DATE: May 9, 2017
LOCATION: Kendall County Highway Department
MEMBERS PRESENT: Matt Kellogg, Scott Gryder, Lynn Cullick, Bob Davidson and Judy Gilmour
STAFF PRESENT: Ginger Gates, Fran Klaas
ALSO PRESENT: P.J. Fitzpatrick, Kelly Farley & Nathan Holmer

The committee meeting convened at 4:00 P.M. with roll call of committee members. Scott Gryder absent. Quorum established. Gryder arrived at 4:05 PM.

Chairman Kellogg asked to strike item #6 of the agenda. Motion Davidson; second Cullick, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Cullick, second Davidson to approve the Highway Committee meeting minutes from April 11, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

Klaas gave an update on the status of the Millington Road Bridge, and showed the committee some pictures of the bridge during low water. Gilmour asked for an explanation of “scour”. Klaas indicated it was caused by water action that removes granular material out from underneath the footing of the piers. Several agencies and other citizens have asked for a signed detour route for the road closure. The cost to install and maintain the required signs for 12 months is $11,500. Another requirement will likely be to obtain a temporary easement from the property owner(s) on the north side of the River so that a causeway can be built out to the north pier. Finally, Klaas indicated there were not enough funds in the County Bridge Fund to pay for these repairs, but the Sales Tax Fund could accommodate the project. He then provided a power point presentation to the Committee that explained how the bridge could be repaired. Gilmour stated that proposed repairs to the Millbrook Bridge required coordination with Army Corps and other agencies. Klaas stated that this was also the case with the Millington Bridge, but he was hopeful that these resource agencies would work quickly with the County due to the emergency nature of the repairs. The consultant estimates that the repairs might cost between $1 million and $2 million; but could extend the life of the bridge for 50 years. A new bridge would likely exceed $6 million and would have an estimated life of 75 years. LaSalle County would share in the costs of the project because this bridge is a county line bridge.

Gryder explained how he had been in contact with Rick Gardner from Oswego, who is a Purple Heart veteran from the Vietnam War. Rick had asked if Kendall County could become a Purple Heart County. There are only 3 or 4 counties in Illinois that currently have this designation. Gryder indicated that there would be a resolution at the next County Board meeting; the County would fly a Purple Heart flag, and individuals would come to speak about the designation. Gryder recommended the cellular 911 signs at the county lines could be removed and replaced with the Purple Heart signs. Sheriff Baird did not have a problem with this proposed action. Klaas estimated that the cost for signs would be about $1,000. Highway Department could perform installations. The consensus of the Committee was to move forward with installation of the signs.
Chairman Kellogg requested that the County Engineer provide the Committee with a list of roadways that will be closed in 2018, because there are several county highways that will be closed.

P.J. Fitzpatrick updated the Committee on the Collins Road Extension project. He would be sending out responses to the folks who had made comments on the project at the recent public hearing. There is another federal coordination meeting coming up on June 8th at IDOT. After that, WBK would be scheduling meetings with Oswego to keep them in the loop.

The Little Rock Road project is under contract, and the public utilities are moving their facilities now. The project is on schedule to be completed this year.

Kellogg asked about any progress on land acquisition at the Millington-Rogers intersection. Klaas thought that the County’s negotiator was going to be able to make a deal with Swenson for a dedication of right-of-way. There are also indications that ComEd would be willing to move a couple of their poles further from the intersection in the Southwest quadrant.

Gryder asked about a bill related to maintenance of the Orchard Road wetland. Klaas told the committee that the County had built a 5 acre wetland when they constructed the Orchard Road Bridge over the Fox River. There are small, continuing costs to maintain the wetland.

Motion Cullick; second Gryder to forward Highway Department bills for the month of May in the amount of $223,536.05 to the Finance Committee for approval. Motion to approve bills carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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