

WILL COUNTY BOARD
PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 14, 2008

Will County Office Building
County Board Room
302 North Chicago Street
Joliet, IL 60432
8:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Singer called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were Members: Weigel, Goodson, Babich, Travis and Singer.

Absent were Members: Wisniewski and Bilotta.

Also Present: Moustis and McMillan.

Present from State's Attorney's Office: Melanie Manning.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. McMillan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Weigel, to approve the minutes from the following meetings: August 12, 2008, September 9, 2008 and September 23, 2008. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

OLD BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING: Set Schedule for Draft Solid Waste Management Plan

A motion was made by Mr. Travis, second by Mr. Babich, to open the public hearing at 8:40 a.m. to set the schedule for the draft Solid Waste Management Plan. On a roll call vote, Weigel, Babich, Travis and Singer voting yes. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Olson stated the written comment period is until October 22nd; we encourage any comments from the public.

A motion was made by Mr. Weigel, second by Mr. Babich, to close the public hearing at 8:41 a.m. On a roll call vote, Weigel, Babich, Travis and Singer voting yes. MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Singer commented we will proceed with the plan and approve this in November.

Ms. Goodson arrived at this juncture.

Vacating a Portion of Brandon Road – Public Hearing to be held at October County Board Meeting

Mr. Gould stated the public hearing will be held at the County Board meeting this month. There is 1.3 acres of right of way that would be vacated from the existing intersection of Laraway and Brandon Road to 900 feet north; once approved it will go to IDOT for approval – part of the vacation is negotiated through the County Executive for compensation for that right of way. We will put an appraiser on board to see what the fair market value of the property is.

Mr. Babich questioned how many people will be affected in that area; how many houses are there?

Mr. Breslin replied there are 3 homes on the northeast corner and we have acquired 2 of the 3. We are in contact with the third owner and are reasonably confident we will acquire that property soon. We have 2 property owners on Brandon Road to the south that we have met with. We are confident we will make accommodations with one owner; the other owner has been more difficult – we have made various offers to him. We cannot assure you he has made up his mind. There will be an open public access to that property. There is mass grading underway at this point; we are hoping for construction to begin this spring.

A motion was made by Mr. Weigel, second by Mr. Babich, to approve the vacation of a portion of Brandon Road. On a roll call vote, Weigel, Goodson, Babich, Travis and Singer voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

Request by Midwest Property Development for an Extension of the Temporary Permit (A04-0003) granted for Hanover Estates on Cedar Road, County Board District #6

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Weigel, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda authorizing an extension of the temporary permit for Midwest Property Development for Hanover Estates on Cedar Road. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Gougar Road and Haven Ave. Intersection Agreement

Mr. Gould stated we are partnering with New Lenox in this road improvement and intersection project. They will maintain the signals once completed.

Mr. Singer commented it is very encouraging to see this cooperation with municipalities and the county.

Mr. Weigel agreed; he is glad to see this – it is a hazardous intersection and this will improve the flow of traffic through the area.

A motion was made by Mr. Weigel, second by Mr. Babich, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda authorizing an intersection agreement with the Village of New Lenox for Gougar Road and Haven Ave. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Resolution Acknowledging Match for RTA Paratransit Study Grant

Ms. Lyne stated this had been discussed at a meeting in August and there was concern about what we were looking to do with the inventory for the type of paratransit service in the county. We heard you would like to see that scope of work expanded. We talked with the RTA and included in the inventory will be a complete analysis; we will develop a pilot program and show where we need expanded service. We will also lobby them for funds. We talked about adding Mr. Moustis to the steering committee not only due to his personal interest with paratransit service but to keep the board involved in the study in general. This requires a \$20,000 match on \$100,000 that was requested from the RTA.

Mr. Moustis indicated he hopes we can do something really meaningful; not just identify shortfalls but come up with a solution for paratransit service in Will County.

Mr. Palmer agreed with Mr. Moustis. That is what we want to do. With the gap analysis we can identify where the shortfalls are; if we can quantify them, then we can go back to the RTA request some funding. Even if we choose not to go forward and do a pilot program, we will have an end product to give to the community showing the paratransit services.

