

**Transportation Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 7, 2009 – 8:30 A.M.  
McHenry County Division of Transportation  
Main Conference Room  
Woodstock, Illinois 60098**

Chairperson Anna May Miller  
Ed Dvorak      Paula Yensen  
Virginia Peschke      Daniel Ryan  
Sandra Salgado      Scott Breeden

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Chairperson Miller, Ed Dvorak, Daniel Ryan, Paula Yensen, Sandra Salgado, Scott Breeden, and Virginia Peschke

**MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

None

Ms. Salgado arrived at 8:50 A.M.

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

In attendance were: Ken Koehler, County Board Chairman; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Joseph Korpalski, Director of Transportation/County Engineer; Tom Carroll, State's Attorney Office (SAO); Kelly Farley, CMT; Jeff Young, Assistant County Engineer; Mark DeVries, Division of Transportation, Maintenance Superintendent; Ed Markison, Division of Transportation, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent; Wally Dittrich, Division of Transportation, Design Manager; Mark Dammyer, Division of Transportation, Construction Manager; Jim Werner, Division of Transportation, Construction Engineer; Ken Baker, Division of Transportation, Township Engineer; Pablo Faillaci, Division of Transportation, Construction Engineer; Troy Strange, Division of Transportation, Construction Engineer; Wynnyth Adair, Division of Transportation, Drainage Engineer; Ray Beets, Division of Transportation, Permit/Developer Project Manager; Ron Maas, Division of Transportation, Data/Communications Manager; Shannon Dolte, Division of Transportation, GIS Specialist; Jason Osborn, Division of Transportation, Principal Transportation Planner; Chalen Daigle, Division of Transportation, Planning Liaison; Debra Kroll, Division of Transportation, Administrative Specialist.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – December 17, 2008**

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Mr. Ryan, the meeting minutes of December 17, 2008 were approved as presented.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Six (6) "ayes" and one (1) "abstain" by Mr. Breeden; motion carried.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS WORK ON VARIOUS COUNTY BRIDGES**

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) requests the approval of the resolution to endorse an engineering services agreement with Fehr-Graham and Associates (FGA), to provide on-going inspection and structural analysis of County and Township bridges on an on-call basis.

This will be the third such contract with the same key staff members, although the firm name has changed, since February 7, 2006. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) has never been done for this contract as this consulting firm has been doing the bi-annual inspections for many years, has all the historical inspection data and bridge plans on C:\Documents and Settings\KSFunk\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\1DIW4WUY\transportation1 7 09.docx

hand, and has first-hand knowledge of the individual structures and their unique conditions. The MCDOT staff recommends approval of this contract by the Transportation Committee and County Board on the basis of "extension of work" in the Consultant Selection Policy, to maintain continuity, prevent redundant work, and to continue the satisfactory performance on prior work.

The value of the first contract was \$10,000.00, and the contract has been expanded by \$10,000.00 each time as the existing bridge conditions continue to deteriorate and more frequent structural analysis has been needed. The hourly rates to be charged under this contract have been increased by three (3) percent from the 2008 rates, for this work continuing into 2009.

There currently are nineteen (19) load posted or "legal load only" bridges on the County and Township system as well as one (1) closed Township bridge and one (1) County bridge with a traffic signal controlling a one-lane bridge condition. There are also twelve (12) other bridges on the "watch list" that are inspected quarterly by MCDOT staff due to progressive deterioration. The previous agreement for these services was approved on September 5, 2006 for twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) and has been expended.

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Mr. Ryan, the resolution approving an engineering services agreement to provide structural analysis work on various County bridges was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

#### **ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY**

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the approval of the resolution approving the inclusion of the identified groups into the MCDOT Adopt-A-Highway Program.

In Loving Memory of Adeline & Frank Derner – Greenwood Road from Wondermere Road to Aavang Road – new group

In Loving Memory of Sadie & John Longo – Greenwood Road from Route 120 to Arabian Trail – new group

In order to augment the MCDOT litter collection efforts, the County enacted an ordinance to allow for volunteer groups to adopt various sections of highways for litter collection. With the approval of these agreements, the MCDOT has 117 groups enrolled in the program covering 134 centerline miles of the 226 available miles in the program which is roughly 59%.

The number of groups enrolled dropped slightly in November and December due to twelve (12) groups not renewing their agreements. Two (2) groups (Able Home Healthcare and Sunshine Early Learning Center) having five (5) sections of road each were not allowed to renew due to not maintaining the road according to the signed agreement. Furthermore, the sections of road the two (2) groups adopted are highly sought after sections, which other groups have expressed interest in adopting. The MCDOT anticipates these sections will be adopted by other groups in the very near future.

