



# MACON COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

2405 N. Woodford St. Decatur, IL 62526

217-424-1404 FAX 217-424-2516

## MINUTES

September 25, 2013

The Macon County Transportation Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, September 25, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. located at the Macon County Office Building, 141 S. Main St., Decatur, IL.

### **Transportation Committee Members Present:**

David Williams

Kevin Bird

Keith Ashby

Jerry Potts

Susanna Zimmerman

Kevin Meachum

Gary Minich

### **Transportation Committee Members Absent:**

### **Highway Department Support Staff Present:**

Bruce Bird, County Engineer

Amanda Askew, Office Assistant

Mark Funk, Road Supervisor

### **Others Present:**

Mike Baggett, Asst. States Attorney

Jay Dunn, County Board Chairman

### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair David Williams at 5:30 p.m.

### **Roll Call:**

David Williams

Kevin Bird

Kevin Meachum

Gary Minich

### **Approval of the Minutes:**

Kevin Bird made a motion to approve the minutes from August 21, 2013, seconded by Kevin Meachum. Motion Carried 4-0

*Susanna Zimmerman (5:31) and Jerry Potts (5:31) are now present.*

### **Approval of the Bills:**

Kevin Meachum made a motion to accept the bills as presented, seconded by Gary Minich. Motion Carried 6-0

### **No Public Comments**

### **No Old Business**

**New Business:**

***Resolution appropriating funds for engineering for the Boody Road Bridge repair plans in Pleasant View Township.***

Motion made by Kevin Meachum, seconded by Kevin Bird. Bruce stated this is after Chastain did a structure evaluation and came up with a repair as opposed to a replacement plan. This has become our standard anymore with our funding situation. This is to put together a set of plans for the repair job and then we will go out and let it. Motion carried 6-0

*Keith Ashby (5:32) is now present.*

***Resolution appropriating funds for engineering for the CH 18 School Road Bridge repair project.***

Motion made by Jerry Potts, seconded by Gary Minich. Motion carried 7-0

***Resolution appropriating funds for engineering for the CH 54 Wise Road culvert replacement project.***

Motion made by Kevin Bird, seconded by Kevin Meachum. David Williams stated that I am glad to see this happen. Bruce Bird stated this is an existing bridge and we are going to replace it with a box culvert, the drainage area is small enough. This should speed up the construction. Just to let everybody know this bridge is currently closed. David Williams stated this is one the bridges that Mr. Harris was concerned about. Bruce replied yes, and it is one of those ones up there in the North West part of the County that is causing consternation. Motion carried 7-0

***Resolution appropriating funds for engineering for the CH 30/CH 41 connector curve project.***

Motion made by Jerry Potts, seconded by Keith Ashby. Bruce stated this is to put the curve in at the end of the County Highway 30 where we left off. It is going to be in conjunction with a safety project where IDOT is going to come in, at the existing intersection, of Wyckles Rd. and Route 48. They are going to reconstruct it with a center left turn lanes, move the railroad grade crossing about 100 feet to the South. We are going to tie into their new intersection and tie into that section that we just got done. We have to coordinate this with IDOT and I should mention that all of the engineering on here is going to be paid for with reimbursement from IDOT. It looks like most, if not all of the construction costs will be paid for 100% by IDOT as well. We will know more once we get into the design a little more. Motion carried 7-0

***Resolution approving the 2013 –2018 IEPA Storm Water NPDES Permit.***

Motion made by Kevin Meachum, seconded by Jerry Potts. David Williams asked why this is a multiple year thing. Bruce replied it is every 5 years and is basically mandated by the Feds for about 10 years now. This will be our third five year permit. Motion carried 7-0

**County Engineer's Report:**

Bruce Bird stated as many of you are aware we opened up the Country Club Road project Monday. They got done seeding about 5:00 PM. We are in the process right now of trying to coordinate with the Park District a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. It will probably be Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday of next week. We will make sure to get an email out to the entire Board and give them the opportunity to show up. We will have a ceremony in the pull off parking area there just east of the Children's Museum. The Park District said they are going to have reception at the Zoo in their meeting room. We have a lot of positive comments from the residents in the area. It is a really nice project.

