Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the County Highway Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

> DeKalb County Government Sycamore, Illinois

# Special County Highway Committee Minutes March 15, 2017

The County Highway Committee of the DeKalb County Board met in for a Special Meeting on Wednesday, Mach 15, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Legislative Center's Freedom Room in Sycamore, Illinois. Chairman Frieders called the meeting to order. Those Members present were Mr. Bunge, Mr. Plote, Vice Chair Willis and Chairman Frieders. Mr. Osland, Ms. Polanco, and Mr. Stoddard were absent. A quorum was established to begin the meeting. *Mr. Stoddard and Mr. Osland arrived at* 6:57 p.m.

Others present were Gary Hanson, Mark Pietrowski, Nathan Schwartz, and two students.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Vice Chair Willis, seconded by Mr. Plote and it was carried unanimously by voice vote to approve the agenda as presented.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were presented to the Committee.

## **COUNTY ENGINEER EVALUATION PROCESS**

Chairman Frieders explained that the Committee was called to gather in this Special Meeting because the Committee has been working on a process to evaluate the County Engineer. County Engineers are hired with a six-year term and the current Engineer Mr. Nathan F. Schwartz, P.E.'s term is up this year and the Committee is going through the process of evaluating and the process of re-appointing Mr. Schwartz, if that is the County Board's desire.

The Chairman continued to explain that what was before the Committee tonight was a survey that was constructed by the County Administrator and he wanted the Committee to review the survey to ensure there were no other additions or corrects that they wanted to make prior to the survey's dissemination.

The Committee went through the items on the survey and suggested a few changes and additions. The Committee also decided, with input from Mr. Schwartz, that they would send this survey to all County Road Commissioners and some of the larger Municipalities that work more closely with the County Engineer. It was additionally agreed upon that the survey would be sent out the following day with a March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. The results of the survey would be gathered and shared with the County Highway Committee at their next regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Hanson noted that he was also planning to attend the next Highway Committee Meeting to help provide his input to the Committee regarding the reappointment of Mr. Schwartz. The Committee unanimously agreed to this plan and noted that they looked forward to reviewing the survey results.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Plote, seconded by Vice Chair Willis, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Trieden

Chairman John Frieders

DeKalb County Highway Committee Survey Return by March 31, 2017 via email at Administration@dekalbcounty.org

Township Road District Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Based on the last 12 months, which category below best describes how often you have talked or met with the County Engineer? 

 \_\_\_\_\_ Multiple times a month
 \_\_\_\_\_ About once a month

 \_\_\_\_\_ Every couple of months or so
 \_\_\_\_\_ Couple of times a year

2. When you need to meet or talk with the County Engineer, how accessible is he to you? 3. What could the Highway Department do to help you do your job better? 4. What could the Highway Department do better as a Department? 5. How knowledgeable do you find the County Engineer to be with questions or problems that you present to him? (Please provide an example if you wish.) On a scale of 1 -5, with 5 being the best, how well does the Highway Department: 6. Manage its money? a. Care for equipment? b. Seek outside funding? c. Maintain existing roads & bridges? d. Perform snow removal? e. Please comment on any of the above areas (a - e), if you wish: 7. What is the most valuable & least valuable service the Highway Department provides? 8. What is the most valuable & least valuable service the County Engineer Provides?

9. Any additional comments (use back, if necessary):