

**Transportation Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 18, 2006 - 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 Don Larson
Virginia Peschke Lyn Orphal
Sandra Salgado Anna May Miller

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Shea called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Dan Shea, Anna May Miller (arrived at 9:02 AM), Lyn Orphal, Sandra Salgado, Virginia Peschke, Don Larson and Ed Dvorak

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In attendance were: Ken Koehler, Chairman of the County Board; Peter Austin, County Administrator; Joseph Korpalski, Division of Transportation Director/County Engineer; Brian Smith, CTE; Joe Murawski, Village of Lake in the Hills; Gary Overbay, Civiltech Engineering, Inc.; Charles Eldredge and Karen Patel, McHenry County Economic Development Corporation; Veronica Armstrong, County resident; Ken Kelgard, Division of Transportation Deputy County Engineer; Jeff Young, Division of Transportation Design Manager; Mark DeVries, Division of Transportation Maintenance Superintendent; Cha Lee, Division of Transportation Consultant Project/Design Engineer; Holly Ostdick, CATS Planning Liaison; Debra Kroll, Division of Transportation Administrative Specialist.

- Veronica Armstrong, Crystal Lake resident – Ms. Armstrong discussed the Walkup Road Project regarding accidents at the intersection of Walkup Road, Edgewood Road and Berry Court and signalization at that intersection.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 07, 2005 AND JANUARY 03, 2006 MEETING MINUTES

On a motion made by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Dvorak, the December 07, 2005 and January 03, 2006 meeting minutes, with deletions noted by Chairman Shea, were approved.

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH ECOLOGIC PLANNING, INC. FOR WETLAND CREDITS IN THE KISHWAUKEE BOTTOMS WETLAND MITIGATION BANK

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of this resolution for an agreement with Ecologic Planning, Inc., to purchase wetland credits for the Ackman Road Extension Project in Grafton Township.

The Ackman Road Extension Project is planned to go out to construction this year (April 2006 letting – anticipated – pending IDOT and PSB posting). As such, the Phase I report completed for the project identified that there are some isolated wetlands that will be impacted by the project, and will therefore need to be mitigated. The wetlands are low quality and are not jurisdictional in nature. The rate of replacement is 2:1.

The County has used Ecologic Planning, Inc. in the past, and has been very happy with the product they provide, and their very good reputation with the Chicago Army Corps. office.

On a motion made by Ms. Miller and seconded by Ms. Orphal, the Resolution Approving the Agreement with Ecologic Planning, Inc. for Wetland Credits in the Kishwaukee Bottoms Wetland Mitigation Bank and the appropriation of \$57,340.00 from the County Option Motor Fuel Tax Fund was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH OZYURT & STONE FOR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS WORK ON VARIOUS COUNTY BRIDGES

The McHenry County Division of Transportation staff requests the approval of this resolution, approving an agreement with Ozyurt and Stone, to provide ongoing structural analysis of existing County bridges on an "on-call" basis.

The State of Illinois has changed a number of their bridge policies, within the last eighteen (18) months. These changes have necessitated that the County post weight limits on a number of County and Township bridges, throughout McHenry County, in the last eight (8) months. As part of the postings, the County will be required to keep a closer eye on the structural conditions of its posted bridges and other bridges that are close to being required to be posted for weight limits. This increased effort cannot be completed by the McHenry County Division of Transportation staff, as we do not have structural engineers on staff.

The McHenry County Division of Transportation is requesting that an agreement be entered into with Ozyurt & Stone, to provide this service on an "as needed" basis. They are the County's bridge inspectors, and have a great deal of existing knowledge and history with the bridges of McHenry County.

On a motion made by Ms. Peschke and seconded by Ms. Miller, the Resolution Approving an Engineering Services Agreement with Ozyurt & Stone for Structural Analysis Work on Various County Bridges and the appropriation of \$10,000.00 from the County Bridge Fund was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE SALARY OF THE COUNTY ENGINEER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS

The County of McHenry has entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation (hereinafter IDOT) (executed by IDOT on February 04, 2000), whereby the County, having sufficient Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds available, desires to utilize a portion of said funds, so that IDOT shall pay fifty percent (50%) of the salary of the County Engineer, and the remaining fifty percent (50%) to be paid from Motor Fuel Tax funds.

In order to pay fifty percent (50%) of the County Engineer's salary through IDOT, the County agrees to conform to the salary schedule recommended by IDOT.

The County desires to appropriate funds for the purpose of payment of the County Engineer's salary for the period beginning December 01, 2005 and ending November 30, 2006.

The salary of the County Engineer shall be one hundred eleven thousand two hundred one dollars and sixty eight cents (\$111,201.68) per year effective December 01, 2005.

The funding source for the above stated \$111,201.68 shall be \$55,600.84 in Motor Fuel Tax Funds and \$55,600.84 in State funds, received from IDOT, in exchange for the County Surface Transportation Program funds pursuant to the intergovernmental agreement.

Mr. Austin met with Mr. Korpalski and discussed his performance and work plan for 2006.

On a motion made by Ms. Orphal and seconded by Ms. Miller, the Resolution Establishing the Salary of the County Engineer and the appropriation of \$55,600.84 from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund and \$55,600.84 from State funds was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

CONSULTANT SELECTION

Alden Road – Wisconsin State Line to Charles Road – This item was removed from today's agenda.

