

**Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 15, 2011 – 8:15 A.M.
McHenry County Division of Transportation
Main Conference Room
Woodstock, Illinois 60098**

Chairperson Anna May Miller
Vice-Chairperson Paula Yensen Scott Breeden
Diane Evertsen Virginia Peschke
Nick Provenzano Sandra Salgado

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Miller called the meeting to order at 8:15 A.M.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Chairperson Miller, Paula Yensen, Sandra Salgado, Virginia Peschke, Diane Evertsen and Scott Breeden

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Nick Provenzano

OTHER ATTENDEES

In attendance were: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Joseph Korpalski, Director of Transportation/County Engineer; Jeff Young, Division of Transportation, Assistant County Engineer; Wally Dittrich, Division of Transportation, Design Manager; Sarah Jansen, State's Attorney Office (SAO); Mark Mathewson, MROWCO; Charlie Eldredge, McHenry County Economic Development Corporation; Ted Lachus, Primera Engineers, Ltd.; Brian Smith, AECOM; Gary Blazek, Civiltech Engineering, Inc.; Todd Bright, TranSystems Corporation; Mark Dammyer, Division of Transportation, Construction Manager; Mark DeVries, Division of Transportation, Maintenance Superintendent; Ed Markison, Division of Transportation, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent; Ray Beets, Division of Transportation, Permit/Developer Project Manager; Chalen Daigle, Planning Liaison; Debra Kroll, Division of Transportation, Administrative Specialist.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Charlie Eldredge, McHenry County Economic Development Corporation, spoke of Mr. Bill Dwyer's passing, remembering his achievements as a respected and proactive leader in McHenry County.
- Mr. Eberhard Veit, a member of the McHenry County Bicycle Advocates (MCBA), commented on the rumble strips along Cary-Algonquin Road.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 1, 2011

On a motion by Mr. Breeden, seconded by Ms. Peschke, the meeting minutes of June 1, 2011 were approved with a noted correction by Ms. Evertsen.

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY VOLUNTEER GROUP AGREEMENT

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

St. John's Little Blessings L.C.
new group

North Union Road from Kunde Road to Illinois Route 176

Pride in Education Foundation
new group

Kishwaukee Valley Road from Hobe Road to Rose Farm Road

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. The ordinance requires that the

volunteer groups enter into an agreement with McHenry County defining the responsibilities of the group and the County. This resolution approves the County to enter into an agreement with two (2) groups for two (2) sections of highway. With the approval of these agreements, the MCDOT has 137 groups enrolled in the program covering 157 centerline miles of the 214 available miles in the program which is roughly 73%.

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the resolution approving the inclusion of the two (2) identified groups into the McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) Adopt-A-Highway Program was approved, with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR BUILDING DEMOLITION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE JAMES R. RAKOW ROAD PROJECT

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the approval of the resolution that approves bids received and appropriation of funds for the demolition of the Barn Nursery office and sales building as acquired by the County for the Rakow Road project.

As part of the property acquisition process for this project, it was determined that the County would demolish the abandoned office and sales building as necessary to allow for needed improvements for Rakow Road near its intersection with Illinois Route 31. The property owner has constructed a new replacement building and has committed to vacating the old building no later than June 21, 2011.

The MCDOT worked with the Purchasing Department to receive the bids per the provided summary. Impactor Inc. of Schaumburg, Illinois submitted the low bid of \$6,500.00. A total of nine (9) bids were received with three (3) bids between \$6,500.00 and \$7,100.00. The highest bid was \$29,800.00.

A pre-bid meeting was held on the site so that bidders were familiar with this project. The demolition will be accomplished on the grounds of a working nursery and public sales yard. In addition there are structures and utilities to remain, in very close proximity to the structure to be demolished.

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Yensen, approving the resolution that awards a contract for building demolition and appropriating funds for the James R. Rakow Road project was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

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

RESOLUTION AWARDING A COUNTY HIGHWAY PAVEMENT PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS

McHenry County annually micro-surfaces portion of the County Highway System to protect the pavement structures, as well as to maintain a safe and quality riding surface for the motoring public. Bids were opened on Monday, June 13, 2011 at the McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) for the micro-surfacing program.

The micro-surfacing portion of the Pavement Preservation Program was delayed this year, due to problems encountered with developing an acceptable mix design, using the imported granite material from Wisconsin. A successful lab mix design has been verified by a contractor allowing the project to be put out for bid.

Only one (1) bid was received from a company in Columbus, Ohio in the amount of \$440,000.00. The Engineer's Estimate was \$300,000.00 and the MCDOT will still need to expend \$50,000.00 for aggregate in addition to the bid received for micro-surfacing.

MCDOT cannot justify the project given the high bid amount. Therefore, a resolution for Pavement Preservation and Maintenance will not be approved at today's meeting.

The MCDOT is satisfied with micro-surfacing, but will need to explore other possibilities. Micro-surfacing has not caught on in Illinois and IDOT has not been a pro-active leader in this area.

