

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD
HIGHWAY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2014 MEETING**

Committee Chair Weber called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm at the Livingston County Highway Department.

Present: Weber, Campbell, Allen, Holt, Peterson and Rients (arrived 4:06)
Absent: Campbell, Weller
Other Board Members Present:
Others Present: Winters, Metcalf

Motion to approve the agenda as amended by Allen, second by Peterson. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

Motion by Peterson, second by Allen to approve the minutes of the October 9 and October 16, 2014 meetings as presented. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

COUNTY BOARD ACTION ITEMS:

- a. Letting Results: November 4, 2014 letting
- b. Resolution: Setting the 2015 Salary of the County Engineer
- c. Resolution: Appropriating MFT funds for the 2015 salary of the County Engineer, Section 15-00000-00-CS.

Motion by Rients, second by Holt to recommend full board approval of the county board action items. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

CLOSED SESSION: Motion by Holt, second by Allen to go into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (1) Personnel Matters. MOTION CARRIED ON ROLL CALL VOTE: Weber – Aye, Campbell, - (Absent, did not vote), Allen – Aye, Holt – Aye, Peterson – Aye, Rients – Aye, Weller – (Absent, did not vote). Closed session began at 4:22 p.m.

OPEN SESSION: Motion by Holt, second by Peterson to come out of closed session. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES. Open session resumed at 4:45 p.m.

ACTION RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION: Motion by Weber, second by Rients to approve a tentative offer of employment to Mitch Mercer for the vacant highway maintenance worker position. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

OTHER ITEMS:

1. Charlotte Road District S.N. 053-3413: The IDOT Local Bridge Unit has required this bridge located at 1130N, 3500E to be closed due to deteriorated timber piles. Winters told the committee that the department has a set of plans developed by Willett Hofmann to repair the bad timber piling, but the Charlotte Commissioner of Highways requested a bridge replacement rather than a repair due to the estimated cost of the repair. After receiving bids for the Dwight and Sullivan timber pile repairs it is Winters opinion that the repair option is probably more economical for the road district rather than design and build a new structure. Charlotte Road District also requested that the county participate in the cost of a temporary culvert structure until a new bridge could be built. The committee was not in favor of participating in the cost of a temporary structure. It was suggested for Winters to talk with the Charlotte Commissioner to take bids on the pile repair project to determine the cost of the repair before a decision to proceed on a new bridge is made.

2. Norfolk Southern Railroad: The Norfolk Southern Railroad has contacted the highway department to consider the closure of the grade crossing on CH 14 located at 3250N, 675E road. They explained that future train traffic on the interconnect between the BNSF Railroad and Norfolk Southern will cause the crossing to be more frequently blocked. The average daily traffic on CH 14 at the grade crossing is approximately 1000 vehicles per day as it is the best access to South Streator from the east and south. Mitigation of the crossing closure would require a relocation of CH 14 to the grade separation structure on 600E road. Winters believes that option would be cost prohibitive. If the Norfolk Southern Railroad desires to proceed with their request to close the grade crossing they would have to petition the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) for authority to do that. Winters talked with the Railroad Section Chief at the ICC and was informed that if they received a petition a public hearing would have to be scheduled before an Administrative Law Judge with evidence presented by both parties. It is highly unlikely that the ICC would consent to the crossing closure without a mitigation plan paid for by Norfolk Southern. The committee was not in favor of the crossing closure and instructed Winters to respond to the railroad. The highway department will keep the committee informed on future developments of this issue.
3. December Committee meeting: The December committee meeting is being scheduled for December 11, 2014 prior to the full board meeting that evening. It will be a short meeting to approve remaining claims from FY 14 and to pass the 2015 MFT Maintenance Resolution. The time of the meeting will be determined by the Administrative Office as other committees will be the same day.
4. County Board presentations: The committee discussed the request for visual aids to be used in highway department presentations to the board.
5. New tandem truck: The department expects delivery of the new tandem truck and snow plow next week. The purchase is in the 2014 department budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Motion by Holt, second by Allen to approve the bills. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

There being no further business to come before the committee, motion to adjourn the meeting by Holt, second by Allen. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.



David R. Winters, County Engineer