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

The report was discussed in detail by Mr. Korpalski.

Mr. Korpalski noted that the McHenry County Division of Transportation has finally received approval from the Illinois Department of Transportation on the Johnsborg Road Phase I Project.

Mr. Austin questioned Mr. Korpalski as to some of the reasons for rising construction costs.

Mr. Korpalski stated that the rise is occurring because of the high cost of steel, fuel, oil, and cement.

Ms. Orphal added that the states suffering from the devastation of hurricane Katrina are the principal recipients of needed materials. Consequently, others are receiving materials later and paying a higher premium for them.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS

Old Business

Chairman Shea informed the committee of a meeting that he, Mr. Korpalski and Mr. Tim Martin from the Illinois Department of Transportation attended on Tuesday January 17th. Chairman Shea stated that a number of plans regarding transportation issues have come through, that involve monies up to \$700 million dollars.

Chairman Shea stated that this matter will need to be researched in depth, regarding the amount of money that the state will have available in reasonable terms, for the next six (6) years and what we can reasonably expect from the Federal Government. Chances of the County receiving substantial amounts of money from outside sources are virtually nil. The County has received monies from CMAQ for projects and those monies are not threatened at this time.

Chairman Shea also went on to say that some rethinking and examination needs to be done on our part (the committee), concerning what monies are attainable versus what monies we would like to receive. Bonding was discussed; however it is not instrumental in obtaining more money, but rather when you receive the money.

Mr. Korpalski informed committee members that even if the County is able to come up with "matching" amounts, that does not address whatever "short fall" amounts are on the projects. "It is becoming more and more of a challenge."

Discussions ensued and Ms. Salgado suggested that a workshop be held and attended by committee members and the McHenry County Division of Transportation staff, to discuss project priorities, specifics and option variables, rather than having staff present their recommendations for the committee's approval.

Chairman Shea thought that a preliminary casual meeting could be arranged between himself, Mr. Ken Koehler and Mr. Korpalski, because this issue reflects beyond this committee, where we could draft a plan of projects and options that could then be brought back to the committee. Chairman Shea thought this to be a more effective course of action.

The issue was discussed by committee members and Mr. Larson agreed that a workshop was his preference, with direction and a selection of projects originating from the committee.

Mr. Korpalski stated that the Five Year Program has been completed by MCDOT staff and is on his desk for review. He also stated that project selection does not solely come from MCDOT staff, but rather from input and direction from committee members from past meetings.

Chairman Shea asked for suggestions and Ms. Orphal offered that perhaps a draft program with a review of key projects could be created, noting variables that impact these projects, which could then be brought back to the committee for their input, discussion and approval might be the best approach.

New Business

APWA Award – Technical Innovation – Liquid Blending System

Mr. Korpalski discussed, as the committee has already been made aware of, the Liquid Blending System that Mr. Mark DeVries and the MCDOT Maintenance staff created. Mr. Korpalski reiterated that Mr. DeVries has done a tremendous job of leading those efforts, with a product that will change the snow removal industry as a whole.

Mr. DeVries has received well deserved recognition for his efforts. Mr. DeVries is very active in various committees, not only locally through APWA, but nationally through various organizations.

Chairman Koehler, Chairman Shea and Mr. Korpalski joined Mr. DeVries and other staff in receiving an award from the American Public Works Association (APWA) Fox Valley Branch, for professional and technical innovation for the Liquid Blending System.

On January 12, 2006 the Chicago Chapter Awards Committee met to review the submittals forwarded from East APWA Grants. There are five (5) branches that compile the Chicago Metro Chapter:

- Fox Valley
- Suburban
- South West
- Lake
- City of Chicago

Each branch reviews and submits its top choices. These committees reviewed fifty two (52) applications and recommended twenty three (23) to the National competition. The Division of Transportation Technical Innovation Award did have competition and was selected to go to the National level.

Chairman Koehler, Chairman Shea and Mr. Korpalski will be invited to join Mr. DeVries on March 09, 2006 for the acceptance of the Chapter level award.

Mr. Korpalski announced that the MCDOT has had many visitors from all over the country to view the Liquid Blending System. He added that this was done all within our existing budget, with no supplemental emergency appropriations needed.

The Department of Energy will be using this system at their Los Alamos, New Mexico site; a lab in the New Mexico mountains. This facility has one road in to this lab and one road out.

Chairman Koehler recognized the fact that McHenry County as a whole, took three (3) out of six (6) awards.

Mr. Korpalski sought concurrence from the committee to sanction a presentation, conducted by Mr. DeVries, to the Full County Board, in recognition of the APWA awards. The committee concurred.

The other projects were: the sidewalk project in Algonquin Township, Cary and Fox River Grove and the Lake in the Hills Sanitary District.

CATS Policy Committee – Vice Chairman

The CATS Policy Committee recommended the appointment of Mr. Kenneth Koehler as Vice Chairman of the CATS Policy Committee, which was unanimously approved. Mr. Koehler will work closely with Secretary Martin and CATS. Congratulations were offered by all.

Renovations have been completed and the Metra Station Rededication was attended by Chairman Koehler, Chairman Shea and Mr. Korpalski on January 18, 2006 at 7:30 AM.

NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION

9 A.M. on February 01, 2006 – Division of Transportation

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Ms. Miller at 10:25 AM and seconded by Ms. Salgado, the meeting was adjourned.

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