

**MINUTES OF A HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF HANCOCK,
STATE OF ILLINOIS, HELD IN THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN THE CITY OF
CARTHAGE ON THE 28TH DAY OF JANUARY 2022**

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Davis at 8:30 a.m. on January 28, 2022. Committee members present were Patsy Davis, Wayne Bollin, Pat Cramer, and Dennis Castlebury. Also present were County Board Chairman Delbert Kreps, County Engineer Elgin Berry, County Clerk Holly Wilde-Tillman, and Stephanie Swisegood. Absent were Harry Douglas, Mark Menn, and Tom Bergmeier.

Claims and expenditures for the month of December were presented to the committee for approval, 19 general, 3 for the motor fuel tax, 6 administrative, 12 for township motor fuel. A motion was made by Mr. Cramer to send the claims to full board for approval. Mr. Castlebury seconded the motion. All present voted "Aye".

Mr. Berry was asking if he could expend up to \$30,000 to purchase a used dump trailer in good condition for the semi. Mr. Berry stated used equipment sells fast and sellers typically want to sell it to the first buyer who has the money for it. It is already covered in the budget but Mr. Berry wants permission to buy it before it is approved at the board meeting because by the time it gets to the meeting the trailer might be gone. He will send a couple of mechanics to look it over. Mr. Cramer asked how bad they needed it, could he wait a year to buy a trailer because it might be cheaper next year. Mr. Bollin asked if this would be used as part of stockpiling the chips. Mr. Berry said yes. Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated this would give the clerk latitude to cut a check for up to \$30,000 without going before the board. Mr. Bollin asked what price do they run new, Mr. Berry said he did not know for sure. We thought we could get one around \$20,000 about 6 months ago but how the prices are now he may not be able to purchase one close to that now. Mr. Cramer motioned for Mr. Berry to purchase a used dump trailer for up to \$30,000 without going to the board first and giving the clerk authority to cut a check. Mr. Bollin seconded this. All present voted "Aye".

Mr. Berry stated he hired a new employee, Emory. Emory is taking classes and he is having to pay for it himself with a credit card as this is the only payment method they accept, and then gets reimbursed. Mr. Berry asked if there was anyway his office could have a credit card so employees do not have to do this. Mr. Cramer stated he personally does not think it is fair to

an employee that they should have to pay for it themselves and get reimbursed. Ms. Davis stated at the post office they had a corporate credit card. Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated she needs 3 scanners by February 7. They do not have any scanners at J&S at this time and could cost \$825 to purchase one. Amazon will take a credit card and it would cost \$350/each. Mr. Castlebury stated his daughter works for AT&T and she uses her credit card and gets reimbursed for her purchases. Mr. Cramer asked if the treasurer could have a card in her office and whenever anybody needs to purchase something they go to her to pay for it. Mr. Berry stated if they make purchases here in town they can run a credit and pay it off monthly. Mr. Bollin asked if every office could have a credit card. Mr. Castlebury stated it would be okay if the credit card stayed in the office. Mr. Wilde-Tillman stated she would not let her staff have it, and she would be in charge of it. Mr. Bollin said if someone is needing to follow a budget, sometimes you need to go elsewhere. Ms. Davis asked if we need to run this past finance to get this approved, who needs to make this motion? Mr. Bollin stated we should go to the full board for this. The suggestion of using one company for all cards, possibly using Marine Bank or Fortress was made. Mr. Castlebury made a motion to go to the full board with the recommendation for credit cards. Mr. Cramer seconded this. All present voted "Aye".

Mr. Bollin asked if we would all use the same credit card. Mr. Berry stated we would be better off if we get points so then we can use that money for other purchases. Mr. Bollin asked if there is an anomaly in your purchases will they contact you. Money from points would go to the general fund. The office holder's purchases need to be separate so they can be taken out of the appropriate fund.

In February the road commissioners will meet to do their budgets.

Mr. Bollin asked about the MFT situation. With county and TWP up 10-15% regular MFT. TWPs will receive \$60,000 per TWP for the Rebuild Illinois program. Mr. Berry stated there will be 2 more installments for Rebuild Illinois. The county receives \$245,000 a year. This is designated to the Connable Road. The ARA has been done for the Connable. Mr. Berry states it is a little more surface than what he was anticipating. Ms. Davis asked if there was anything grant wise that we might be able to use on the north end of the Connable. Mr. Berry stated no, those will be later in the year. Ms. Davis asked about the petromat. Mr. Berry stated we will be taking off the top 6 inches and grind it up. This will be spread into the trench to make it wider. A trench mat will be used on the shoulder. It will make the slope steeper. Then we will put on 6 inches of asphalt to make it 24 feet wide. Then 2 layers of hot mix asphalt will be placed on top. When

we stripe it we will stripe it at 22 feet. That makes us legal as the foot out of the stripe will be considered a shoulder. Ms. Davis asked when do you think the inspectors will be doing the bid letting on that. Mr. Berry stated we have 2 engineers working on it now. Mr. Bollin asked if they were going to have time to work on the straightened end on the Connable and the bridge extender by Sullivan's. Mr. Berry said that was in the bid. Mr. Berry stated this will include any culvert that does not have at least 10-15 years of life left in them. Mr. Bollin asked if Bellwether has gotten any budget ordinances done. Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated no.

Mr. Kreps stated the telephones at the sheriff's office are half paid for by the 911 department. Ms. Wilde-Tillman stated I am still finding numbers on the phone bills to get them ported.

Mr. Bollin stated multiple people could not get down the Connable with the last snow event. Crews needed to be out another afternoon and morning getting the roads cleaned. There was blowing and drifting, then it froze and they could not see the center of the roads. Mr. Bollin asked how can we coordinate it better to get all roads cleaned and not having trucks driving around randomly. We cannot afford to clear all roads but we have to do better. Mr. Berry stated it was a holiday when the snow event occurred so they would have been on overtime. There is no way to hit every spot. If it was on a normal workday they would have sent trucks out. It costs \$1000/hour to have trucks out.

Mr. Cramer made a motion to recess with Mr. Castlebury seconding until February 25, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. All present voted "Aye". The meeting adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Patsy Davis
Chairman