The committee meeting convened at 4:00 P.M. with roll call of Committee members. All present.

The County Engineer was contacted about a recent death caused by someone convicted of DUI who wondered whether Kendall County could install a memorial recognizing this DUI death. Evidently Cook County has recently adopted a program wherein they will put up a memorial along a highway indicating the death was caused by a drunken driver. Mr. Klaas was not aware of any other county in the State that has a similar program. He also indicated that over the past 15 years, there has only been an average of 2 fatalities per year on Kendall County Highways, and those not necessarily being caused by DUI. Chairman Koukol discussed some of the recent fatalities on Ill. Rte. 126, and how some of the memorials are not maintained very well, and can become unsightly. Klaas indicated that the Highway Department allows private memorials, and will be very respectful of those memorials when mowing and trimming. The Committee was not interested in developing a County Program at this time, but was receptive to continuing to allow the private installation of memorials.

An intergovernmental agreement between Kendall County and City of Plano was presented to the Committee regarding the jurisdiction and maintenance of Ben Street south of U.S. Route 34. The 2500’ section of Ben Street is an extension of Fox River Drive, a county highway, south of Plano. The agreement details future improvements, jurisdiction and maintenance of this roadway. Klaas gave a brief history of the County’s efforts to reclaim jurisdiction of those county highway extensions within corporate limits so that there is continuity and consistency of the county highway all the way to its terminus at another county highway or state highway. Examples of recent efforts include Townhouse Road and Johnson Street in the Village of Newark; Joliet Road and Lisbon Road in the Village of Lisbon; and Church Street in the Village of Millington. Chairman Koukol was concerned about impending improvements to sewer or water services under Ben Street. The Agreement states that these improvements will be completed prior to the County improving the street. All future maintenance of water mains, sewer mains, storm sewers, sidewalks, and other amenities will be the responsibility of Plano, while Kendall County will just maintain the roadway. Wehrli asked what exactly had been updated or modified from the original IGA w/ Plano after Kendall’s SAO had revised the Agreement. The exact changes were unknown, but were not believed to be substantive. Klaas indicated he could make a comparison from the original Agreement to the latest revised
Agreement and provide that information to the Committee for further review. Immediate action on this issue was not necessary.

A summary of Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) applications was presented to the Committee. Applications were received from Yorkville, Oswego, Oswegoland Park District, and Lisbon to help fund construction of multi-use paths and sidewalks in those respective communities. The County Board has until April 1st to make a determination on the successful applicants. Mr. Klaas provided some specific information on the TAP Program and each of the applications received. Gilmour requested a copy of the enabling resolution so that she could become more familiar with the guidelines for the Program. Wehrli suggested that this information be emailed to Committee members. Cesich asked about the timeline for construction and reimbursement on the projects. There remains a significant amount of uncertainty on the timing of TAP reimbursements due to the fact that Yorkville and Oswego projects are multi-year projects with uncertain IDOT billing cycles. The Committee discussed ways to potentially obligate TAP Funds for multiple projects.

A preliminary engineering agreement with Willett, Hofmann & Associates, Inc. for work on the Galena Road Bridge over Big Rock Creek was presented to the Committee. The Agreement has a not-to-exceed price of $63,457.30. This project is programmed for engineering in 2013 and construction in 2014 per the County’s 5-Year Surface Transportation Plan. The bridge has a Legal Load Only designation due to deterioration of the concrete deck beams. It is believed the rehabilitation can simply include a deck replacement, making this a very cost effective project. The Committee had a discussion about permitting overweight loads on County Highways. Motion Wehrli; second Prochaska to recommend approval of the Agreement to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Under “Other Business”, Chairman Koukol initiated a discussion about funding for Route 47 in light of the rescission of funding for the Prairie Parkway last fall. Mike Sullivan, Kendall’s Liaison to the Kane-Kendall Council of Mayors discussed the demise of funding for the Prairie Parkway in October of 2012, and how IDOT has reprogrammed funding for the Prairie Parkway to improvements on Route 47 from Morris, IL to Caton Farm Road in Kendall County. There has been some discussions around the area about the possibility of using these Route 47 funds to improve areas of Route 47 further north to address the more immediate needs of the traveling public. Klaas provided AADT maps from IDOT, which show the average daily traffic south of Route 52 at about 5000 per day, compared to AADT’s north of Yorkville that range from 15,000 to 20,000 per day. Sugar Grove is trying to garner some of the Prairie Parkway funds to complete a full interchange at Route 47 and I-88, as well as improve Route 47 in the Route 30 / Jericho Road area, which is a significant traffic bottleneck. Klaas indicated that if there was a desire to have this conversation with elected officials, it would have to happen immediately as the window for opportunity may have already passed. The Committee discussed potential costs of widening Route 47 north of Yorkville, including the railroad structures for BNSF in Yorkville and Sugar Grove. They also discussed the next potential window of opportunity for funding improvements on Route 47. If the County Board wanted to discuss this matter, they could do that under Other Business at the C.O.W. Meeting and could then put it on the agenda for the County Board on January 15th, if so desired.
Motion Wehrli; second Prochaska, to forward payroll and bills for the month of January to the Finance Committee for approval. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Prochaska, second Cesich to go into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing Executive Session Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Upon reconvening after Executive Session, motion Wehrli; second Cesich to release Executive Session Minutes from October 11, 2011 and retain Minutes from November 2, 2011 and December 13, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting has not been scheduled due to the County Holiday on February 12th.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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

ACTION ITEMS