

**JERSEY COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

722 State Highway 16, Jerseyville, IL 62052

Phone: 618-498-9074 Fax 618-498-7921

**MINUTES**

October 1, 2024

The Jersey County Road and Bridge Committee Meeting was held on October 1, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. located at the Jersey County Highway Department Building, 722 State Highway 16, Jerseyville, IL.

**Road and Bridge Committee Members**

Jarrold Hayes	Sandy Hefner
Edward E. Koenig	Dave Crone
Ben Heitzig	Sheila Beers

**Highway Department Support Staff Present:**

Tom Klasner, County Engineer

**Others Present:**

Kenny Grizzle, Marty Ward, Tom Groppe arrived at 8:02 am and County Board Chairman Gary Krueger

**Call to Order:**

October 1, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. the Road and Bridge Committee Meeting was called to order by Dave Crone. Present is myself David Crone, Edward Koenig, Sandy Hefner, Jarrod Hayes, Ben Heitzig, Sheila Beers, and Tom Klasner, County Engineer. At this point Dave Crone turned the meeting over to Tom Klasner.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Ben Heitzig made a motion to approve the minutes from September 3, 2024 seconded by Jarred Hayes.  
Motion Carried 6-0.

**Approval of the Bills:**

Sheila Beers made a motion to accept the bills for a total of \$457,387.56 for September 2024, seconded by Sandy Hefner.  
Motion Carried 6-0.

County Highway	\$110,673.30
Federal Aid	-0-
Construction of Bridge	\$23,841.30
E.P.C.F	\$5,570.00
County M.F.T.	\$198,123.19
Township M.F.T.	\$119,179.77
Township Bridge Fund	-0-

**Public Comments**

Mr. Tom Groppe noted at the May 2, 2024 Road and Bridge meeting it was indicated an offer was made to the property owner at the proposed bridge replacement project on Fieldon Hollow Road. He wanted to know the timeline on acquiring the ROW. Mr. Klasner indicated that we continue to negotiate with the property owner.

**Old Business**

None

### **New Business:**

The only item on the agenda is the 2025 Salary for the County Engineer. Last year salary was set at \$113,022.00 with expenses of \$3,000.00 which was paid out of the County Motor Fuel Tax Fund. The salary increase for last year was 5%. IDOT publishes a recommended salary for all county engineers in the State of Illinois. For 2024, the recommended salary for the county engineer in Jersey County is \$112,00.00. We are hearing, IDOT is looking at an increase of 10%, which would put it at \$123,000. Comparisons of local neighboring counties for 2024, Calhoun County is \$124,630 and Greene County is \$150,800. A question was asked on how many years Mr. Klasner has been the county engineer. At the end of 2024 he will have been here 22 years. Kenny Grizzle voiced his concerns over the raise amount. He would give the highway department a failing grade over the last 2 years under the leadership of Mr. Klasner. He could not recommend a raise of more than 3%.

Sandy Hefner made a motion to approve the 2025 Salary for the County Engineer for \$125,000.00 with expenses of \$3,000.00, seconded by Dave Crone. Motion carried 5-1.

### **County Engineer's Report:**

Continue to negotiate with the property owner for the right of way needed to replace the bridge on Fieldon Hollow Road.

Three (3) of the four (4) right of way parcels for the Palomino Drive bridge replacement project have been obtained. Continue to work on obtaining the last parcel. I anticipate having the signed documents by the end of the week. The attorney representing them has the documents and they are to come to his office to sign them.

Need to obtain two (2) parcels of right of way for the large diameter pipe culvert replacement on Old Fidelity Road ¼ mile west of Rangeline Road in Jersey Township.

Received delivery of the new John Deere 85P excavator last week. Unfortunately while using it, it developed a hydraulic issue and it has been returned to Martin Equipment to be repaired. They have brought our previous excavator back for us to use while the new is being repaired.

All oiling chipping operation have wrapped up for the year. Replacing some pipe culverts under the county highways and then will work on culvert replacement projects for the townships. Hope to start roadside mowing next week.

A new office manager hired and her first day was September 23, 2024. Her name is Lynn Scott and she was introduced to the committee members.

Mr. Klasner reported that he will be attending the IACE Fall County Engineers Conference from October 2-4, 2024 in East Peoria.

### **Miscellaneous Business**

Jarred Hayes indicated that the roadside banks at the intersection of Elsay Road and Croxford Road need mowed due to visibility. Sheila Beers was checking on the status and timeline on the installation of the low water crossing on East Bartlett Road in Piasa Township. Mr. Klasner indicated that he needs to meet with Mr. Blaine on getting permission to connect to the concrete aprons upstream and downstream of the crossing to construct the new crossing.

### **Adjourn:**

Ed Koenig made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ben Heitzig. Motion Carried 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 a.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Tom Klasner

Jersey County Highway Department