

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: March 9, 2021
LOCATION: Kendall County Highway Department
MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Gryder, Amy Cesich, Matt Kellogg, Scott Gengler, & Brian DeBolt
STAFF PRESENT: John Burscheid and Francis Klaas
ALSO PRESENT: Ryan Sikes

The committee meeting convened at 3:30 P.M. with roll call of committee members. All members present. Quorum established.

Motion DeBolt; second Kellogg, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Cesich; second DeBolt, to approve the Highway Committee meeting minutes from February 9, 2021. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Cesich; second Kellogg to recommend approval of resolution awarding contracts to the following low bidders:

17-00139-00-BR Fox River Drive Bridge over Clear Creek awarded to D Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$929,668.66

19-00148-00-BR Fox River Drive Bridge Joint Repair awarded to P.T. Ferro Construction Co. in the amount of \$107,893.00

19-00150-00-BR Caton Farm Road Bridge over Aux Sable Creek awarded to P.T. Ferro Construction Co. in the amount of \$948,830.92

19-06128-00-BR River Road Bridge over Rob Roy Creek awarded to D Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$679,767.55

Chairman Gryder described the bidding process for this most recent bid. Members discussed some of the processes of the bid opening, and the disparity of some of the bids. Gengler asked if contractors are allowed to have change orders. Klaas indicated that each contract has individual line items that are reimbursed for actual work completed. Projects generally come in at or just slightly over the awarded price. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Cesich; second DeBolt to recommend approval of a resolution reappointing the county engineer. Klaas stated that IDOT has recently approved the reappointment. If the County Board desires to reappoint, they must approve a resolution providing for a 6-year term, as well as approve an annual resolution establishing the salary for the county engineer. Since the county engineer is in the County Engineers Salary Program, one half of his salary is paid by Kendall County, and the other half is paid using the County's allotment of federal funds. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Cesich; second Gengler to recommend approval of a resolution appropriating funds for the payment of the county engineer's salary, which includes a 2% increase from the previous year. Motion approved unanimously.

Klaas discussed the ongoing issue with J.U.L.I.E. membership. He reported that Will County is now planning to join J.U.L.I.E. He also reported that some of the more urban counties have been experiencing approximately 1000 tickets per month; whereas some of the more rural counties, like LaSalle and DeKalb only have a handful of tickets per month. DeBolt asked whether the projects coming up this year would require many JULIE locates. Klaas didn't think it would affect the County much this year because the projects didn't include areas with traffic signals and street lighting. He also told the committee that the process of joining could take months, and might have some impacts on next year's budget. He indicated the County's lobbyist was looking at some parallel legislation that might help the County recoup some of the costs of implementing a JULIE locating process. DeBolt asked whether it would warrant a part-time person. Klaas was not sure. DeBolt also asked who assigned the fine to Will County, and whether that fine would stick. Klaas indicated the ICC had assessed the fine; but he also believed the fine would eventually be waived if Will County joined JULIE. Gengler asked if joining now was simply a proactive move; and Gryder affirmed that Kendall did not want to get blind-sided with a big fine, and considering that joining JULIE would take a long time, it would be prudent to move forward with the first steps in the process. Klaas indicated that he had not made contact with JULIE yet, but indicated that as long as the Committee was not opposed, he would like to start that process. There was general consensus of the Committee to move forward.

Chairman Gryder announced the groundbreaking ceremony for Eldamain Road to be held on Tuesday, March 16th at noon. He also said that some local dignitaries will be at the event

Klaas gave update on progress for the Collins Road project. He indicated that they were very close to moving forward with land acquisition on that project. He also asked the committee to consider using the services of Mathewson Right-of-Way Company, since MROWCO did such a great job on the Eldamain Road project.

Gengler asked about the status of all the right-of-way that was supposed to be used for the Prairie Parkway. Many parcels had been purchased by the Department of Transportation; and now that the Parkway is essentially dead, would there be any opportunity for the County to acquire that property for long-term transportation uses. Gryder did not think that the question had been asked since the new administration had taken over in Springfield, and thought it might be a good time to ask again. Committee directed county engineer to look into this matter.

Motion Cesich; second Gengler, to forward Highway Department bills for the month of March in the amount of \$298,002.21 to the Finance Committee for approval. By roll call vote, motion approved unanimously.

Motion Gengler; second DeBolt, to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Francis C. Klaas, P.E.
Kendall County Engineer

Action Items

1. Resolution awarding contracts to the following low bidders:
 - 17-00139-00-BR Fox River Drive Bridge over Clear Creek awarded to D Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$929,668.66
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2. Resolution reappointing the county engineer
3. Resolution appropriating funds for the payment of the county engineer's salary