



WINNEBAGO COUNTY

— ILLINOIS —

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE OF THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD

Called by: Chairman Tassoni

DATE: Thursday, January 14, 2025

TIME: 5:00 p.m.

Members:

Kevin McCarthy, Chris Scrol,
Ray Thompson and Jim Webster

LOCATION: Room 510

County Administration Building
404 Elm Street
Rockford, IL 61101

MINUTES:

- A. Call to Order – CHAIRMAN TASSONI CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 5:00 P.M.
- B. Rollcall –
Present: Kevin McCarthy, Chris Scrol, Ray Thompson and Jim Webster
- Also: Carlos Molina, County Engineer
- C. Approval of Minutes – CHAIRMAN TASSONI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE the October 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes. SECONDED BY MR. SCROL. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT
Closed Meeting - None
- D. Public Comment – This is the time we invite the public to address the Public Works Committee with issues and concerns. We ask you to limit your comments to three minutes. Personal attacks or inappropriate language of any sort will not be tolerated. A maximum of five speakers will be heard on a first come basis with sign up at the meeting. Speakers may not address zoning matters, which are pending before the Zoning Committee, Zoning Board of Appeals, or the County Board. Personnel matters or pending or threatened litigation may not be addressed in open session. An individual may speak a maximum of three times per calendar year on the same topic. This prohibition shall include the repetition of the same topic in a statement on what is purported to be a different topic. After acknowledgement by the chair, please stand and state your name. Thank you for your cooperation.
- E. Legislation
New Legislation –
(25-001) CHAIRMAN TASSONI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A Resolution Authorizing a Structural Engineering Services Agreement with IMEG Consultants Corp. for Rehabilitation of the Roscoe Road Bridge Over the Rock River and for the Appropriation of MFT Funds. Mr. Molina informed the PWC that the Highway Department was allocated approximately 2 million dollars for construction under the Illinois Special Bridge Program. This agreement is to provide structural engineering services for engineering phases I and II. Construction is planned to begin in 2026. SECONDED BY MR. WEBSTER. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.
Cost: \$256,383 (not to exceed) C.B. District: 3



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(25-002) CHAIRMAN TASSONI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A Resolution for the Award of Bid for Maintenance of Traffic Signals on the County Highway System and for the Appropriation of MFT Funds. Mr. Molina informed the PWC that this resolution is for maintenance of the 66 county owned sets of traffic signals and over 200 street lights. The contract is for two years with the ability to extend it annually for two more years. The Motor Fuel Tax appropriation allows us to use MFT funds for this maintenance work. **SECONDED BY MR. MCCARTHY. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.**

Cost: \$488,167.50 (total for 2025 & 2026)

C.B. District: County Wide

(25-003) CHAIRMAN TASSONI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A Resolution Authorizing a Structural Engineering Services Agreement with Hutchison Engineering Inc. for Township Bridge Replacement on Kelly Road over Sumner Creek in Seward Township. Chairman Tassoni gave a brief overview to the group explaining how Township Bridge Program (TBP) funds and Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds are required to be overseen by the County. Mr. Molina informed the PWC this is for a full replacement of the existing deficient concrete box culvert. After new legislation by the State in the fall of 2024, 100% of the funding can come out of the Township Bridge Program (TBP) allocated to the townships by the State. There is no local contribution for this project. Engineering and Construction contracts utilizing TBP funds must be administered by the County as mandated by the State. **SECONDED BY MR. WEBSTER. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.**

Cost: \$ 62,725 (by the Township Bridge Program)

C.B. District: 1

(25-004) R CHAIRMAN TASSONI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A Resolution Authorizing a Structural Engineering Services Agreement with Hutchison Engineering Inc. for Township Bridge Rehabilitation on Goeke Road over Pink Creek in Pecatonica Township. Mr. Molina informed the PWC this is for rehabilitating the existing deteriorating superstructure at this location. The State instituted new legislation in the fall of 2024, 100% of the funding can come out of the Township Bridge Program (TBP) allocated to the townships by the State. There is no local contribution for this project. Engineering and Construction contracts utilizing TBP funds must be administered by the County as mandated by the State.

