DATE: January 8, 2019
LOCATION: Kendall County Highway Department
MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Gryder, Matt Kellogg, Judy Gilmour, Matt Prochaska, and Amy Cesich
STAFF PRESENT: Ginger Gates, Fran Klaas, and John Burscheid
ALSO PRESENT: Kelly Farley and Neil Jones

The committee meeting convened at 3:30 P.M. with roll call of committee members. All present. Quorum established.

Motion Prochaska; second Gilmour to approve the agenda as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Prochaska; second Gilmour to approve the Highway Committee meeting minutes from November 13, 2018. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Gilmour; second Kellogg to forward a resolution to the County Board withdrawing the centerline for the WIKADUKE Trail, which the County Board proposed and recorded in 2000. Klaas provided a brief history of the project, including the original SRA study, financed by Illinois Department of Transportation, additional land use and access studies performed by Teska & Associates, and finally the most recent alignment study performed by Cemcon in 2018. Kellogg discussed the meeting between Kendall County and Village of Oswego representatives, in which the Village was strongly opposed to using the County’s alternative alignment through Arranmore Farm. The Village supports the original Stewart Road alignment, which continues north through property that will develop in the Village of Oswego. The Village will control much of the corridor north of Rance Road. There are also significant environmental constraints on the alternative alignment. Gryder stated the Cemcon study highlighted the difficulties of pursuing the alternative alignment through Arranmore Farm, and the Village’s opposition to that alignment. After further discussion, motion approved unanimously.

Motion Kellogg; second Gilmour to recommend approval of an ordinance authorizing the Kendall County Highway Committee to establish parking restrictions on County Highways. Klaas indicated that this effort began when discussing parking restrictions for Ben Street in the City of Plano. Upon investigating, the Highway Department and State’s Attorney Office couldn’t find any local ordinances granting authority to implement parking restrictions. Said authority could be given to the County Engineer, the Highway Committee, or the County Board. Highway Committee felt that these decisions would be best made at the Committee level, so no one person would determine parking restrictions. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Gilmour; second Kellogg to recommend approval of an intergovernmental agreement between Kendall County, Village of Montgomery, and Village of Oswego pertaining to the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Galena Road and Concord Drive. Klaas reported that this intersection is currently operating at Level-of-Service “F” during the peak hours, so a traffic signal improvement is warranted. The agreement calls for Montgomery to be
the lead agency for engineering and construction of the improvement. Kendall County will pay for 50% of the cost of construction and will be the lead agency for maintenance of the traffic signal. Montgomery has agreed to pay for all electricity for the traffic signal and associated street lighting in perpetuity. Prochaska asked if there was any way to make improvements to the intersection without installing another traffic signal. Klaas indicated that the study performed by Engineering Enterprises considered all possible improvements and recommended the installation of a traffic signal. Motion approved unanimously.

Klaas made a power point presentation regarding County Highway corridors and proposed projects in the multi-year and long range plans. He discussed the need for developing north-south routes through the county, because of the lack of State Highways that move people in the north-south direction. Gryder pointed out the importance of the Ridge Road corridor and the Grove Road corridor which would serve the population centers in the County. The Committee discussed aspects of many planned projects.

The Committee discussed the idea of hiring a lobbyist to promote Kendall County highway and bridge projects. Gryder discussed the idea of a lobbyist and how it can be helpful to get the attention of State elected officials, since they have so many issues they are dealing with. He also wanted to be at the table if there is a capital bill coming this year. Eldamain would likely be a priority, but it might be helpful for other projects as well. Prochaska pointed out that representatives will make over 3000 votes, and these projects are sometimes just another vote; so it can be helpful to have someone to make the push for Kendall County. No action was taken.

Gryder reported that he was invited to Yorkville meeting to discuss Cannonball Trail accident issues. Almost all of Cannonball Trail between Route 34 and Route 47 is under the jurisdiction of City of Yorkville. Kendall County has no jurisdiction of this section. Committee was supportive of municipal safety efforts, but recognized that County has no jurisdiction and wasn’t currently willing to provide financial assistance. Gryder was also looking for additional information on the status of the Millington Road Bridge. Klaas stated that he will try to get an update to County Board yet this week.

In other business, Gryder introduced Neil Jones, representing a project that would install a high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line through parts of Kendall County, and ultimately reaching the Plano sub-station near Eldamain and Corneils Road. Mr. Jones, of Direct Connect Development Company, is currently working with multiple agencies to try to secure a 340-mile corridor for placement of such a line. The County will continue to discuss this project with Highway and Planning Departments.

Motion Cesich; second Prochaska to forward Highway Department bills for the month of January in the amount of $1,043,987.13 to the Finance Committee for approval. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Prochaska; second Cesich to convene to Executive Session for the discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. By roll call vote, motion approved unanimously at 4:22 PM.

Meeting reconvened at 4:24 PM.
Motion Prochaska; second Kellogg to adjourn the meeting at 4:25 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis C. Klaas, P.E.
Kendall County Engineer

**Action Items**

1. Resolution withdrawing the centerline for the WIKADUKE Trail, which the County Board proposed and recorded in 2000.

2. Ordinance authorizing the Kendall County Highway Committee to establish parking restrictions on County Highways.

3. Intergovernmental Agreement between Kendall County, Village of Montgomery, and Village of Oswego pertaining to the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Galena Road and Concord Drive.