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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Highway Committee Minutes
May 1, 2014**

A meeting of the Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board was held on Thursday, May 1, 2014 at 6:00pm in the Conference Room of the DeKalb County Highway Department, DeKalb, Illinois.

Chairman Gudmunson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Committee members present were Mr. Deverell, Mr. Frieders, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Jones, Mr. O'Barski and Vice Chairman Pietrowski. Others present were Mr. Gary Hanson, County Administrator, Mr. Brad Hunold, Assistant County Engineer, Mr. Wayne Davey, Support Services Manager, Mr. Jim Quinn, Operations Manager, Mr. Greg Millburg, Farm Bureau, Mr. Tom Zucker, Executive Director, Voluntary Action Center of DeKalb County and Donna Moulton, Executive Director, DeKalb County Community Services Department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Mr. Jones and seconded by Vice Chair Pietrowski to approve the minutes of the regular April 3, 2014 meeting. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Vice Chairman Pietrowski moved and Mr. Jones seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

A Public Hearing was called to order at 6:05pm to hear comments on DeKalb County's intent to Submit to the State of Illinois for a Section 5311 Rural/Downstate Operating Assistance Combined Application.

Mr. Tom Zucker, residing at 1203 Glifford Street, DeKalb, Illinois presented himself and spoke in favor of the County submitting such an application. The assistance provided to the residents of DeKalb County through this operating grant has proven to be very beneficial and this service provided addresses a very real need in DeKalb County.

No other persons presented themselves for the Public hearing and the hearing was closed at 6:07pm. Chairman Gudmunson resumed the Committee Meeting.

RESOLUTION #R2014-29: AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AND FILE A SECTION 5311 DOWNSTATE OPERATING GRANT AGREEMENT:

Mr. Zucker presented information to the Committee concerning this application. This application, if approved, provides funding for the County's rural transportation services such as TransVac and MedVac. The County has been applying for these funds for the past eleven years and these funds are used for services outside the DeKalb/Sycamore/Cortland area. When funds are approved they are passed through the County to the Voluntary Action Center along with all responsibilities and liability. This assistance program combines Federal and State Funds. Funding limits have not increased in several years for the Federal Funds to be allocated and they would remain at \$372,475.00. The State Funds are \$461,378.00 and indicate a 1.67% increase over last year. Federal Funds are required to be utilized first and then the State Funds. The Federal Grant requires a 50% local match for operations and a 20% local match for administration. The State Grant requires a 35% local match and the State Grant is used as the local match for the Federal Grant. Services are up 6% over 2012 with TransVac providing over 217,789 rides during 2013. Data to date indicates a 6% increase over 2013 ridership for 2014 as well with 172,067 rides during the current year. Mr. Zucker provided the Committee with a brief history of the Voluntary Action Center, how it came to be and how it has changed its mission over the years to provide the services that it does.

RESOLUTION #R2014-30 ACCEPTANCE OF THE SPECIAL WARRANTY AS A CONDITION TO RECEIVE SECTION 5311 FUNDS:

Mr. Zucker explained that when the County applies for Financial Assistance it must also agree to certain conditions. These conditions mainly deal with ensuring that the County would not be in competition with any private transportation service and that union employees of those companies would not be adversely affected by the awarding of the financial assistance. Mr. Zucker informed the Committee there are no other unionized transportation services operating in DeKalb County and therefore has no problems meeting and complying with the Special Warranty. **Vice Chair Pietrowski made a motion and Mr. Jones seconded it to forward both resolutions, #R2014-29 and #R2014-30, to the full County Board recommending approval. The motion passed unanimously.**

AWARD RESOLUTION #R2014-22: ONE NEW TANDEM CAB AND CHASSIS AND ONE NEW 6 X 6 CAB AND CHASSIS

Mr. Johnson made a motion to remove this item from the Table (placed at the April 3rd committee Meeting) and Mr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Davey explained bids were received on May 1, 2014 at 10:00am for the purchase of one Tandem Cab and Chassis and one 6 x 6 Cab and Chassis. Three bids were received for the 6 x 6 cab and chassis with only Temco Machinery, Inc. from Aurora, Illinois meeting specifications. Their bid of \$284,830.00 was substantially over the amount budgeted for entire vehicle and therefore could not be supported this budget year. **Mr. Jones made a motion to disapprove Resolution #R2014-32, awarding to Temco Machinery, Inc. and Vice Chair Pietrowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and no award recommendation will be made at this time.**

