

Road and Bridge Meeting
Blue Room, Logan County Safety Complex
February 4, 2013

Present: Bill Martin; Bob Farmer; Andy Meister; Gene Rohlf; Chuck Ruben

Absent: Rick Aylesworth

Guests: Bret Aukamp; Curt Fox

Mr. Martin called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. Ruben, to approve the minutes from the January 7, 2013 meeting as printed. Motion passed.

The list of claims for payments was reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Ruben, seconded by Mr. Farmer to approve the list of claims for payment. Motion passed.

Monthly report on current maintenance and construction: Mr. Aukamp reported there was one snow event in January. The crew continues to prepare for forecasted storms, but they have not materialized. The crews have kept busy cutting brush, repairing signs, repairing machinery and hauling rock. The night-time sign inspections are complete. These inspections were helpful in identifying signs that looked good during the day, but were not reflective at night. Critical signs have already been replaced and the remaining signs will be replaced through the federal sign upgrade program later this year. Bridge inspections are complete. Mr. Aukamp has been reviewing each report and will provide a formal report to the committee next month. Some townships may be making a request for County aid for rip-rap later this spring. Mr. Aukamp met with a consultant engineer regarding the Nicholson Road bridge over Sugar Creek. An engineering agreement will be forthcoming soon. The roadway corings are now complete for the Primm Road resurfacing project. Traffic counters will be placed next week to verify traffic counts. Seasonal weight limits are currently in effect. Complaints have been received about the lack of enforcement. Mr. Aukamp has reached out to the Sheriff's Department for their assistance. Good enforcement will protect the future integrity of these roads. Work began today on a bridge southeast of Lake Fork at 300 Street and 1325th Avenue. The bridge had been shut down for the last couple of weeks when continued deterioration became evident. Weather permitting; it should only take a few weeks to get that bridge, as well as the one upstream, completed.

Old Business:

- 1) 5th Street Road right-of-way acquisition: All landowners have been contacted for the forty parcels on 5th Street Road. Nearly all of them have been supportive. Seventeen parcels have been acquired. The larger parcels are still in negotiation.
- 2) Commonwealth Edison transmission line project: When Commonwealth Edison raised towers to correct sagging lines; roads were damaged by a contractor's large equipment in Laenna and Lake Fork Township. Commonwealth Edison settled with Laenna Township for the damages. Negotiations are ongoing for the damages in Lake Fork Township.
- 3) Status of bridge rehabilitation project for Mt. Pulaski township: Mr. Aukamp reported this project began today. The bridge on 300 Street and 1325th Avenue will be done first and the bridge on 1400th Avenue will be repaired when the first is complete. Repairs should be done in a few weeks.

New Business:

- 1) Report on revenues and expenditures for FY 2011-2012: Mr. Aukamp provided a report reviewing revenues and expenditures for last fiscal year. When the County Highway Fund budget was created, expenditures were \$150,000 higher than anticipated revenues and it was expected to use a portion of the fund balance to cover this deficit. Revenues were lower than anticipated and expenses were cut as much as possible. This resulted in an overall deficit of \$171,000 for last fiscal year which cut further into the County Highway Fund fund balance than anticipated. Motor fuel tax revenues continue to decline. Maintenance costs are scaled back wherever possible, but other costs continue to rise. Payroll costs have decreased over the years because of the reduction in staff. Some of the funds in the Motor Fuel Tax account are beginning to be used for construction projects. This will have a significant impact on the fund balance in this account.
- 2) Declaration of surplus equipment: A list of surplus Highway Department equipment was provided to the committee for review. These items are no longer in use and their sale could create some additional revenue for the County. West Lincoln Township has indicated an interest in a semi and low-boy. If the County sells these items to the township, they would be willing to loan them back to the County in the rare instance they would be needed. He discussed other equipment that is no longer in use and could be sold through a sealed bid auction. If the bids are not accepted, the items could be taken to the Lake Fork auction. **A motion was made by Mr. Ruben, seconded by Mr. Farmer, to approve the list of surplus equipment. Motion passed.**
- 3) 2013 Pipe Culvert letting – not scheduled: This is typically done every February. This year, there were very few townships that needed pipe culverts. Townships have been advised to call around for quotes.

A motion was made by Mr. Rohlf, seconded by Mr. Farmer, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting ended at 8:10 pm.