

**HANCOCK COUNTY HIGHWAY, ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**April 29, 2021**

The Hancock County Highway, Road and Bridge Committee meeting was called to order by Ms. Davis on Thursday, April 29, 2021 at 8:30 A.M. Committee members present were Patsy Davis, Wayne Bollin, Harry Douglas, Mark Menn, Gary Stansbery and Randy Bergmeier. Absent was Pat Cramer. Also present was County Engineer Elgin Berry.

Review and Approval of Claims and Expenditures

Claims and expenditures for the month of April were presented to the committee for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Bergmeier and seconded by Mr. Douglas to pay all bills as presented. All committee members present voted 'Aye'.

County Engineer's Report

The bid results from the county and townships culvert lettings that were held on April 26 were presented to the committee. The County Engineer recommended awarding the materials delivery contracts to the following low bidders:

1. Section 21-00000-00-GM (County) Group 1: \$53,978.20 to Contech Engineered Solutions of Springfield, IL
2. Section 21-xx000-00-GM (Townships) Group 1: \$62,117.83 to Contech Engineered Solutions of Springfield, IL
3. Section 21-xx000-00-GM (Townships) Group 2: \$160,668.32 to Contech Engineered Solutions of Springfield, IL

Mr. Bollin moved to recommend final action by the full county board to award materials contracts to the low bidders as presented by the engineer for furnishing culverts to the county and townships for 2021. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stansbery. All committee members present voted 'Aye'.

Two options for making improvements on the Connable Road were presented to the committee to review and discuss. In order to utilize federal funding, the work would either have to be performed as Pavement Preservation or Reconstruction. Both options will create an improved riding surface, but the preservation option would not allow for the pavement surface or shoulders to be widened. The existing road is approximately 20-9" wide, with 4' shoulders, but it varies along the route. The minimum recommended width for that road is 22' with 6' shoulders.

The reconstruction option for the Connable Road would include widening, but would also require acquisition of additional right-of-way and the likely relocation of a water main that's on a private easement along the entire length of the road. The engineer estimated that the preservation option could be completed in two phases, in 2023 and 2026, for a total cost of about \$2.5M. The reconstruction option was estimated to be completed by 2028 for a total cost of about \$11.6M.

Mr. Bollin asked if there was any possibility of replacing the gravel shoulders with pavement, to allow more room for trucks and wide vehicles to get off the road without blowing the shoulder rock out of the shoulders. The engineer said that probably couldn't be done with federal or state

funds unless it was included in the complete reconstruction plan. A change in the type of shoulders would not qualify as "preservation" work.

Mr. Menn stated that the county will soon be receiving about \$3.5M in Covid relief funding, of which some or all might be eligible for infrastructure improvements. The board will have to determine how much of those funds will be allocated to the various departments. The engineer stated that he also received a notification that Hancock County will be allocated an additional \$189,000 in federal Surface Transportation funds, administered through IDOT as part of the Covid relief package. Those funds could be applied toward the Connable Road improvements, but they might have to be expended within a three to five year timeframe. Mr. Bollin will ask State Representative Randy Frese and State Senator Jil Tracy to attend the committee meeting next month, to provide some guidance on what the county can do with the additional Covid funds and what the restrictions are. Ms. Davis said that she will take pictures for a Power Point presentation at that meeting.

Mr. Stansbery stated that the county ought to hold a public meeting, to find out what the public at large would like to see on the Connable Road. The engineer said that all adjoining property owners should be contacted at least, to determine their willingness to furnish right-of-way, if needed. A future public meeting will be held, but not at the next committee meeting.

Mr. Douglas suggested a speed reduction for the Connable Road, to improve the safety, since it is so narrow. The engineer stated that the county board can only enact a speed reduction if it's based on a properly-conducted speed study. Mr. Douglas then suggested that Narrow Road and/or Low Shoulder signs be placed at each end of the road or at other points, where appropriate. The engineer described the issue of sign fatigue, which is what happens when drivers are presented with too many signs, but he also said he would look into the possibility of placing additional warning signs of some sort.

The engineer stated that a quotation in the amount of \$16,500 was received from ARA to perform pavement testing and design work on the Ferris Road at the east and west ends. When their work is completed, they will recommend appropriate pavement thicknesses for an 80,000-pound truck route. That, in turn, will guide the county in deciding the scope of the Rebuild Illinois project (3 miles vs. 4.5 miles). The Rebuild Illinois funds will amount to \$853,730.10 and must be spent on a "bondable" project by 2025. The county can supplement this amount to some extent with local funds or MFT funds, but \$1M should be about the upper limit. If the project has to be split, then the eastern 1.5 miles could be done as a separate project with federal funding at a later date.

