HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: November 12, 2013
LOCATION: Kendall County Highway Department
MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Koukol, Judy Gilmour, Jeff Wehrli, Amy Cesich & Matt Prochaska
STAFF PRESENT: Andy Myers, Ginger Gates & John Burscheid
ALSO PRESENT: PJ Fitzpatrick, Kelly Farley, Jarrod Cebulski, Vanessa Ferrario, Larry Nelson

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

Chairman Koukol motioned to move the YMCA agenda item to the first item of business. Second Gilmour. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Wehrli; second Prochaska to approve the Highway Committee Minutes from the October 8, 2013 meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

Chairman Koukol introduced Larry Nelson and Vanessa Ferrario, who are representing the YMCA. Mr. Nelson discussed the YMCA’s current proposal to add lighting to the parking lot at their facility near the intersection of Eldamain Road and Route 34. He is concerned about patrons using the YMCA’s parking lot and the fact that the entrance and exit at the Y are very dark. He is concerned about safety at this location and requested the County participate in getting lighting along the Eldamain Road right-of-way near the Y’s access points. He also suggested that perhaps the County could put lights on the existing ComEd poles on the east side of Eldamain Road. The Committee discussed different options for signing or lighting in the vicinity of the YMCA. The County Engineer estimated that putting lights on ComEd poles would cost between $20 and $25 per month per location. Myers asked if there had been any accidents at the entrances to the YMCA. Nelson did not know. Wherli believed that the County’s lighting at street intersections was different than providing lighting for private entities. There was also discussion about the landscaping and pine trees that might prevent good sight distance. Prochaska asked if there was any precedent for providing lighting for private entities. Other than the continuous lighting on Orchard Road, the County Engineer could not think of any examples of such an arrangement. The Committee’s direction was to obtain more information on the cost of providing lighting on the existing ComEd poles.

A bid opening for gas and diesel was held on November 12, 2013. Only one bidder, Elburn Coop, submitted a bid. The bid is for a fixed price per gallon for the next 12 months. The bid for gas was $2.731 per gallon, and the bid for diesel fuel was $3.204 per gallon. Wherli asked about some of the taxes that the County doesn’t have to pay for fuel. He also asked whether the Highway Department used any “off road” or dyed diesel. Because almost all work by the Department is within the right-of-way, they don’t use any “off road” diesel fuels. Motion Cesich; second Prochaska to recommend approval of the bid for bulk fuel. Motion carried unanimously.
An intergovernmental agreement between Kendall County and Village of Millington was presented to the Committee. This agreement provides for the maintenance of parts of Vine Street and Church Street in Millington. These roadways had been considered County Highway Extensions. Now that the County has spent money improving the roadways, they will officially be considered part of the County Highway System. The Agreement is similar to the agreement that governed Johnson Street in the City of Newark. The County will maintain the roadway, pavement markings, signing, and will plow snow, while the Village will maintain the storm sewers, sidewalks, and street lighting. Motion Koukol; second Gilmour to recommend approval of the IGA to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

An Agreement between Kendall County and Mathewson Right-of-Way was presented to the Committee. Said Agreement would provide for negotiation services by Mathewson for land acquisition on the Eldamain Road Extension. Total cost for these services is $137,500. Cesich asked how long this process might take. Klaas estimated that it will take not less than 2 years to get all the parcels acquired. Werhli confirmed that this Agreement does not cover litigation costs. If eminent domain is used, and court costs are applicable, there would be additional charges above and beyond the base agreement. Motion Koukol; second Wehrli to recommend approval of the Agreement to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

An Agreement between Kendall County and Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) was presented to the Committee. Said Agreement governs the construction and maintenance of the intersection of Illinois Route 126 and Ridge. The County will finish constructing the intersection and will agree to be the lead agency for maintenance of the traffic signal. IDOT will pay $300,000 for their part of the project. IDOT and the SAO are working to finalize the Agreement and have it ready for the next County Board meeting. Motion Gilmour; second Prochaska to recommend approval of the Agreement to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Oswego Police Department had requested a written response from the County in regard to Low-Speed Vehicles and Non-Highway Vehicles on County Highways. Wehrli was against both types of vehicles on County Highways, and was puzzled as to why the statutes were written the way they were. After more discussion by the Committee, the consensus was to notify Oswego that the County was not in favor of these types of vehicles on County Highways.

The Committee reviewed and recommended approval of the annual update to the County’s Long Range Transportation Plan. Motion Koukol; second Wehrli to recommend approval of the Long Range Transportation Plan to the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

The County Engineer discussed a professional services agreement with Huff & Huff Inc. for conducting additional soil and groundwater sampling for the leaking underground storage tank (LUST) at the Highway Department site. The Agreement has been put on the COW Agenda for consideration. The work will include multiple soil borings, groundwater monitoring wells, sampling, testing, reporting and project management.

The County Engineer informed the Committee that he has been investigating the purchase of a new or gently used mowing tractor, in light of the fact that the Department lost a tractor this year as a result of an accident. It appears that a replacement tractor will be above the bidding threshold of $30,000 and so the Department would have to go out for bid on the new equipment. The Department also did not purchase a bucket truck out of this fiscal year’s budget. So the money saved this fiscal year will likely be spent in next fiscal year’s budget, which will push the
Capital Expenditures line item over the budgeted amount for FY 14. The Committee did not have a problem with going out to bid for a new tractor.

Koukol discussed the recent loss of the Kubota mowing tractor and informed the Committee that the County could contest the amount the insurance adjuster sets for the value of the lost equipment; at least on future losses. It was Koukol’s and Klaas’s opinion that the County probably didn’t get the full value of the damaged mowing tractor.

Motion Prochaska; 2nd Wehrli to forward payroll and bills for the month of November in the amount $1,048,812.22 to the Finance Committee for approval. Motion carried unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. Elburn Coop bid for Bulk Fuel, including both 89-Octane Gasoline and Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel, for contract period from December 1, 2013 to November 30, 2014, at bid price of $2.731 per gallon for gas and $3.204 per gallon for diesel and total bid price of $107,776.

2. Intergovernmental Agreement relating to the maintenance of parts of Vine Street and Church Street within the corporate limits of the Village of Millington.

3. Agreement to hire Mathewson Right-of-Way Company to negotiate acquisition of parcels on the Eldamain Road Extension Project in the amount of $137,500

4. Agreement between Kendall County and IDOT governing the intersection improvements proposed at Illinois Route 126 and Ridge Road.

5. Kendall County Long Range Transportation Plan update.