

**DeWITT COUNTY  
ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE OF MEETING: March 16, 2022

PLACE OF MEETING: DeWitt County Highway Department  
9900 Revere Rd, Clinton, IL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Travis Houser – Committee Chairman, Jay Wickenhauser, Melonie  
Tilley, Brian Riddle

OTHERS PRESENT: Mark Mathon – County Engineer

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:**

Chairman Houser called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Motion by Tilley, seconded by Wickenhauser, to approve minutes of January 12, 2021 Road & Bridge Meeting. Unanimous.

Motion by Riddle, seconded by Tilley, to approve payment of bills. Unanimous.

Chairman Houser indicated the second agenda item would be discussed first as there were several people present interested in the topic.

Mathon updated the committee on the status of the structure replacement on Airport Rd east of Weldon for Nixon Road District. The structure plans have been completed, and Mathon is working on documents for necessary right of way. Once the right of way has been acquired the project will go on a letting advertised in the IDOT Contractors Bulletin, opened and reviewed by the Road & Bridge Committee and sent to the County Board for award. Mathon indicated he expected to have right of way resolved in April with the bidding process in May. Nixon Township will be pursuing an insurance claim through their insurer. Mathon explained the funding for township bridge projects comes from IDOT's Township Bridge Program that covers 80% of projects, with the remainder split between the County Bridge Fund and the involved township. Additional discussion followed. Mr. Houser thanked the public for attending the meeting and the committee would discuss progress as there were updates.

Mr. Paul Wampler, a resident of Wapella Township, addressed the committee regarding the closure of a section of Burr Oak Rd by the Highway Commissioner due to a culvert that had washed out. Mathon indicated the situation was a Wapella Road District issue, and had been discussed with Highway Commissioner Eldon Cusey. The highway commissioner has indicated the road district did not want to incur the cost of replacing the damaged culvert. Mathon explained the bridge to the immediate south of the culvert in question has been considered for replacement and would be very costly, involving a 200 foot long, 3 span structure requiring

nearly a quarter mile of roadway to be raised over six feet in elevation. The highway commissioner had indicated in previous conversations that if additional issues with the existing bridge or adjacent culvert developed, there was no intention to expend road district funds on replacement. Mr. Cusey had indicated to the resident additional signage was being ordered to more clearly identify ‘No Outlet’ for the segment leading to the closure. Mathon explained the method to permanently vacate a road was defined by statute, and any action taken was the decision of the highway commissioner after a public hearing is held. Mathon indicated he assists highway commissioners with the vacation process upon request.

Mathon presented a Sourcewell bid from Central Illinois Ag for the purchase of a new Case IH Maxxum 125 tractor and new Bush Hog 2815 batwing mower. The current 2008 John Deere 6715 and 2012 Land Pride RCB6615 mower will be traded in. The equipment replacement was included as part of the current budget. Motion by Wickenhauser, seconded by Tilley, to forward to the full board the purchase of a new Case IH Maxxum 125 and Bush Hog 2815 from Central Illinois Ag in the amount of \$107,500.00 including trade in of existing equipment. Unanimous.

Mrs. Tilley shared with the committee that she had discussed with Mr. Mathon concerns over the timeliness of deposits for checks received by the Highway Department. Mathon indicated the issue had been discussed internally at the Department, and he would monitor the status of checks received by and sent from the highway department to ensure timely action.

Motion by Tilley, seconded by Wickenhauser, to adjourn at 6:17 p.m.

**COMMITTEE ACTION:**

Motion by Tilley, seconded by Wickenhauser, to approve minutes of January 12, 2021 Road & Bridge Meeting. Unanimous.

Motion by Riddle, seconded by Tilley, to approve payment of bills. Unanimous.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNTY BOARD:**

Motion by Wickenhauser, seconded by Tilley, to forward to the full board the purchase of a new Case IH Maxxum 125 and Bush Hog 2815 from Central Illinois Ag in the amount of \$107,500.00 including trade in of existing equipment. Unanimous.

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Chairman  
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