Mr. Douglas moved to recommend final action by the full county board to accept the ARA quotation to perform the pavement design work on the Ferris Road. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bergmeier. All committee members present voted 'Aye'.

The engineer reported that an estimate in excess of \$10,000 was received from R.L. Hoener to repair the wires from the underground fuel storage tanks to the Automatic Tank Gage (ATG) monitor in the shop. The ATG monitor is absolutely necessary for the county to continue operating its own fuel station because it meets the leak detection requirements of the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Mr. Bollin suggested that directional boring might be a cheaper way to get the work accomplished. Mr. Menn recommended contacting the company that's working on the fuel tanks at the Ayerco station in Hamilton.

Old Business

Mr. Menn said he had heard that the Village of Pontoosuc was getting close to signing an Engineering Agreement for the replacement of their bridge on 4<sup>th</sup> Street at Spillman Creek. The engineer said the agreement was executed by the village at a special meeting earlier this week, but that the engineering costs will be about \$50,000 higher than initially estimated.

New Business

Mr. Bollin informed the committee that the Circuit Clerk would need a revised budget because some high-profile cases are coming up that will require specially-trained defense attorneys.

Mr. Bollin also informed the committee that the Circuit Clerk needs to upgrade the digital technology in the courtroom, to be in line with the other counties in the district. It could end up costing the county \$250,000 to continue using old system. The estimated cost of the upgraded technology is unknown.

Adjournment

As no further business was brought before the Committee at this time, a motion was made by Mr. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Stansbery to recess until Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 8:30 A.M. All committee members present voted 'Aye'. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

Respectfully  
Submitted,  
Troy Davis  
5-18-21

FINANCE, FEES AND SALARIES COMMITTEE

The Finance, Fees and Salaries Committee met in the County Board Room on May 13, 2021 at 9:00am. Members present were Wayne Bollin, Chairman, Janet Fleming, Mark Menn, Mark Hanson, Harry Douglas, Gary Stansberry, Tom Bergmeier and Delbert Kreps, Chairman of the Board.

Keith Krohe with the County Health Insurance reported on the Insurance from the end of last year and the year before, and also from end of last year to April of this year. We are still in good shape and about where we should be. *251,000 reserve 5-12-21 Actual costs up ~100,000/claims*

Judge Rodney Clark and John Neally, Circuit Clerk entered the meeting and discussed new technology software for this county in case management. There are six counties in our group and one has already gone to this and John has gotten the other four started on this. This would be through PC Jim's Technology and they are very reputable and will cost \$206,661.00 and will pay for everything that has to be done. The funds will come out of the Circuit Clerks court accounts and shouldn't cost the County anything. A motion was made by Mark Menn to approve the expedition of this new PC Jim's technology for case mgt software and give the County Treasurer 30 days' notice to get the money out of the CD's. Harry Douglas seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

*High profile cases may alter budget.*  
Judge Clark also discussed the COVID-19 we need new technology in the Court Room with monitors. A grant for \$89,000.00 has been applied for to pay for this and has to be done by the 31<sup>st</sup> of July. Judge Clark will be the contact person for all of this. A motion to pass this bid to the full board for approval was made by Mark Menn. Janet Fleming seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

*Bid w/o funding will be denied.*  
Just for our information Judge Clark stated that the Court Appointed Attorney is going to cost \$125.00 for next year per case as they are getting much bigger cases. Also, they may have to go over the budget set for this with the cases that are coming up. *Dec. 2022 begins*

Ramsey Finance entered the meeting and explained to the committee an update on the insurance and stated that it is up to \$220,00.00 with everything added on and they are still under the ~~\$28,000.00~~. They discussed when they could give them an idea for next years fee and said they could have something by October 1<sup>st</sup> for the budget work. *222,000*

*Deshony*  
Bob Hubbard and Dan with the Veterans office came in and ask if they could get some bills paid early, such as Water, Electric and Gas, where the Veteran hasn't paid the bill for a few months and it going to be shut off. After discuss a was made by Janet Fleming to allow these such cases could be paid ahead of the committee and full board meeting. Mark Menn second the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

*Waiting for a resolution Next Month*  
Travis Duffy, Chief Deputy entered the meeting and discussed the resolution for the two new 2021 Dodge Durango squad cars, financed through Fortress Bank at 3% interest. The members discussed this at great length and this is not what they understood at the Budget time last year. A motion was made by Harry Douglas to tab le this until next month and Tom Bergmeier seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried. *per more info. on funding + upfitting costs*

Tom stated he recalled the amount discussed for the cars before and it was not \$45,000.00 and would like this noted in the minutes.