The ordinance requires that the volunteer groups enter into an agreement with McHenry County defining the responsibilities of the group and the County. This resolution approves the County to enter into an agreement with two (2) groups for two (2) sections of highway.

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Mr. Ryan, the resolution approving the inclusion of the identified groups into the MCDOT Adopt-A-Highway Program was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

A voice vote was taken with all members present voting "aye"; motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

By request of Chairperson Miller, introductions were made by County Board members and the McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff to familiarize new Committee members with Division of Transportation (DOT) staff.

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Chairperson Miller asked that a list of the DOT staff and contact phone numbers be provided to Committee members, in order to assist the new Committee members, if questions should arise.

***Illinois Route 47***

Mr. Dittrich updated Committee members on the Illinois Route 47 improvements. He noted that while Illinois Route 47 is a State route there are numerous projects that the McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) has been actively involved in.

- Kreutzer Road to Reed Road – Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is currently in Phase II Design and working at finalizing design plans and property acquisition with an anticipated letting date of spring 2009, which is subject to funding availability.
- Kreutzer Road to U. S. Route 14 – CTE-AECOM is the engineer and is currently in Phase I. There has been one (1) public meeting to date (overview/stakeholder improvement) where CTE-AECOM presented an aerial and requested the public's input, in which the MCDOT participated.
- U. S. Route 14 to Charles Road – Strand Associates Inc. is the engineer and the contract will look at a number of alternates to improve Illinois Route 47 in and around Woodstock.
- The County is involved in a cooperative project with the City of Woodstock and Kane County utilizing an Illinois Tomorrow Grant received from the IDOT which will look at land use and planning goals for the Illinois Route 47 corridor from the Wisconsin State line south to the Illinois Route 47 terminus in Kane County. A more formal meeting will be held in early spring, which will involve stakeholders and input.
- Illinois Route 47 at Interstate 90 – the Village of Huntley has taken the lead on the design and construction of a full interchange. The Division of Transportation/McHenry County are participating in that project and are providing a portion of the construction and engineering funding for that interchange. This is a very important connection to the residents of McHenry County. A rough estimate of the funding split is:
  - the Illinois Tollway 50%
  - the State 20%
  - the Village of Huntley/McHenry County/Kane County 30% split at this time, the anticipated share for McHenry County would be 6%.

**NEW BUSINESS**

***Request for Qualifications***

**Roadway Asset and Pavement Collection Services**

After reviewing all submitted Request for Qualifications (RFQ's), the McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the Transportation Committee's approval of Baxter and Woodman, Inc. of Crystal Lake, Illinois to begin entering into contract negotiations for the Roadway Asset and Pavement Collection services. Upon approval of the consultant, MCDOT staff will enter into discussions and will bring forward contracts for services in the near future.

The primary reason for the solicitation of firms for the Roadway Asset and Pavement Collection project was a direct result of sharply rising costs for asphalt, as it specifically related to the MCDOT's resurfacing program. Beginning in the early 2000's, the MCDOT was on pace for resurfacing every roadway once within a ten (10) year period. However with rising costs and the desire to maintain the same standard, the time frame would be stretched to once every seventeen (17) years, given the current cost. Over time the MCDOT would not be able to keep pace with the resurfacing needs of the County highway system. A new approach to resurfacing was required. The MCDOT's 2006 new Pavement Preservation program addresses and evaluates each roadway based on individual ratings to apply new techniques to sustain the life span of the pavement.

It was the desire of the MCDOT to have a fully effective Pavement Preservation program. An extensive evaluation was not only conducted for roadway surfaces but also for a comprehensive understanding of the sub-surface as well. The MCDOT took a careful approach to engaging a new Pavement Preservation program. During this time the MCDOT became aware of any tools that would facilitate the end goals and also reduce the limitations of the then present MCDOT staff. All assets owned by the MCDOT could be monitored and maintained. A GIS Specialist position was determined to be needed by the growing needs of the MCDOT. The GIS Department is now its own department, reporting directly to Administration.

In 2008 the MCDOT was able to hire their GIS Specialist, as well as the purchase of software programs needed to monitor and maintain the MCDOT assets, including pavement information.

Ms. Salgado arrived at 8:50 A.M.

The collection of all MCDOT roadway assets was the next step in the process. In October 2008 the Transportation Committee gave their concurrence to post a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Asset Data Collection project. For the collection of large amounts of data along the County's 225 centerline miles of roadway, an outside consultant will be needed to gather the data and work with staff to transfer the data into a database that will be managed by the CarteGraph software. The County Board approved the purchase of the CarteGraph software of just short of \$50,000.00 in March of 2008. The RFQ was posted on the MCDOT's website in October 2008 to solicit qualified firms' assistance with the project. The posting of the RFQ resulted in seven (7) Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) being submitted for this project for firms located in and beyond Illinois. The cost for these services is expected to be between \$75,000.00 and \$150,000.00. The Consultant Selection process requires that an interview be conducted if the cost is expected to exceed \$100,000.00. In order to meet the desired time line and based on the nature of this project, the Transportation Committee waived the Consultant Selection interview process in October 2008, with the stipulation that a summary sheet of why the selected consultant firm was chosen be provided to Committee members for review.

