The committee meeting convened at 4:00 P.M. with roll call of committee members. Prochaska absent. Quorum established.

Motion Gryder; second Wehrli to approve the agenda as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Koukol; second Gryder to approve the Highway Committee Minutes from the January 13, 2015 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Prochaska arrived at 4:13 PM.

Now that the new section of Ridge Road has been opened between Illinois Route 126 and Wheeler Road, Kendall County desires to transfer ½ mile of Old Ridge Road to Na-Au-Say Road District and 1600 feet of Old Ridge Road to Village of Plainfield. Motion Wehrli; second Gryder to recommend these transfers to the respective agencies. Klaas explained that it requires several action items to accomplish the transfer, including a jurisdictional transfer between Kendall County and Na-Au-Say Road District, a jurisdictional transfer between Kendall County and Village of Plainfield, as well as 2 resolutions deleting these sections of Old Ridge Road from the County Highway System. The final action item is an Intergovernmental Agreement between Kendall County and Na-Au-Say Road District spelling out the responsibilities of each agency and providing for the resurfacing of the District’s portion of Old Ridge Road sometime before the year 2020. Wehrli asked if there was any agreement for plowing snow. Klaas recommended that the southerly 1600 feet not get plowed to discourage people from using the dead end section of the roadway that has no houses on it. Na-Au-Say Road District would plow the northerly ½ mile where all the existing homes are located. After reviewing these actions items, the Committee voted unanimously to send all 5 items to the County Board for review and approval.

A Preliminary Engineering Agreement between Kendall County and Crawford, Murphy & Tilly was presented to the Committee. This Agreement would cover all professional engineering services to investigate and design an intersection improvement at Galena Road and Little Rock Road. Motion Koukol; second Gryder to approve the Agreement. Klaas indicated that this is the project that had been discussed previously, specifically as it related to the question of spending money here or at the intersection of Fox River Drive and Crimmins Road. The Committee had decided previously that it would be more prudent to try to improve Galena Road and Little Rock Road, because there was considerably more traffic and more crashes at this location. The Agreement includes all work, including public involvement, to take this project to a letting. Upon review, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Agreement to the County Board in the amount of $239,998.55.
CMAP has made a request to Kendall County to financially participate in a study that would investigate ways to consolidate and simplify the truck permitting process in Northeast Illinois. There are so many different agencies with jurisdiction of roadways in Illinois, making it very difficult to acquire overweight / overdimension permits to move goods and equipment. In the interest of efficiency, and trying to promote our regional economy, CMAP is committed to studying the problem and seeking alternative solutions. They expect to spend $250,000 with an 80/20 split; the “20” being picked up by local agencies. Participants would include the 7 collar counties and the City of Chicago. Gryder indicated that the trucking industry is very interested in this and would be willing to invest in a solution as well. He also discussed how some counties, like Kane County, are already trying to consolidate permitting by issuing permits on all county and township routes. Wehrli was concerned that City of Chicago must have buy-in on this project, or else he didn’t think it was going anywhere. Koukol asked if the County would be willing to put in $5,000 for this project. He was somewhat reluctant to spend that kind of money. Wehrli felt that as long as both Chicago and Cook County are involved in the study, he felt more comfortable with participating in the study. Prochaska agreed. Gryder wanted to move forward cautiously, but was generally supportive of the effort.

An ordinance reappointing the County Engineer will be addressed next month since the County is still waiting for consent from the Department of Transportation to reappoint.

Chairman Koukol discussed the Speedway Gas Station project at the intersection of Route 47 and Galena Road in Yorkville. Klaas notified the Committee that the proposed design for Route 47 improvements requires a 6’ cut on Galena Road about 400’ east of Route 47. This is a game changer for Speedway in that any of the roadway improvements we’ve discussed to this point would likely be very temporary. It may also require Speedway to adjust their site plan because more right-of-way will undoubtedly be required along Galena Road to accommodate the change in grade. Gryder wondered what Speedway would do in light of this new information; but the Highway Department has not heard back from them since the proposed design was revealed. Wehrli thought that perhaps the County could convince IDOT to change their design based on the economics of this particular situation. Klaas didn’t think that IDOT would want to deviate from their design standards because both Route 47 and Galena Road were such busy roadways. He also was reluctant to reconstruct the road twice because it would inconvenience drivers. Gilmour wanted to know if IDOT had a timeframe for reconstruction of Route 47; but Klaas indicated that construction timing was uncertain. Gryder stated that he would hate to see a new business put on hold because IDOT might improve the roadway sometime in the next 10 years. He also thought that if the County and the City passed a resolution indicating to IDOT that they don’t need to cut down Galena Road so much, it might help with a more reasonable solution. In the end the Committee agreed that they wanted to get feedback from Speedway before moving forward.

Motion Koukol; second Prochaska to forward Highway Department bills for the month of February in the amount of $119,389.67 to Finance Committee for approval. Motion carried unanimously.

The Committee discussed the recent blizzard and the roadway conditions. Wehrli indicated that all the roads were passable if drivers would just slow down.
Klaas informed the Committee that Huff & Huff has submitted the Site Investigation Completion Report to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency in regard to the underground fuel storage tank removal in the 1990’s. No additional soil or water testing should be required. He also indicated that there would likely be a restriction put on the Highway Department site that would preclude building any private water wells. There might also be a road agreement required with IDOT to identify that any contamination in the State Right-of-Way at this location would be the responsibility of Kendall County.

Meeting adjourned at 4:42 P.M.

Respectfully submitted.

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

ACTION ITEMS

1. Local Agency Agreement for Jurisdictional Transfer of 0.50 mile of Old Ridge Road from Kendall County to Na-Au-Say Road District.

2. Local Agency Agreement for Jurisdictional Transfer of 0.303 mile of Old Ridge Road from Kendall County to Village of Plainfield.

3. Resolution deleting 0.50 mile of Old Ridge Road from the County Highway System.

4. Resolution deleting 0.303 mile of Old Ridge Road from the County Highway System.

5. Intergovernmental Agreement between Kendall County and Na-Au-Say Road District pertaining to the transfer of a part of Old Ridge Road.

6. Engineering Agreement between Kendall County and Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc. for Preliminary Engineering Services for the Galena Road / Little Rock Road intersection project in the amount of $239,998.55