Kris Pilkington, County Treasurer passed out the Budgetary reports and stated everything was looking good. She also stated the tax bills have been mailed out and first due date is June 11<sup>th</sup> and second one is September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Kris said they have been really busy with the money coming in. The Auditor has been here and they are done and the only thing they stated was that all funds in other office need to be transferred to the Treasurer's office.

Kris and Holly both discussed the American Relief Fund with the members. There has to be one person's name on the account and they are asking for a lot of information. Kris has to set up a special account and other things to get this started. They suggested the County Board Chairman be in charge, however Kris is worried about Delbert's health and this is going to be a big job. Wayne informed them that he has talked to Bellwether about this and they are on top of it and would propose to do a lot of the work and the reports for a sum of \$10,000.00 per invoice and there will be two invoices, which would be \$20,000.00. After much discussion was that Kris would be the lead person and Holly will be the seconded person and help Kris out with this and with help from Bellwether of the Board approves them.

Janet Fleming ask if there wasn't something they could do for Jenny Meeks for all her time she spend and hard work. Holly stated that she even mows the grass and if really getting a rough time from people and stressed out. The member stated they just had a resolution for her and she need to have a contract set for next year, with her sick time, vacations and other items in it. Janet will take this back to her committee and discuss this all with Jenny.

Holly also stated she has to fill out a survey report for all 29 precincts for the State of Illinois Election Board. She has till the end of the year to do this but there is a lot of paper work to be done and doesn't know how she is going to get it done. Mark Menn suggested that maybe Jack Curfman would consider doing it if he was paid mileage and maybe so much an hour. Janet will discuss this with Jack and he can talk to Holly if interested.

MTC is coming next Monday to turn all our phones one. Holly also stated that she has some people that will need to be appointed at the full board for different districts. She also has a resolution for a St. Albans Twp. Property to deed over to new owner. Holly discussed the load that she has in her office doing a lot of the County Board thing and resolutions. The members ask if another person would be of help to her. She stated she could use another girl and she would pay half of her salary if the Board would pay the other half and she could use her for Board items and also some of her other office items.

Was suggested that we have the Committee Chairman's and Bellwether come and discuss what need to be done with the \$3,000,000.00 that we are to get.

The committee discussed the auditor suggestion that all the funds be moved to the Treasurer office. After discussing a motion was made by Mark Menn that on the suggestion of the advice of the Auditor all the funds from different office be turned over to the County Treasurer's office. Janet seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Forty-five claims were reviewed for payment by the committee. After reviewing a motion was made by Harry Douglas to present these claims for payment. Tom Bergmeier seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Having nothing further to discuss a motion was made by Tom Bergmeier to recess until June 10, 2021 at 9:00am. Mark Hanson seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne E Bollin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Wayne Bollin, Chairman

## BUILDING, GROUNDS AND INSURANCE MEETING

The Building, Grounds and Insurance committee met in the County Board Room on May 10, 2021 at 6:30pm. Members present were Dennis Castlebury, Chairman, Patsy Davis, Mark Hanson, Tom Rodgers, Andrew Asbury, Stephen Finney, Annie Phillips and Delbert Kreps, Chairman of the Board,

Travis Duffy, Chief Deputy gave a report on the prisoners and they have 20 males and 4 females. There will be six males and one female going to DFC this week. He also stated that he attended a meeting with the Sheriffs Association and they are trying to get some funding from the Federal Government for housing all these inmates that are to be at the Federal Correctional Center. We have 1,282 days as of now to be paid for and medical bills of around \$3200.00 that we have had to pay on them.

Scott Bentzinger, County Sheriff spoke to the members regarding the resolution that will be needed for the new vehicles and Fortress Bank was the lowest rate at 3%. Scott stated didn't know when would get the vehicles in June or July. Scott also state that they had several bank accounts that they will need to have signatures changed on and he needs permission from this committee to do this. The changes will be Marine Bank: Drug Fund 1100, calendar fund 0913. Fortress Bank: Vehicle Fund 7149, Bond Account 2316, Commissary 0651, and commissary stellar 8547. First Bankers Trust: DUI Restitution 3421 and Bank of advance: Bail Security 6550, DUI Fund 6976. The names that will need to be on these accounts are Travis Duffy, Josh Smith, Kelly VanFleet and Maria Hopp.

After Discussing a motion was made by Tom Rodgers to give Scott permission to get these Bank Account signatures changed. Andrew Asbury seconded the motion. All voted aye.

Scott did pass out some information from FOP Legal Defense Plan, this is ways to try and protect the officers and administration with the new laws that have been passed by the Governor. It is something to think about and there were some cost figures, but he stated we would hear more later. Brianna with Ramey Finance was going check into their company and see if they have anything like this.