SECONDED BY MR. WEBSTER. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.

Cost: \$ 65,282 (by the Township Bridge Program)

C.B. District: 1

(25-005) CHAIRMAN TASSONI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A Resolution Authorizing a Joint Funding Agreement with the State of Illinois for Elmwood Road Resurfacing from Owen Center Road to IL-2 and for Appropriating RBI Funds. Mr. Molina informed the PWC that this agreement will allow the County to use \$208,000 in Truck Access Route Program (TARP) funds that were awarded for this project. Construction will take place in the summer of 2025 and it will include widening and resurfacing Elmwood Road, providing paved shoulders, safety and edge rumble strips, high visibility pavement markings and other related work. The final Rebuild Illinois (RBI) funds will be used for this budgeted project. **SECONDED BY MR. SCROL. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.**

Cost: \$ 208,000 (IDOT/TARP)

C.B. District: 5

\$ 1,591,200 (County)



WINNEBAGO COUNTY

— ILLINOIS —

(25-006) CHAIRMAN TASSONI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE AN Ordinance Amending Chapter 82 of the Winnebago County Code Designating Elmwood Road (CH-66) from Owen Center Road (CH-13) to IL Route 2 as a Class II Truck Route. Mr. Molina informed the PWC in order for the County to utilize the \$208,800 Truck Access Route Program (TARP) funds that were designated for improvements to Elmwood Road, this section of road needs to be designated as a Class II Truck Route. This will take effect after the improvements are completed in the summer of 2025. SECONDED BY MR. MCCARTHY AND MR. WEBSTER. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.

Cost: \$ N/A

C.B. District: 5

(25-007) CHAIRMAN TASSONI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A Resolution Authorizing an Engineering Agreement with Fehr Graham to Provide Phase II Engineering and Right-Of-Way Services for Owen Center Road from Riverside Boulevard to Latham Road. Mr. Molina informed the PWC the County Highway Department was allocated \$2.657 million in Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program funds (HSIP) for construction of this project. This agreement is for Phase 2 Design Engineering which includes preparation of plans, bid proposals, right-of-way plats and other documents required for land acquisition needed for this project. Phase I engineering is almost complete and we expect approval by the State within the next two months. SECONDED BY MR. SCROL. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.

Cost: \$ 419,700

C.B. District: 1, 5

(25-008) CHAIRMAN TASSONI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Three Plow/Dump Truck Bodies. Mr. Molina informed the PWC the plow truck industry is still catching up with demand. We have to plan two to three years in advance, from ordering to delivery. We placed orders for three International truck chassis in June of 2023. In September of 2024, the Highway Department was informed that the trucks will be ready in the spring of 2025. This resolution is for three stainless steel plow/dump truck bodies including plows, spreaders, etc. from Bonnell Industries Inc. which would then be mounted on the aforementioned chassis and completed in the summer to fall of 2026. SECONDED BY MR. SCROL. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.

Cost: \$468,560.88

C.B. District: County Wide

(25-009) MR. MCCARTHY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A Resolution Authorizing an Engineering Services Agreement with ARC Design Resources Inc. to provide Phase I Engineering for South Perryville Road from Harrison Avenue to E. State Street and for the Appropriation of MFT Funds. Mr. Molina informed the PWC The County was allocated, through Region 1 Planning Council, approximately \$4.5 million under the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) for construction of this project. This agreement is for Phase I Engineering which includes environmental investigations, topographic surveys, intersection design studies, preliminary engineering plans, a project development report, etc. This section of roadway is approximately fifty years old and a widely used thoroughfare. We are hopeful that construction will begin in spring of 2027. SECONDED BY MR. WEBSTER. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.