Transportation Committee Minutes  
September 25, 2013

The bridge on Kenney Blacktop has about a week and half of work left. The only work that is left up there is with subcontractors on the bridge rail and guardrail. We have to get those safety ordinances in before we open it up. This time of year those subcontractors tend to get really busy with everyone trying to wrap up their projects at the same time. As soon as they can come in, it is really only about a day and half of work and they will be done.

Most of our other projects we have are wrapped up on the construction, we still have a Township bridge on Ocean Trail Road that we have to finish up. That will probably be done within the next month. Our guys have transitioned over to starting to mow, today. They have been doing some shoulder work and some patching over the last several weeks.

I wanted to mention that we got a nice letter from Beau Hanger, the Director of Outdoor Exposition Center and Special Events for Progress City USA thanking us for all the support for the Farm Progress Show. As many of you know we do all of the signs on the approach roads in there and all of the stuff with the Traffic Turk. For those of you late comers you are going to walk out here with a t-shirt today.

When a trucking company goes to IDOT to get a permit they have a system where they can just get online and pick point a, point b and they have a routing system that routes it for them. It is based upon IDOT inputs on their roads; all the obstructions like bridges, construction, weight limits and what not. Invariably these routings end up going onto local roads in the County, Township, and City streets. They put a little **caviot** on their permit that comes out that says you still have contact the local authority, this permit is just good for IDOT jurisdiction roadways. We always knew these permits were out there but we never knew for sure who had permits and where they were going, up until about 9 months ago. As an Association we asked IDOT to give us copies of those permits. They give us copies of the permits now and they are very short on contact information. The only thing we know is that we get an extreme number of them. We get them for every permit in the County, whether they are on our County Highway or not. So anytime a piece of equipment leaves CAT and goes down 27<sup>th</sup> and gets on Route 48, we get a copy of that permit. We dutifully have been forwarding those to the City. We also get lots of permits that we had no idea were out there. To the tune of about 90% these people are getting permits from IDOT and they just go on their merry way and use our roads without our knowledge. You can imagine if that gets into an issue like bridges with weight limits on them. We have brought it up as an issue of liability with IDOT and they are trying to work through that. I think the best they are going to be able do is actually give us full contact information on the forms, so that we actually have somebody that we can call. We have tracked some of these people down, but we have had to do Google searches which seem ridiculous. The other thing is, to me, I want them to put on there the standard disclaimer statement. We need that, because if somebody checks the disclaimer stating they have checked with those people and they give us a copy of that. Then we can go after them and say look you used our road without our permission, here is a fine or fee or whatever. In talking with other Counties around here, we have never charged for trucking permit fees, but now that I am seeing how many are using our roads without our permission. I am pretty motivated to try that. I wanted to know what the committee's idea was on this. David Williams asked if you could give us an idea of what some of the other Counties are charging as far as fees. Bruce Bird replied, Sangamon County has done it for 7 years and they charge the same fees that IDOT does. What we get from IDOT is almost like a receipt it shows where the routing is and what not, but it also shows exactly what they pay. It is usually about \$150 – 300 a move. David Williams asked what the committee thought about this. Kevin Meachum stated go for it. David Williams stated we will just take a consensus here and move forward from there. Bruce replied yes. Mike Baggett stated I just wanted to be clear for the purposes of the minutes what just happened was not

Transportation Committee Minutes  
September 25, 2013

an authorization for the Highway Department to start charging these fees but instead to develop a proposal to present to the Board.

**No Miscellaneous Business**

David Williams asked if somebody was able to get with Rick Harris on the Kenney Blacktop road questions he had. Bruce replied I talked to him and he was satisfied.

**No Closed Session**

**Adjourn:**

Jerry Potts made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Susanna Zimmerman. Motion Carried 7-0

Meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

*The next Transportation Meeting will be Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.*

Minutes submitted by:  
Kathy Gerhold & Amanda Askew  
Macon County Highway Department