The Tandem bids were reviewed with the Committee. Five various cab and chassis bids were received and no bidder was able to meet all specifications required by the Department. The Committee discussed these bids and decided that the Mack, Kenworth and Peterbilt Model 365 were all very comparable to one another. Peterbilt Model 348 was a smaller, less powerful vehicle along with the Freightliner. After reviewing the Mack, Kenworth and Peterbilt Model 365, the Mack submission was the vehicle that met all critical specifications submitted and was the low bid. Discussion followed the disapproval of the 6 x 6 cab and chassis to see if there was a need to purchase two tandem cab and chassis in place of one tandem cab and chassis and one 6 x 6 cab and chassis. It was the consensus of the Committee that two such vehicles should be purchased. The Committee instructed Staff to pursue the best avenue of disposing of the plow trucks being replaced either by selling out right or by trading into the dealer. **With the above instructions Mr. Jones made a motion to authorize the purchase of two tandems cab and chassis from CIT Group, Inc. from Loves Park, Illinois and Vice Chair Pietrowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously to submit Award Resolution #R2014-22 for approval in the amount of \$189, 821.74.**

2015 BUDGET:

Mr. Hanson presented and discussed a ten year history of assessed values, dollars levied and the tax rate for the Highway Department's budgets. It was explained how the tax rate was arrived at and how the assessed value figures into dollars levied. Mr. Hanson explained that when funds are removed from a budget, that due to the tax cap, it is a very long time before the fund will return to levels prior to the removal. The long term effect on a budget was explained to the Committee when such action is taken.

The Committee wants to be on the ground level as the Highway Budget is built this year. One way to do this is for the County Engineer and his staff to share the highway projects and the equipment replacement schedule with the Committee early on in the process. Mr. Davey stated he would pass that information to Mr. Schwartz and try to have that information for discussion at the June Committee meeting.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS: Mr. Gudmunson inquired if Suydam Road was an 80,000 pound road by the grain operation in Rollo. It was explained that Rollo Road, Shabbona and Suydam Road East were all 73,280 pound roads. Suydam Road west was posted

at 54,000 pounds. Mr. Gudmunson would like to see Maplehurst Grain Operation be able to haul grain out of their facility at 80,000 pounds. Mr. Davey stated he would pass those comments to Mr. Schwartz when he returns. But keep in mind the County Engineer would build an 80,000 pound truck route only if it connects to an existing 80,000 pound truck route. That would mean building Suydam Road to Illinois Route 23 or Suydam, Rollo, Chicago and Shabbona Roads to US Route 30 up to 80,000 pounds.

COUNTY ENGINEER'S COMMENTS:

Mr. Hunold provided the Committee with an update of the Transportation Improvement Progress Report that occurred during the month of April. The Barber Greene Road resurfacing and widening project has IDOT funding for 2018. The County Engineer will continue to try to move that date up. East County Line Road should see construction start during the middle of May. Five Points Road Bridge stands at 18% constructed. The south pier is finished and they are now driving the piles for the south abutment. The Perry Road and West County Line Road bridges are on schedule for a June letting.

As a legislative update, lawmakers have returned to Springfield and they have released the final \$100 million to the Counties and Road Districts for the Illinois Jobs Now Program.

The County Engineer did meet with Enterprise Fleet Management to see if they could save the County money by providing our fleet of trucks. After our meeting it was learned that Enterprise could not provide us with the plow trucks we needed. No further meetings have been planned as this no longer seems as an option for the County.

Mr. Hunold brought the Committee's attention to a recent e-mail sent to them by the County Engineer concerning the Peace Road Safety Study.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Gudmunson asked if there was any additional items that needed to be presented tonight and hearing none asked for a motion to adjourn. **A motion was made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. O'Barski and the motion passed unanimously.** The April 3, 2014 meeting was adjourned at 7:42pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Gudmunson
Chairman