MCDOT had hoped for better results, but would be amenable to work with the contractor again next season.

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Construction Updates

- McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff announced that Government construction projects across Illinois will shut down July 1, 2011, unless the General Assembly passes a bill that provides the Governor authority to spend money in the State's Construction Fund. There will be no funding for construction or consulting if a road construction plan is not passed. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has forewarned contractors of an imminent shut down.

The following County projects would be affected by the construction shut down: Rakow Road, Walkup Road, Lawrence Road Bridge, Dunham Road Bridge over Rush Creek, and Graf Road Bridge over Lawrence Creek. Road closures are scheduled for these projects on June 27, 2011, however unnecessary if construction shut down occurs.

- ***Rakow Road Project***
A stage switch on the west end occurred last week. A stage switch on the east end was to take place this week, however will not be possible because of weather related conditions. Night road closures will be put in place for approximately three (3) weeks, beginning the second week of July, with a detour extending from Virginia Road to Illinois Route 31.
- ***Valley Hi Emergency Paving Project and Non-Dedicated Subdivision Paving Project*** – Completed.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS

Old Business

Metra

Former State Senator and Metra Board Treasurer, Mr. Jack Schaffer presented the Committee with an update on Metra's status and integrity since last year's adverse series of events. Mr. Schaffer discussed certain facts that he felt were incorrectly reported by the media.

He discussed the new Executive Director/CEO of Metra, Mr. Alex Clifford. He spoke of the innovative ideas that Mr. Clifford has brought to Metra and the new outlook that will help them become stronger and more responsive agency. Mr. Schaffer highlighted Metra's agenda for reform and transparency.

New Business

Cary Algonquin Road

MCDOT staff has been receiving petitions for the installation of a modified rumble strip design. Currently, there is only one (1) design standard. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is looking to develop a new design, but has not finalized anything to date. MCDOT staff will look into a new design, if and when one is approved and implemented by IDOT.

MCDOT staff discussed technical information and standards regarding rumble strips and their design. Staff has been in contact with IDOT in Springfield and parties who manage the manual guide designs, along with the Bureau of Safety.

Staff advised that they have received no approved design aside from current design standard to provide to the contractor. If one becomes available, staff will look into incorporating that design.

After discussions and clarification, the Committee directed the MCDOT to proceed with the current approved design standard and to coordinate with IDOT when a new standard is developed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - MEETING MINUTES, LAND ACQUISITION, AND PENDING LITIGATION

On a motion by Ms. Yensen, seconded by Ms. Evertsen, the Committee went into Executive Session at 9:23 A.M. to discuss land acquisition, pending litigation and to review meeting minutes.

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

REGULAR SESSION

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Mr. Breeden, the Committee went into Regular Session at 9:33 A.M.

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

Chairperson Miller noted that “no action” was taken in Executive Session.

The Executive Session meeting minutes of June 1, 2011 were reviewed and by direction of the Committee will be forwarded to the State’s Attorney Office (SAO) for review and release.

MEMBER COMMENTS

- Ms. Peschke remembered Mr. Bill Dwyer by his accomplishments and efforts for McHenry County, noting different Committees that they served on together. In particular she recalled an invitation from Mr. Dwyer to the Prairie State Center in Schaumburg, to testify why community center funding should be used for the building of the Prairie State Center. The mode of transportation to Schaumburg was the Fox Valley Flyer and as she recalled, a memorable experience. This was a 40-passenger bus that ran from Crystal Lake to Schaumburg for \$0.50. It was a one (1) year pilot project that Ms. Peschke felt was a more than positive and worthwhile advantage to the public, however, to her dismay, was cancelled.
- Ms. Yensen advised that she attended the Public Information Meeting for the Illinois Route 31 Project, which is an IDOT project. She noted that the video presentation on the Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) process was excellent, as well as the entire presentation. She felt a superb effort was put forth in bringing people on board. McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff stated that they were attempting to obtain a copy of the entire presentation from IDOT.
- Chairman Koehler, Mr. Austin, and Mr. Korpalski met with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) who offered their compliments regarding the County’s Randall Road Project. Chairman Koehler, Mr. Austin, and Mr. Korpalski also attended a meeting with the Executive Director of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) during which a possibility presented itself as a potential means to attain funding. McHenry County has no direct interstate access with Randall Road serving in that capacity. Rakow Road ends at Illinois Route 31. Charles Miller Road is the route typically used to gain access to Illinois Route 120. The thought is that with different sections of roads being improved, expanded, and/or constructed and being utilized as the County’s main thoroughfare routes, the County will be seeking only one (1) component of funding, which should make the needed dollar amount less. The County will continue to work to find opportunities for funding. The next step will be to meet in Springfield, Illinois to explore potential funding sources for National Highway System (NHS) routes.
- Ms. Salgado noted that she would not be present at the July 6, 2011 meeting, as she will be on vacation.

NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION

8:15 A.M. on July 6, 2011 – McHenry County Division of Transportation

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ms. Yensen, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the meeting adjourned at 9:43 A.M.

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