

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Public Works
CHAIRPERSON: John Grizzoffi
DATE/TIME January 27, 2025 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

☒ Ambrosia
☒ Grizzoffi
☒ Trost

☒ Creighton
☒ Heitkamp

☒ Endress
☒ Heuerman

Others: Steve Keeffer, Angie Kaiser (Zoom), Brent Eigsti (Zoom)

MINUTES

1. Minutes

Bob Heuerman made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 25, 2024 Public Works meeting, LaDon Trost seconded, and the motion carried

2. Citizens' Comments

None

3. Highway Department

a. Old Business

1. Project Schedule Update

Steve Keeffer prepared a map of the county with all active projects delineated. The committee discussed many of the projects and their progress/status.

2. County Owned Cemeteries

Steve Keeffer has done some additional research to verify the accuracy of the dates to be shown on the sign for the Poor Farm Cemetery, but would like to contact the Site Director for the State Historical sites in Galena to see if he can provide more information. There was some additional discussion about the Miner Cemetery. The township will be contacted to see if they have any interest in the cemetery.

3. County Board Retreat Goals

The committee discussed the Public Works Committee Goals identified at the last County Board Retreat. The first goal was to build a climate-controlled storage facility for all offices and evidence. The committee felt that the purchase of the former medical office in Hanover achieved a large portion of that goal. The second goal was the purchase of a pavement striper. After some discussion, Steve Keeffer was asked to look into this item and provide some cost estimates for the necessary equipment and materials. The last goal was to provide an alternate intersection for Blackjack Road and US 20. There are very preliminary discussions regarding this as part of a larger Blackjack Watershed Study.

b. New Business

1. Spring Road Postings

Annual spring road postings were discussed. A resolution was reviewed that allows the County Engineer to post the county roads at his discretion for not more than 90 days between the dates of February 12 to May 12. Joe Heitkamp made a motion to approve the resolution, Jacob Ambrosia seconded and the motion carried.

2. Engineering Agreement for Nora Township Quarry Hill Road Bridge

The committee reviewed an engineering agreement for the design of a new bridge/box culvert on Quarry Hill Road in Nora Township. The proposed project would replace an existing bridge and also an existing box culvert. The agreement would be with Willett, Hoffman & Associates at a cost of \$103,173.00 for the design work. John Creighton made a motion to approve the engineering agreement with Willett, Hoffman & Associates from Dixon, IL at a cost of 103,173.00, Bob Heuerman seconded, and the motion carried.

3. Engineering Agreement for Apple River Township Roberts Road Bridge

The committee reviewed an engineering agreement for the design of a new railroad bridge on Roberts Road in Apple River Township. The proposed project would replace an existing wooden railroad overpass bridge over the CN Railroad. The agreement would be with Willett, Hoffman & Associates at a cost of \$222,027.00 for the design work. There was considerable discussion about the necessity of this proposed structure and how much impact there would be when the existing structure is simply closed. Bob Heuerman made a motion to table this issue, Joe Heitkamp seconded, and the motion carried.

4. Engineering Agreement for Bridge Repairs in Rice, Stockton, Elizabeth, and Scales Mound Townships

The committee reviewed yet another engineering agreement for the design of repairs to bridges in Rice, Stockton, Elizabeth, and Scales Mound Townships. These proposed repairs would correct issues that were discovered last fall when a portion of the bridges in the county were inspected. The agreement would be with Willett, Hoffman & Associates at a cost of \$58,798.00 for designing the repairs for all four structures. John Creighton made a motion to approve the engineering agreement with Willet, Hoffman & Associates from Dixon, IL at a cost of 58,798.00, Bob Heuerman seconded, and the motion carried.

5. Spray Foam Insulation at the Scales Mound Maintenance Shop

Steve Keeffer presented the committee with quotes for spray foam insulation to be installed at the County Highway Maintenance Shop in Scales Mound. This structure was built in the late 1960's and is need of some updates. A portion of the shop is heated during the winter and an end Loader and snow blower are stored in the heated bays. Spray foam insulation would improve the energy efficiency of the structure. The low quote for the insulation work was from AR Foaming from Warren, IL at a cost of \$14,448.72 for 4" closed cell insulation on the roof and 3" closed cell insulation on the walls. John Creighton made a motion to approve the quote from AR Foaming from Warren, IL at a cost of \$14,448.72, Jacob Ambrosia seconded, and the motion carried.

6. Exterior Steel at the Scales Mound Maintenance Shop

Steve Keeffer presented the committee with quotes for exterior steel panels for the roof and walls at the County Highway Maintenance Shop in Scales Mound. The existing steel roof and walls on this structure are original to the building and the paint is gone/faded. The proposed update would be for county forces to replace the wall steel and install new roof steel over the existing roof steel. The low quote for the steel was from Spahn and Rose Lumber in Warren, IL at a cost of \$10,419.02. The committee directed Steve Keeffer to remove the existing roof steel in lieu of overlaying it and to install the new wall steel before applying the foam insulation. John Creighton made a motion to approve the quote Spahn and Rose Lumber from Warren, IL at a cost of \$10,419.02, Jacob Ambrosia seconded, and the motion carried.

7. Retirement of the County Engineer

There was a brief discussion about the pending retirement of the County Engineer. Steve Keeffer explained some of the requirements for recruiting a new County Engineer. There was also some discussion of how the transition between County Engineers may work and required activities that cannot be interrupted.

4. Citizens Comments

None

5. Board Member Concerns

There was some additional conversation about the retirement of the County Engineer and brief conversation about pollution insurance

The meeting concluded 7:47 P.M.