

Clinton County Highway Committee
Minutes
October 7, 2021 7:30 a.m.

1. Brian Wessel called the meeting to order at 7:30
2. Attendance:

Bryan Wessel	Committee Chairman
Jim Sullivan	Committee Member
Ken Knolhoff	Committee Member
Marvin Ratermann	
Judy Adkins	
Dan Behrens	County Engineer
3. Mr. Knolhoff pointed out that there was a change needed to the minutes to indicate that Mr. Wessel made the motion to approve the previous months minutes. Mr. Knolhoff made a motion to approve the Minutes from the September 2 meeting with the stated change made. Mr. Wessel seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
4. Mr. Ratermann and Ms. Adkins addressed the Committee concerning Fuehne Hills Subdivision. They understand that the surety (irrevocable letter of credit) is set to expire soon and that the Fuehne's have requested an extension to complete the improvements to the subdivision. Mr. Ratermann shared pictures of the subdivision and stated that his property abuts the subdivision road and that no work has taken place for well over one year. The ditches are overgrown with weeds, and drainage issues exist along the road ditch that borders his property. Ms. Adkins who said she purchased property within the subdivision concurred with Mr. Ratermann concerning the condition of the road and ditches and also added that because it is still only rock surface during dry weather it is extremely dusty. Mr. Sullivan stated that he visited the site and concurs with the statements made by Mr. Ratermann and Ms. Adkins. Mr. Ratermann and Ms. Adkins requested that the County not allow for an extension of time for the Fuehne's to complete the improvement to the subdivision. Mr. Behrens stated that this issue will be discussed at the County's Subdivision Committee meeting on October 7th. He explained that the County's Subdivision Code allows the developer 2 years to complete all of the improvements in the subdivision. This subdivision was approved in December of 2019 so that the Fuehne's still have a little more than two months to complete everything. He added the oiling of the road may only take place between May 1 and October 1, therefore it will not be possible to complete the improvements before the expiration of the irrevocable letter of credit. He also stated that even if the letter of credit is cashed-in no work would take place until next year. He said that he will discuss this with the Subdivision Committee and that he plans to send a letter to the Fuehne's stating that if they complete the remaining earth work, drainage structures and seeding prior to the middle of November then he would allow for an extension until the middle of the summer for the completion of the roadway surface. If they do not finish those items by the middle of November he will cash-in the letter of credit or if they do not complete the remaining work by the middle of the summer he would cash-in the letter of credit and have the improvements completed before next October.
5. Mr. Behrens said that Chairman Johnson and he attended the last Clement Township meeting to discuss the two bridges on Hammel Road. While Road Commissioner Hohmeyer was not in attendance the Supervisor and trustees wanted the wooden bridge replaced as soon as possible and that it would be ok to wait a little longer for the concrete bridge over Lost Creek to be replaced. Mr. Knolhoff asked why Clement Township changed their mind about which bridge they wanted replaced first. Mr. Behrens said that it was mostly due to when funding would be available. The smaller bridge could be built with Township Bridge Funds that there should be

sufficient funds as soon as next year where the larger bridge will need to utilize federal funding and these will not be available until 2025 or 2026.

6. Mr. Behrens gave the Committee an engineering contract with HMG Engineers to provide structural engineering services for a bridge on End Road in Meridian Township. Township Bridge Funds will pay for 80% of these contract services. Mr. Wessel made a motion to have this contract placed on the County Board agenda for approval. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.
7. Mr. Behrens told the Committee there will be a meeting in Collinsville in October to program federal funds for FY 2025. He said there are counties ahead of Clinton so he is not sure if he will get to select a project. If not, the County's fund balances will grow until the Clinton County is high enough on the list to get a project if future years.
8. Mr. Behrens said there is a request for a school bus stop warning sign on Keyesport Road due to a hill blocking the view of the stop. He has looked into this and there is sufficient sight distance from the top of the hill to the bus stop to allow for a car to see the school bus and stop.
9. Mr. Behrens said they are looking at purchasing a new loader from Fabick. The one they have was purchased used about 10 years ago. It will be purchased through the Sourcewell/NJPA purchasing program so that they will not have to go out for bids. They used this purchasing program in the past to purchase their Gradall excavator.
10. Mr. Behrens said the time clock has just been installed and that they plan to start using this November 1.
11. Mr. Behrens told the Committee that Brookside Township decided to not vacate the part of West 10th Street but this is subject to an appeal to the County Engineer.
12. Mr. Behrens said that he will be attending a fracture critical bridge inspection class from October 19th – 22nd in Springfield. He said they inspect one bridge that is fractural critical and beginning next year they must be certified to perform this inspection.
13. The Committee discussed a request by Steve Horstmann to have a ditch that runs through his property relocated to the County right of way then have this ditch buried. This property is in the Village of Damiansville. The Committee was not in favor of this but it might be possible if he paid for everything and that the Village agreed to maintain the culvert similar to agreements the County has with other municipalities.
14. Mr. Behrens said they had one employee that was sent home after his wife tested positive for COVID. The union steward claimed that highway workers are essential and that we can't make them go home. Mr. Behrens said that it was his decision after getting the recommendation from the health department and that if the union disagrees with his decision a grievance can be filed.
15. Mr. Behrens told the Committee they have started on widening the intersection at Huey Road and Sand Ridge Road.
16. Mr. Behrens told the Committee that they will start placing 36 inch storm sewers on the ditch in St. Rose this fall. The Village will pay for all of the materials. The remainder of the ditch will need a box culvert section and it is unknown when that might take place.
17. There was no other business
18. The Committee approved the current bills.