Scott also stated he would have a letter of resignation ready for the Full Board Meeting.

Ryan Ramsey and Brianna entered the meeting and he updated the members on the premium changes due to updates. They were at \$217,000. And now are at \$222,000 and still under all the other quotes. Brianna stated that she did provide the Health Dept. with a bid for their building and it was \$5000. And they are now paying \$6330. She also reported that Scott had taken off 6 vehicles and there were two Workman Compensation claims, one from Health Dept. and one from EMS. Delbert ask why the price when up and she stated the Highway Department added a new piece of equipment and a couple other things. They stated they will still come and give us quarterly reports and if we have any questions please call them any time. Scott stated he had realy enjoyed working with them and they had done a great job.

New Business: Delbert passed out a resolution he has been given by other Counties wanting us to bring before the board and pass. It has to do with a new energy bill that the Governor is trying to get passed on energy but would also give them control of our zoning and land use. They want to get this signed by

every county before the assembly goes back it session to stop them getting control of our zoning and land use. A motion was made by Patsy Davis to take this to the full board for discussion and acting on it. Tom Rodgers seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The members reviewed fifty-five claims and a motion was made by Tom Rodgers to present these claims for payment by the full board. Mark Hanson seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Having nothing further to discuss a motion was made by Tom Rodgers to recess until June 14, 2021 at 6:30pm. Patsy Davis seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis Castlebury". The signature is written in black ink and has a fluid, connected style.

Dennis Castlebury, Chairman



## MISCELLANEOUS AND COUNTY HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Miscellaneous and County Health Committee met in the County Board room on May 11, 2021 at 6:30pm. Members present were Janet Fleming, Chairwoman, Tom Rodgers, Stephen Finney, Pat Cramer, Andrew Asbury, Dennis Castlebury and Delbert Kreps, Chairman of the Board. Absent was Annie Phillips.

Jenny Meeks Director of EMS entered the meeting and discussed the Finances and different accounts with the committee. Jenny stated the Contractual Write-off for April 30, 2021 were \$49,363.19, and the Account to send to Collections is \$12,316.06.

A motion was made by Dennis Castlebury to approve the Contractual Write-offs of \$49,363.19. Pat Cramer seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tom Rodgers to approve the amount to go to Collections of \$12,316.06. Dennis Castlebury seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Jenny also updated everyone on the Grants and stated we did get one awarded to us for \$1,000.00. and she is still working on the other ones. Jenny stated when she leaves here she is going to the Dallas Rural Fire meeting and discuss a contract with them. She stated she thinks Nauvoo is wanting a contract with them and Lomax is still trying to figure a way to keep them. Jenny will let us know what she finds out tonight. A contract would be good at this time and then later if they want to be back in with the County it would have to be voted back in, and a lot of legal work. Jenny stated she has some other things she is wanting to do and just discussed the highlights with the committee.

Jenny stated she has been here a year and would like to appoint a Captain and a lieutenant that would take over some of her duties and it would be a no extra cost to the county and the Union Contract is not involved in it. She stated these two guys have backed her and helped her get the EMS where it is at and owes them a big thank you. The committee didn't have a problem with this and she put in a lot of hours every day and would help her a lot.

Jack Curfman with ESDA reported on the Brownfield meeting he attended and stated there are a lot of new rules and regulations coming down and all has a lot of paper work to be filled out. He also talked to Scott Bentzinger, County Sheriff and Travis Duffy to see if they will still be on the same page when Scott leaves and everything will be the same. Jack has worked on an adopt a lot in Niota for about an hour and has put in 60 miles.

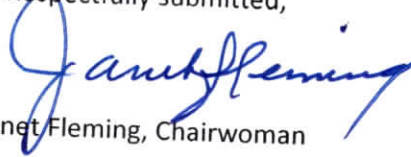
Janet talked to Mike Wright, Animal Control and he was coming with Maggie Harrell the Vet from Hamilton, but at the last minute she had two children get sick so they couldn't come. Mike also stated that the building repairs are at a stand still the gentlemen that had the bid has backed out and Mike doesn't want to pursue it at this time.

Amy Hall, Administrator of the County Health Department couldn't make it tonight but has spent a lot of time working on information for the group that is for "We Stand for our Students", and has answered a lot of questions for them.

Thirty-six claims were reviewed by the committee. After reviewing a motion was made by Tom Rodgers to present these claims to the full board for payment. Dennis Castlebury seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Having nothing further to discuss a motion was made by Tom Rodgers to recess until June 15, 2021 at 6:30pm. Dennis Castlebury seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janet Fleming". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Janet Fleming, Chairwoman