

# MACON COUNTY BOARD TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MACON COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
2405 N. Woodford St. Decatur, IL 62526

## MINUTES

February 28, 2024, 3:00 P.M.

### Committee Members:

**Present:** Ryan Kreke (Chair), Kevin Greenfield (Vice Chair) (3:02), Jeff Entler, Andrew Hogan, and Edward Yoder

**Absent:**

### County Staff:

Craig Shonkwiler (County Engineer), Stuart Jacobs (Road Supervisor), Amanda Askew (Office Assistant), and Tammy Wilcox (County Administrator)

### Others Present:

Annie Kirby (Whitmore Township Supervisor)

## MINUTES

### I. Call to Order

Committee Chair Kreke called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

### II. Roll Call

A verbal roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.

### III. Approval of the Minutes

No previous minutes to approve.

### IV. Bills:

Motion by Mr. Entler, seconded by Mr. Yoder.

Motion carried 4-0.

### V. Citizen Remarks – Public Comment

None

### VI. Old Business

None

### VII. New Business

#### A. Resolution awarding the 2024 Sign Bid.

Mr. Shonkwiler explained these signs would be bought in bulk. Stello Products was the low bidder for \$10,525.26. Chair Kreke asked is that who provided them last year. Mr. Jacobs answered yes.

Motion by Mr. Entler, seconded by Mr. Hogan.

Motion carried 4-0.

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**B. Resolution awarding the 2024 Sign Blank Bid.**

Mr. Shonkwiler explained this resolution is for the sign blanks bid in which we buy the blanks in bulk and make the signs. MD Solutions was the low bidder in the amount of \$28,774.30.

Motion by Mr. Entler, seconded by Mr. Hogan.

Motion carried 5-0.

**C. Resolution awarding the 2024 Non-MFT Culvert Bid.**

Mr. Shonkwiler explained this resolution is for the Non-MFT culvert bid which is basically a lesser type of pipe than what we would use with Motor Fuel Tax monies. In this case we specified corrugated galvanized steel. Metal Culverts did meet the specifications and provided a bid.

However, Kana Flex also submitted a bid but for a steel polyethylene wrapped pipe. This does not meet our specifications. We also have corrugated galvanized in our yard and we would like to match that up. We use these a lot for entrance culverts. The Kana Flex bid is lower, but because it does not meet our specs, we are recommending the low bid be rejected and Metal Culverts be awarded the contract since they met the specifications.

Motion by Vice Chair Greenfield, seconded by Mr. Entler.

Motion carried 5-0.

**D. Resolution awarding the 2024 Culvert Bid.**

Mr. Shonkwiler stated this resolution is for the MFT culvert bid. Metal Culverts was the only bidder in the amount of \$62,950.43. The recommendation is to approve this bid.

Motion by Vice Chair Greenfield, seconded by Mr. Yoder.

Motion carried 5-0.

**E. Resolution approving a permanent right-of-way & temporary construction easement for overhead electric distribution and fiber optic telecommunications systems with Shelby Electric Cooperative.**

Mr. Shonkwiler explained there is a parcel the County owns on the northwest corner of Walmsley Road and Elwin Road. This parcel is outside of the County Highway 30 Right-of-Way on Elwin Road. Shelby Electric would like to utilize this parcel for their fiber project. There are already poles there. Mr. Shonkwiler noted this parcel could be impacted by the future beltway so the concern is the County should not have to pay to move Shelby Electrics facilities off of the parcel for the future beltway. Shelby Electric came forward with a Construction Commitment that is not in your packet. This commitment says that Shelby Electric agrees when our beltway comes through the utility needs to be moved off of our property at their cost. Mr. Shonkwiler recommendation the resolution be accepted and the construction commitment be added.

Motion made by Mr. Yoder for acceptance to approve the amendment, seconded by Vice Chair. Greenfield.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Entler to approve the resolution with the previously approved amendment, seconded by Mr. Hogan.

Motion carried 5-0.

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**F. Resolution approving the purchase of a 2007 Vactor 2100 Combination Sewer Cleaner.**

Mr. Shonkwiler mentioned there is \$165,000 budgeted in this fiscal year for equipment. This purchase would be \$139,500.00. Mr. Jacobs explained that our old jetter is a 1995 and it is just a sewer jetter. With all the fiber and other items in the ground a lot of places want us to hydro-vac to locate high pressure gas lines. This truck will be a vac truck where we can do hydro-excavation, clean catch basins, and the drains in our buildings, plus it is also a jetter. The jetter on this machine is bigger with a one-inch hose so we can do bigger culverts with it. Mr. Yoder asked can we pothole utility lines with it. Mr. Jacobs replied yes and noted if we need to pothole something now we will call the City of Decatur. This piece of equipment is also a rebuilt, used machine. It has 10,000 miles on it and has been totally revamped. Chair Kreke asked is there a warranty on this machine. Mr. Jacobs replied, no. The truck has a CAT engine in it and the back half has a John Deere engine. The company we want to purchase this from stocks all the parts. Mr. Yoder asked how many hours are on the CAT or John Deere engine. Mr. Jacobs replied the truck (CAT engine) has 10,000 miles. This machine will get used more often. A new truck is over half a million dollars. Mr. Shonkwiler noted we are seeing more fiber being installed around the county. Vice Chair Greenfield asked if the utility companies locate it or do we locate it. Mr. Jacobs replied the utility companies locate it, but we located it in situations such as when there is a Ameren high-pressure gas line. Mr. Yoder asked how do we currently dispose of the waste from the jetter. A discussion was had and it was decided the Highway Department will look into how to properly dispose of the waste. Mr. Entler stated he thinks this is a smart move as the company he works for looked into buying something similar. Vice Chair Greenfield asked about the trade-in value on the old machine. Mr. Jacobs replied that we would offer it to the Townships and Municipalities first. Motion made by Vice Chair Greenfield, seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion carried 5-0.