It is the goal of the MCDOT to have the contract in place before this spring. The Committees' concurrence was sought.

On a motion by Virginia Peschke, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the Committee approved Baxter and Woodman, Inc. as the selected #1 consultant, MDS Technologies, Inc. as the #2 consultant and TransMap Corporation as the #3 consultant; and also waived the Consultant Selection interview process and directed the MCDOT staff to enter into contract negotiations for the Roadway Asset and Pavement Collection services.

A voice vote was taken with all members present voting "aye"; motion carried.

#### ***Employee Updates***

The McHenry Division of Transportation (MCDOT) is pleased to again welcome the addition of Mr. Troy Strange to our staff, now in the full-time position of Construction Engineer as of November. Troy has a long history with us as he worked for MCDOT four (4) previous summers, one (1) on the Sign Shop crew, and two (2) as an engineer intern, first for Design and then Construction. In between, he had an internship with Greengard Inc. where he performed surveying and drafting work. He then joined the staff last summer as a temporary employee as Construction Engineer, to fill the position of Mr. Kevin Charles who is currently still serving in Afghanistan with the Army National Guard.

Troy will be working primarily in the area of construction inspection and administration on County and Township construction and paving projects, and has already worked extensively with the Township Highway Commissioners on their pavement maintenance contracts. His is definitely a success story for the summer intern program.

Troy is from Wonder Lake and graduated from Woodstock High School. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Physics from Lake Forest College where he also was a member of the basketball team.

Troy and Mindy were just married this November and reside in Woodstock. When not at work, Troy enjoys basketball, mountain hiking and skiing, some of which he somehow found time to do recently while in the Swiss Alps during their honeymoon.

#### ***News Article***

Mr. Mark DeVries discussed an article written by Quixote Transportation Technologies, Inc. (QTT) published in the QTT Review, about the McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) and stated how honored he was that this article was written.

Quixote Corporation owns multiple companies. The article was done by a firm from of St. Louis that has supplied equipment to the MCDOT. One of the corporations that QTT owns manufactures Remote Weather Information  
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Systems (RWIS). Quixote Corporation being the parent company wanted to do an enlightening article about the MCDOT, which brought out the best of the many different things that we do.

McHenry County's proactive approach has caught the attention of many industry leaders. Power RWIS users, emerging technologies in the market such as AVL (Automatic Vehicle Location) and spreader controllers, non-intrusive pavement sensors, friction monitoring, even weather radar inside the plow trucks have all been in contact with the MCDOT. Mr. DeVries stated that our involvement with RWIS and anti-icing has opened doors for us.

Mr. DeVries explained the County's RWIS systems and stated that the MCDOT wanted participation with other agencies, because they felt that data would benefit them as well. One of the major reasons the MCDOT decided to implement RWIS was to ultimately share the data with other agencies. Currently McHenry County is only sharing data with the Illinois Toll Authority, and is hoping for future agreements with other agencies as well.

The article denotes a National Webinar that took place on January 6, 2009 regarding a group called Clarus, which is a Federal government initiative that McHenry County is a participant. The Clarus project has developed an integrated surface transportation weather observing, forecasting and data management system to establish a partnership creating a Nationwide Surface Transportation Weather Observing and Forecasting system. The objective of Clarus is to provide information to all transportation managers and users to alleviate the effects of adverse weather.

The goal for 2011 is that information will be given to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for them to make better decisions and the national weather service to make better decisions regarding incoming storms, whether winter or summer. There are five (5) new projects within Clarus to introduce using the same weather and surface data information outside of winter operations, which has always been the number one use for this information.

McHenry County is the only county within the United States, including Canada, involved in this project. McHenry County is part of a Federal government initiative and the MCDOT seeks and encourages other entities to use/share this data.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – Meeting Minutes**

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Mr. Ryan, the meeting went into Executive Session at 9:10 A.M. to discuss minutes.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

**REGULAR SESSION**

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the meeting went into Regular Session at 9:16 A.M.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

Chairperson Miller noted that "no action" was taken in Executive Session.

**NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION**

8:30 A.M. on January 21, 2009 – McHenry County Division of Transportation

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Ms. Yensen, seconded by Mr. Dvorak the meeting adjourned at 9:18 A.M.

A voice vote was taken with all members present voting "aye"; motion carried.