

MEETING: **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES**

DATE/ TIME: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 - 1:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Nancy Proehl, Jay Hall, Mike Harris, Kaden Nelms, and Mike Deppert

ABSENT: Chairman Greg Menold, Russ Crawford, Roy Paget

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

MINUTES: **MOTION BY HARRIS, SECOND BY PROEHL** to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2024, meeting. **MOTION CARRIED** on voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

**Unsicker Rd. Bridge
19-08124-00-BR**

Mr. Parr informed the Committee of a letting that took place yesterday for a few projects. The first of which is the Unsicker Rd. bridge project, which is located between Broadway Rd. and Queenwood Rd. He stated that all details of the bid are as they should be, but because the project was delayed a year due to environmental requests, the estimate for the project is lower than the bids. Mr. Parr explained that after taking a one-year inflation into consideration he and Mr. Paul Augspurgen are comfortable with accepting the low bid from Stark Excavating.

**RESOLUTION:
T-24-8**

MOTION BY HARRIS, SECOND BY NELMS to accept low bid of Stark Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$603,947.25, subject to review by County Engineer and the approval of the County Board. **MOTION CARRIED** on a voice vote.

**LaSalle Blvd.
20-00000-09-BR**

Mr. Parr stated the Marquette Heights LaSalle Blvd. project is nearly an identical situation. It was delayed a year for the same reasons and the bids are higher than originally estimated based on a construction estimate created before spring and summer of 2023. Mr. Harris inquired about the budget and how it is affected by the increase. Mr. Parr stated that the project is paid for as a 50/50 split with Marquette Heights. Therefore, only half of the increased cost is the County's. Mr. Augspurgen has also already reviewed the numbers in the County Bridge Funds, and since one of our bids, being paid for by the same fund, came in lower last month, that frees up funds for this project. Mr. Parr also stated contingency is available if need-be. Mr. Harris inquired about Marquette Heights' opinion on the bid and their availability of funds to cover the increase. They were notified of the bid results, and Mr. Augspurgen stated they have already reached back out to say they are in agreement and would like to proceed.

**RESOLUTION:
T-24-9**

MOTION BY DEPPERT, SECOND BY PROEHL to accept low bid of Stark Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$564,694.00, subject to review by County Engineer and the approval of the County Board. **MOTION CARRIED** on a voice vote.

**Shop Garage, Shop Office
21-00000-06-MG**

Mr. Parr stated the last project will need to have all bids rejected and go out for bid again next month. He explained that Crawford, Murphy, and Tilly (CMT) is the engineering firm for the project, and the put together the bid proposals. Unfortunately, a couple items were left out of the bid proposals, and the

contractors did not have a clear spot to input their values on items such as electrical and plumbing. He added that one of the bidders was rejected automatically because they did not break down their bid as specified in the requirements. Mr. Parr stated that he would like to reject all bids, have CMT edit the bid proposals to be clearer, and hold another letting in April. Ms. Proehl inquired about the idea to bid out the work for the building to individual contractors that have expertise in certain areas. Mr. Parr explained that there are definitely pros and cons to both ways. He explained that some of the bidders use subcontractors for their work. They act as the general contractor rather than us. He explained that if they are a company that is able to complete most of the work, we benefit from not needing to hire out each, individual step. He explained that it's streamline for the inspection and payment process as well. Mr. Harris asked if the bid will be higher after electrical and plumbing are added. Mr. Parr stated that the cost of the items was incorporated in the bid, but the documents and the itemizing were unclear.

**RESOLUTION:
T-24-10**

MOTION BY HARRIS, SECOND BY DEPERT to recommend to the County Board the rejection of all bids and authorize the County Engineer to receive new bids for the Automotive Shop and Attached Office project, 21-00000-06-MG, in order to protect the integrity of the bidding process and best serve public interest. **MOTION CARRIED** on a voice vote.

**OLD BUSINESS:
Wheel Loader Lease**

Mr. Parr informed the Committee that the accountants at Caterpillar Financial were requesting additional action than what had already taken place in order to complete the Purchase Agreement for the wheel loader lease. The item was added to the agenda in case they were still not satisfied. However, since the agenda was issued, they have accepted documentation of actions and approvals that have already occurred. Mr. Parr explained that he is unsure of why this lease was any different than our other leases, but they were initially unsatisfied with the material we normally provide, which is a copy of the approved minutes where the lease is discussed with the Committee. A copy of the annual equipment resolution was also provided as a courtesy since it was passed in the same month that the wheel loader was discussed. Mr. Parr stated that Caterpillar Financial has been back and forth with us for a few months and was finally suggesting one of two action items in order to satisfy their requirements, but those actions had never been done by Tazewell County Highway before. He stated he was not looking at setting a precedence for any unnecessary procedures. He informed the Committee that Ms. Sciortino talked with them several times on the phone and via email. She provided a detailed explanation behind the resolution that was already provided to them (the annual equipment resolution) and also provided them with the Board-approved 5-Year equipment plan. They finally accepted the combination of materials for the Purchase Agreement.

**PROJECT UPDATES:
Design/Construction**

Mr. Parr gave a brief update of all of the current projects. A map of the 2024 General Maintenance plan was provided. It illustrated the location of work, type of work, and also depicted the routes that will have unmet needs.

He added that our own crew is actively repairing potholes and shoulders. He reminded the Committee of Mr. Dave Scheuermann's retirement. His position has been advertised for months, and until someone is hired, the department is down a person.

OTHER BUSINESS: No comments.

**REPORTS AND
COMMUNICATIONS:**

Financial Reports No comments.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: **MOTION BY PROEHL, SECOND BY NELMS** to receive and file financial reports of the six Highway funds and recommend payment to the County Board.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Menold adjourned the meeting at 2:12PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Transportation Committee is Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 1:30PM.