A motion was made by Ms. Goodson, second by Mr. Travis, to place a resolution on the County Board Agenda acknowledging the match for the RTA Paratransit Study Grant. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

Request for Resolution Re: Master Agreement for Use of Easement over Lands of Commonwealth Edison Company in the County of Will

A motion was made by Ms. Goodson, second by Mr. Travis, to table this issue. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

RESOLUTIONS TO BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNTY BOARD

1. Resolution in Support of Demolition – 235 Krakar Ave., Joliet Township, County Board District #8
Motion by Mr. Weigel, second by Mr. Babich. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.
2. Resolution Granting County Aid in Construction of a New Bridge over Forked Creek on Dralle Road as Petitioned by Green Garden Road District, County Section 08-07102-02-BR, County Board District #1
Motion by Mr. Weigel, second by Ms. Goodson. All in favor. MOTION CARRIES.

3. Resolution Authorizing Approval of Professional Services Agreement for Engineering Services with Applied Research Associates, Inc., to Complete a Pavement Evaluation Study for Manhattan-Arsenal Road (CH 17), County Section 08-00117-28-ES, County Board Districts #6 & #8
Motion by Ms. Goodson, second by Mr. Weigel. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

4. Resolution for Engineering Services by County under the Illinois Highway Code with Applied Research Associates, Inc., for the Pavement Evaluation Study on Manhattan-Arsenal Road (CH 17), County Section 08-00117-28-ES, County Board Districts #6 & #8, using County's Allotment of County Highway Tax Funds (\$28,400.00)
Motion by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Weigel. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Other Business

COUNTY ENGINEER DISCUSSION

RFQ's – Project Manager

Mr. Gould stated this would entail a project administrator to oversee various Phase II projects that are ongoing within our road improvement program. To expedite some of this review process we were looking to hire a consulting engineering firm to oversee this process, work with IDOT, so we can expedite these approvals and get these projects out for bid letting.

Mr. Singer commented if we were to rely only on our staff would have huge delays; it is critical to have outside help.

Mr. Moustis indicated as we implement our Build Will program; to be successful we will have to get some outside resources and this is the way to do it. This is the way the state and Tollway have been managing projects for some time now. We do not maintain staff to do these types of projects.

Mr. Gould indicated we modified our RFQ after the state's RFQ. In our Build Will program there are 37 projects in various phases; we have an additional 23 that will start Phase II, which will be more than 60 projects. To have our office handle them is beyond our capability.

Mr. Singer stated getting projects done faster will save money – construction prices rise each year.

Mr. Moustis indicated our intent is not only do we get necessary infrastructure done but it is also an economic stimulus to the county. Local labor be used; we can ensure that every effort is being made to put Will County people to work.

Mr. Gould stated we will look at local firms in Will County for not only consulting and engineering but with our construction. We discussed the process we will move forward with – we will take 5 consulting firms and send out the RFQ, look at their qualifications and will interview based on those qualifications.

Mr. Singer commented it makes a lot of sense to have someone who does not do the design work; it is also important to have someone who has experience on a large number of projects.

Mr. Gould indicated he has spoken with IDOT and he feels that they have used and found a good process.

Mr. Weigel suggested one or two members of the committee sit in on those interviews.

Mr. Moustis suggested putting a selection group together consisting of leadership, chair and vice-chair of this committee, the County Executive's office and the County Engineer.

Mr. Babich asked what the cost will be.

Mr. Gould answered that will depend on what we ask them to do; there will be a not to exceed number.

Ms. Goodson commented she believes overall it will be a cost savings because of the time constraints of our staff and the rising construction costs.

Mr. Moustis indicated we understand this firm will work under the direction of the County Engineer – he makes the decision of what projects they will be put on.

Mr. Gould indicated if we find this firm is not meeting our expectations, we can have contractual wording to opt out of the contract and hire someone else. He will keep the committee informed of the process of the RFQ's.

STATE'S ATTORNEY DISCUSSION

Ms. Manning stated she had met with Mr. Gould regarding the 10 parcels that are up this month for eminent domain and is working at getting everything together.

MONTHLY WORK REPORTS - Attached

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

REPORTS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Weigel asked if the project at Gougar and Route 30 is in the Build Will program. New Lenox is interested in that moving forward.

Mr. Gould answered it is part of our program; we hope to expedite that and start it next year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Singer stated an executive session was necessary to discuss right of way acquisition.

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Weigel, to go into executive session at 9:25 a.m. to discuss right of way acquisition. On a roll call vote, Weigel, Goodson, Babich, Travis and Singer voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

Mr. Singer announced they were now in executive session.

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Mr. Weigel, to come out of executive session at 9:31 a.m. On a roll call vote, Weigel, Goodson, Babich, Travis and Singer voting yes.

MOTION CARRIES.

A motion was made by Mr. Weigel, second by Mr. Babich, to concur with the County Engineer. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Babich, second by Ms. Goodson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 a.m. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.