Cost: \$ 277,500

C.B. District: 8, 11



WINNEBAGO COUNTY

— ILLINOIS —

~~(25-010) Resolution Authorizing the Highway Department to Lease Light Duty Vehicles from Enterprise FM Trust (Tabled)~~

~~Cost: \$53,898.44 (per year for 5 years) C.B. District: County Wide~~

(25-011) CHAIRMAN TASSONI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Realty Services & Consultants, LLC (dba Valu Pros) for Land Appraisal Services for Owen Center Road Improvements from Riverside Boulevard to Latham Road. Mr. Molina informed the PWC that approximately sixteen parcels and easements varying in size need to be acquired to accommodate the improvements for this project. The State and County require that appraisals be performed to obtain a fair market value before the acquisition of right-of-way for road projects. Appraisers need to be certified by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). **SECONDED BY MR. WEBSTER. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.**

Cost: \$47,100

C.B. District: 1, 5

(25-012) CHAIRMAN TASSONI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A Resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Frank P. Petta Appraisals for Land Appraisal Review Services for the Riverside Boulevard and Owen Center Road Projects. Mr. Molina informed the PWC an estimated twenty-nine parcels and easements varying in size need to be acquired to accommodate the improvements for the aforementioned projects. When federal dollars are used in a project, it is required that appraisal reviews be performed to obtain a fair market value for the acquisition of right-of-way. The County is contracting with two other firms to conduct the initial appraisals for both of these projects. Appraisers are required to be certified with the Illinois Department of Transportation to perform these services. An estimated \$12,125 and \$13,950 will be used for Riverside Blvd. and Owen Center Road projects respectively.

SECONDED BY MR. WEBSTER. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.

Cost: \$26,075

C.B. District: 1, 5, 17, 20

1. Other Matters

Budget Amendment

Change Order(s) for Information Only –

- CH16 Winnebago Road (\$9,131.93) deduction – Chairman Tassoni offered a brief description of Change Order criterion.

F. Reports

- a. PWC Chairman Tassoni – Chairman Tassoni welcomed Mr. Thompson to the Public Works Committee. Chairman Tassoni expressed his dedication to the PWC and their work and has been a member to the Committee for sixteen years. Chairman Tassoni gave a brief description of his professional experience which includes extensive public works activities.
- b. Mr. Thompson gave a brief introduction to the PWC and his profession background in the Rockford community.
- c. County Engineer Molina – Mr. Molina introduced himself to the group and expressed his pleasure working with the Public Works Committee as the County Engineer for the past five years and has worked for Winnebago County for twenty-nine years overall. Carlos informed



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the Committee that he has held many positions at the Highway Department including Civil Engineer Sr., Operations Manager, Assistant County Engineer and is fortunate to now be appointed as the County Engineer. Mr. Molina recognized the Highway Departments remarkable staff. Mr. Molina thanked the Committee for their support and continued opportunities for new funding in recent years that has made a vast difference in assisting new County projects. Mr. Molina stated that with the support of the Committee the Department is able to construct capital projects and continue to maintain the County roadway system. The Highway Department continues to apply for Federal, State, FEMA, EPA and other funds; the Highway Department is responsible for the Local Match portion.

Mr. Molina discussed the handout that was distributed to the PWC including a Winnebago County Highway Map, Highway Department Organizational Chart, Highway Department Overview, Highway Department Revenue Sources, Leveraged Financing Sources, Annual Expenses, overview of future projects and completed projects (2020 – 2024), and a brief background on the County's water district.

Discussion ensued regarding salt usage, facility for trucks and equipment, mechanic facility, wash bays, new revenue, increase in earnings for operations employees. Mr. Molina informed the group that the Highway Department employs six civil engineers; four engineers of which hold Illinois Professional Engineering (PE) licenses. Four of the Engineers are also certified by the FHWA and the State to conduct bridge inspections. Mr. Molina told the Committee that he is accessible at any time and offered his mobile telephone number. Mr. Molina also invited the Committee to visit the Highway Department at their convenience.

The PWC typically meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. at the County Administration Building in Room 510. Meetings could vary due to business needs.

Mr. Webster read a request from a constituent regarding memorial signage for veterans who have passed away in the Village of Durand. Mr. Webster will contact Mr. Tom Walsh to contact Mr. Molina to discuss.

G. Adjourn/Recess – MR. SCROL MOVED TO ADJOURN. SECONDED BY MR. THOMPSON. MOTION APPROVED BY ALL PRESENT.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Tracy Robinson, Administrative Assistant