopted by the Transportation and Finance and Audit Committees to be presented to the County Board.

A discussion ensued.

Mr. Korpalski, Marc Munaretto, and Eric Anderson complimented Jason Osborn for his assistance in the compilation of the information for this presentation.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution approving the inclusion of six (6) groups into the McHenry County Division of Transportation Adopt-A-Highway Program.

In order to augment the Division of Transportation's litter collection efforts, the County enacted an ordinance to allow for volunteer groups to adopt various sections of highways for litter collection. With the approval of these agreements, the MCDOT has 106 groups enrolled in the program covering 141.5 centerline miles of the 225 available miles in the program, or 63%.

The ordinance requires that the volunteer groups enter into an agreement with McHenry County defining the responsibilities of the groups and the County. This resolution approves the County to enter into an agreement with six groups for six sections of highway.

Ms. Zierer, Transportation Committee Member suggested that MCDOT take out a full-page ad in the Northwest Herald to promote the Adopt-A-Highway Program.

Mr. Austin said that a group of County employees are participating in this program.

On a motion by Ms. Orphal, seconded by Ms. Miller, the resolution approving the inclusion of the six (6) groups into the McHenry County Division of Transportation Adopt-A-Highway Program was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

A vote was taken with all members present voting "aye"; motion carried.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET LINE ITEM TRANSFER

McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution approving the emergency appropriation for overtime salaries.

The County entered into its first contract with Local 150 in late December. The new agreement included higher wages and new pay rules for holidays. No budget adjustments were made to the 2007 budget to account for these changes. The County experienced a very active winter season. Severe storms with extreme winds which lead to the blowing and drifting snow caused events to last for days. The Division was forced to work 20 of the 28 days in February, 9 straight weekends and 3 holidays. This caused the Division to exceed the entire budgeted amount for overtime salaries prior to the construction season.

On a motion by Ms. Orphal, seconded by Ms. Miller, the resolution approving authorizing a budget line item transfer for FY2007 budget was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

Ms. Zierer complimented MCDOT on the fine job that was done on snow removal for the most recent event. Mr. Korpalski added that the MCDOT is very proud of the staff's efforts.

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR ELECTRICAL POWER

McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of the resolution appropriating funds for electrical power for the Division of Transportation's roadway lighting systems and traffic signals.

A budgetary change was made in FY2005-2006 to fund the power of these systems from the Division of Transportation's Highway Fund to the County Option Motor Fuel Tax funds. The primary purpose for this change was that as the County continues to operate under a "maintenance" budget, the growth in the Division's systems requiring power continues to increase. Therefore, a maintenance budget for this line item cannot keep pace with the growth in the County and the rising costs of energy.

The budget amount in FY2005-2006 was for \$46,000.00 and \$54,190.00 was expended. In FY2006-2007, \$59,000.00 has been budgeted. No appropriation was made in FY2005-2006 thus the resolution only appropriates the funds for the FY2007 expenditures as budgeted. The reason is that the FY2006 amounts have already been paid.

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Zierer, the resolution appropriating funds for roadway lighting and traffic signal electrical power was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE RESOLUTION FOR THE PRIVATE ROAD RESURFACING CONTRACT

McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests an amendment to the resolution awarding a private road resurfacing contract for Nunda Township.

McHenry County Division of Transportation in cooperation with various road districts, annually surfaces private roadways that have been upgraded to meet the County's minimum roadway standards.

Currently MCDOT has a paving contract with Meridian Construction Co., Inc. However, the resolution pertaining to that contract incorrectly appropriated the sum of \$25,000.00 from the County Option Fuel Tax Fund.

On a motion by Ms. Orphal, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the resolution amending R-200704-82-082, a resolution awarding a private road resurfacing contract and appropriating funds was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

The Project Status Report was discussed. Mr. Korpalski noted the picture on the front cover; through Mark DeVries efforts in conjunction with the American Public Works Association (APWA), the Division had six (6) groups of pre-schoolers come to look at the equipment.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS

Old Business

NICRI Update

- Chairman Shea had a handout distributed regarding the ongoing discussion pertaining to the Amtrak service route and its resolution. Mr. Shea indicated that there was a meeting on Friday whereby the outcome required our letter of support by Monday. Subsequently, the meeting was cancelled.

The thought is that Metra would service more people and that Metra is more reliable, however, the Metra line would terminate at Rockford.

County Board Chairman Koehler stated that he had to give testimony in front of Congresswoman Bean and Congressman Kirk. The testimony covered Metra service and the expansion of lines. In the long range plans, Metra service will improve and eventually will extend to Huntley, Union and Marengo. However, Congressman Don Manzullo is really promoting the Amtrak service, which, hopefully, will provide commuter rail service from Rockford to Chicago. In the long run, what will be chosen is the easiest and least expensive; however, this should not preclude the County's plans for Metra expansion.

New Business

Randall Road Corridor Advisory Council

- Mr. Korpalski said that the scope for the Randall Road Phase I project included, as part of the context sensitive solution approach, a Corridor Advisory Council. The intention is to involve the local stakeholders so an advisory council would be developed. Working with consultant HDR, Inc., a recommendation that 20 people would be on this advisory council. Mr. Korpalski enumerated the list of potential advisory council members. After this list is solidified, a formal letter would be sent by County Board Chairman Koehler outlining the parameters of this council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Minutes, Property Acquisition(s), Personnel and/or Pending Litigation

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Miller, the meeting went into Executive Session at 10:40 A.M.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

On a motion by Ms. Miller, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the meeting went out of Executive Session at 11:40 A.M.

A vote was taken with all members present voting "aye"; motion carried.

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Zierer, the meeting went back into Regular Session at 11:40 A.M.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

Chairman Shea noted that "no action" was taken in Executive Session.

NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION

9:00 A.M. on May 2, 2007 – McHenry County Division of Transportation

A discussion was held as to whether the Transportation Committee meeting of May 2, 2007, will likely be cancelled but held after the Joint Transportation and Finance and Audit Committee meeting on May 8, 2007.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ms. Miller, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 A.M.

A vote was taken with all members present voting "aye"; motion carried.