

IOWA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

October 6, 2008

The Transportation Committee met in the Highway Department Conference Room in the City of Dodgeville on Monday, October 6, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. and was called to order by Sup. Larry Steffes.

Roll call was taken:

Committee members present: Sups. Ron Benish, Bob Bunker, Mark Masters, John Meyers, Larry Steffes, Ron Berg and Dave Bauer.

Committee members excused/absent: Gerald Dorscheid and Brad Wells.

Also present: County Administrator Randy Terronez, Highway Commissioner Leo Klosterman and Office Administrator Jeri Grabbert.

Sup. Ron Berg moved that the meeting had been duly advertised. Seconded by Sup. John Meyers. Motion passed unanimously.

Sup. Ron Benish moved for approval of the October 6, 2008 agenda and September 8 and 29, 2008 minutes. Motion was seconded by Sup. Dave Bauer. Motion passed unanimously.

General Public/Member Comment:

1. Sup. Ron Berg informed department of washout on County Road HH.
2. Sup. Ron Benish inquired on Blackhawk Park road issue and it apparently has been taken care of.
3. Sup. Ron Berg inquired if the County's Zoning ordinance prohibits private helicopter pads and Randy Terronez will check into this issue.

Highway Commissioner Report: Leo Klosterman reviewed the following items with the Committee:

1. The department has been busy blacktopping.
2. County Road E has been completed and County Road G has been started and will be completed the week of October 15.
3. County Road T project has been completed and included widening the road into the bank approximately 24 feet.
4. The Committee was informed of the funeral for Mark Reynolds held last Monday, September 29.

5. Gary Jansen is retiring on Thursday, October 9 after 42 years of service.
6. Troy Zimmerman has been hired as a County Helper.
7. The union has a number of grievances outstanding and the Hittesdorf overtime grievance is going to arbitration.
8. The department has a number of vacancies. Additionally, the 2nd mechanic position has not been filled pending the outcome on the paint program/2009 budget issue.
9. The state DOT roundabout project is scheduled to open on October 10. Sup. Dave Bauer indicated that it may be October 8.
10. A very unusual situation arose related to the cold in place project contractor. The project was discussed extensively at a prior Committee meeting in large part due to the limited number of contractors performing this work.

(Note - The County received only one bid and the Committee awarded the \$917,444.25 project to W.K. Construction at their June 30, 2008 meeting.)

The contractor W. K. Construction had built into the project bid a high cost for oil as his ordinary supplier was no longer in business and it was going to be difficult finding another oil supplier.

Bill Kahl of W.K. Construction explained to the Highway Commissioner that the actual oil supply costs came in substantially under the cost he had built into the bid. Although he was under no legal obligation, he decided to reduce the project costs to the County by \$286,000.

Leo Klosterman decided to use the unspent funds towards getting additional blacktopping done on the 2008 road projects, as material costs came in higher than budgeted.

According to Mr. Kahl, he wanted the County to be made aware of the gesture and to let the County know that W.K. Construction is in the business of providing high quality service to Iowa County for the long run.

The Committee discussed the very unusual situation.

Sup. Ron Benish moved to send letter of appreciation for the professionalism and looking forward to working with the firm in the future and that Iowa County would be happy to serve as a positive

reference. Motion seconded by Sup. Bob Bunker. Motion passed unanimously.

Additionally, Sup. Larry Steffes will call Mr. Kahl personally.

11. Salt availability update was given. Leo noted that Columbia County once had a large salt hauling/storage facility with rail access but was recently discontinued. Availability of the former ethanol plant property in Arena for a salt storage operation served by rail was discussed. This could be a regional or multi-county arrangement.
12. Equipment sale - Leo Klosterman distributed list of items sold at auction totaling \$19,107 and requested to use the funds towards purchase of a vehicle hoist for the vehicle maintenance area amounting to \$7,200 plus installation. Item to be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Old Business:

1. Michael Blotz Driveway – Leo Klosterman distributed a letter from Mr. Blotz indicating that he has referred the matter to his attorney. Randy Terronez informed the Committee that there is no record of a certified survey map.

Brief discussion given on the Poppe-Murphy property ownership issue.

Sup. John Meyers moved and Sup. Ron Benish seconded to refer the Michael Blotz driveway correspondence to Corporate Counsel. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

- 1) Relocation order – Hyde-Arena Road (Knight Hollow Creek Bridge and Approaches), CTH H

Leo Klosterman reviewed agenda enclosure. Due to moving the orientation of the bridge, the relocation order needs Committee approval for filing with the County Clerk per state statute.

Sup. Bob Bunker moved and Sup. Ron Benish seconded to approve the Relocation order Hyde-Arena Road (Knight Hollow Creek Bridge and Approaches) CTH H. Motion passed unanimously.

- 2) Speed Reduction Resolution on County Q - agenda enclosure reviewed. Leo Klosterman checked with several counties including Grant on their policies for establishing speed limits. Per the Grant County Highway Commissioner Dave Lambert, the department was encouraged to document the process/reasoning for lowering the speed in resolution form.

Sup. Ron Benish moved and Sup. Ron Berg seconded to approve the Resolution lowering the speed limit to 45 mph on County Q at Highland. Motion passed unanimously.

- 3) Drill and Blasting Quote for Iowa County Quarry – Leo Klosterman reviewed agenda enclosure and distributed 2nd quote – Ahlgrimm Explosives. The County quarry needs to clear a clay vein that would open up the recently purchased property for use.

The department has worked with both vendors in the past and has been satisfied with their work. The total cost would amount to \$23,600 and Leo indicated that he was hoping the financial results from the hot mix plant will free up funds for this project.

The Committee agreed to discuss this issue at the next Committee meeting.

- 4) 2009 Budget Review

Tri County Airport – Sup. Ron Berg represents Iowa County on the Tri County Airport Board and reviewed history. He indicated it could prove very expensive to the County to withdraw from the body. The approximately \$4,000 increase in County appropriation relates to the June flood. The airport services a critical need to the northern part of Iowa County and provides tourism benefits to such places as House on the Rock business.

Randy Terronez will check with corporation counsel on issue.

It was noted that the Airport serves as Richland and Sauk County's airport. Discussion given on the 1/3rd funding commitment if the Tri-County Airport services predominantly Richland and Sauk needs.

Sup. Dave Bauer noted that Tri-County Airport serves a valuable service to area law enforcement agencies in hosting the annual emergency vehicle operations training. The Iowa County Airport cannot accommodate this program due to the difference in pavement.

Sup. Mark Masters noted the need to pursue regional efforts and the future outlook for increased regional cooperation.

Highway Department:

Vehicle/Capital/Bridge Projects – agenda enclosure reviewed. In addition to moving funds from road projects into the seal coat program, the Committee concurred with the Highway Commissioner recommendation to drop the County G project and add the \$248,430 to the seal coat program as more miles would be covered.

Highway Paint Program - updated information showing total costs of program since the 2004 inception was distributed and discussed. Discussion given on the low amount of net profit when compared to the need for equipment replacement funding. It was noted that the 4.5% administrative amounts doesn't stay with the paint program and could be a source for equipment replacement funding.

Given the amount of monies put into the current paint truck maintenance that totaled \$64,000 in 2007 and the capability of keeping the truck in the fleet for one more year, the Committee consensus was to continue the paint program for 2009.

Sup. John Meyers moved and Sup. Dave Bauer seconded to approve the 2009 Budgets under the responsibility of the Transportation Committee as revised and forward to the Administrative Services Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

The next regular Transportation Committee meeting is set for Monday, October 27, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sup. Bob Bunker, seconded by Sup. John Meyers. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes by Randy Terronez