**VIII. County Engineers Report**

Reas Bridge Road Bridge Project on County Highway 24

Mr. Shonkwiler explained the project is currently in the winter shut down period, but the contractor is working, and not getting charged working days. This is a 300-working day contract and they have been charged 39 working days to date. The contractor is working on road widening as well as taking material out of the lake and putting in rock fill. In the spring they will start building the bridges to the north of the current alignment.

2024 Capital Projects

Mr. Shonkwiler mentioned the following road and bridge projects for the 2024 calendar year:

- Wyckels Road (CH 41) from Route 36 to Route 48. This is a cold-in-place and resurfacing project which is expected to go out for bid this spring.
- Four Bridges Road (CH 55) south of Niantic just north of Interstate 72 to Old Route 36. This is expected to be a pavement patching and resurfacing project.
- Brush College Road (CH 1). This concrete road will be patched later in the summer or fall.

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- Walker Road (CH 34) Culvert. This project was bid last year as a new concrete box culvert and the one bid received was found to be too high. The Highway Department is looking at an alternate approach that could include extending the existing culvert and lining it.
- Lost Bridge Road (CH 50) bridge. This project will consist of bridge deck joint repairs and beam end repairs. This project is expected to be let for bids this summer. Vice Chair Greenfield asked if we have an engineer's estimate on Lost Bridge Road (CH 50) bridge repairs. Mr. Shonkwiler said it is between \$400,000 and \$500,000.
- Austin Township Bridges. There are two bridges in Austin township that are scheduled for replacement.

Traffic Studies

Mr. Shonkwiler explained he has been working on a traffic study at the Illiniwick Road (CH 20) and Greenswitch Road intersection due to concerns over the number of accidents occurring at that location.

Road Use Agreements

Mr. Shonkwiler mentioned he has been developing Road Use Agreements for Oakley Township for the Reas Bridge Road project and the contractors hauling out material on Townships roads, and solar farms that are starting to pop up throughout the county.

Grants

Mr. Shonkwiler informed the committee that a RAISE Planning Grant was recently applied for which would cover engineering costs for the next section of the beltway from Route 48 down to the new bridges on Reas Bridge Road. The grant amount is 6.5 million. 5.2 million of that would be federal and the County would have to come up with the remaining 1.3 million. It is expected the local share would come from the various county levies for roads, bridges and matching funds and if the County gets the grant we will have to talk about deferring some other projects to make that work.

Mr. Entler asked what the probability is of the County receiving the grant money for the Beltway project. Mr. Shonkwiler responded the grant is a highly competitive grant, the County is competing nationwide for it, and the County is in as good of shape as can be given environmental clearances have been received and the preliminary study has been completed.

Bridge Inspections

Mr. Shonkwiler explained Engineering Division staff is heavy into bridge inspections. Engineering Division staff has about 218 bridges that we inspect and about half of those are due this year. The inspections are mostly done in the winter months. Engineering Division staff does them for County owned structures as well as those owned by townships, and municipalities, excluding the City of Decatur.

Structure Inventory

Mr. Shonkwiler shared a sheet showing the overall condition of structures within Macon County excluding those owned by the City of Decatur. The sheet showed the number of load posted structures,

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average age of the structures, the percent good, fair and poor by deck area as well as the number of structures in poor condition. A map showing the condition of the structures in poor condition was also shared with the committee. He noted there are currently two bridges that have been removed and two that have been permanently closed as of the end of December 2023. He mentioned the County temporarily closed a bridge in Austin Township last week due to the condition of the timber piles and it will remain closed until the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is able to inspect it and give their recommendation. There is some hope the bridge can be opened to one lane with delineators until it can be replaced. Lastly he noted there are a lot of timber pile bridges that are deteriorating.

Maintenance

Mr. Jacobs stated that our crews have been cutting brush, plowing a little snow, and working on shoulders. Once the weather turns, crews will start installing culverts and getting ready to oil and chip county highways this summer. Vice Chair Greenfield asked how many miles are going to be oil and chipped this summer. Mr. Jacobs replied around 22 miles in the Argenta area and north including School Road, Washington Street Road, and Argenta Blacktop. Mr. Yoder asked how many miles of County Highway we own. Mr. Jacobs replied we maintain around 235 miles and a lot of those roads are not oil & chip roads. Most of the county highways are asphalt and some are concrete.

Mr. Yoder stated he has had a few complaints about Brush College Road (CH 1) and about the crowning on Argenta Road (CH 25) from Oakley north to Oreana. Stuart replied we have talked about that section and possibly doing cold-in-place recycling in the future.

Kirby Road Bridge over Interstate 72

Mr. Shonkwiler added the IDOT will be doing repairs to Kirby Road bridge over Interstate 72. The bridge will be closed starting March 11, 2024.

**IX. Miscellaneous Business**

None

**X. Closed Session**

None

**XI. Adjourn**

Motion by Vice Chair Greenfield, seconded by Mr. Yoder.  
Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Kreke adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Amanda Askew, Macon County Highway Department.*

*\*\*Please note the minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.*