

MINUTES

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 4, 2023 9:00 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Kolczynski, Verno, Mettler, Brady, Groat and Eynor, County Administrator Rick House, Fiscal Assistant Brian Sams, Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Rooney, Deputy Superintendent of Public Works Scott Kolczynski, Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District Manager Lindsey Gerstenslager and Soil and Water Conservation District Board Chair Mark Humbert. Supervisor Chatfield was not present for the meeting.

Minutes from the September 6th and 20th Committee meetings were approved as written.

The monthly activities report for Weights and Measures was distributed with the agenda. During September, 34 establishments were visited and over 150 devices inspected.

The following transmittals were presented for the Public Works Department:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a proposal for additional design services with Bergmann related to the Savannah Highway Patrol Barn Replacement Project for a price of \$13,900. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to reject bids for the Jail Annex Repurposing Project. The project had a budget of \$300,000; all bids received were over \$500,000. Scott Kolczynski requested this transmittal be pulled. He may have it re-presented as Other Business at the Board meeting, after he has had additional discussion with the contractor.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign an agreement with LaBella Associates for architectural and engineering services for the construction of two additional ambulance bases. Scott Kolczynski noted property subdivisions, additional site design and permitting are needed for the EMS ambulance bases in the Towns of Walworth and Rose. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to declare four vehicles surplus and dispose of through public auction. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to amend the 2023 Central Garage budget and increase revenues and appropriations by \$56,000 to cover the unforeseen costs of materials and supplies. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to close out completed highway construction projects and amend the Highway budget. Money will be moved within projects to balance accounts. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization to extend the contract term with BME Associates. This firm is providing boundary surveys for the Public Works Department and their work will not be completed by the contract

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expiration date of September 30th, the request is to extend the contract for one-year. There is no additional cost for the change in date. Approved 4-0.

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign an agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers for temporary use of Sodus Point Park as a staging area for a Breakwater Repair Project. The Agency will be responsible for restoring the park to pre-construction condition. Approved 4-0.

It was agreed the Board of Supervisors would meet for an official Ground Breaking Ceremony of the Lyons EMS Base Station following the October 17th meeting. Mr. House said he would prepare a press release for the event.

Mr. Sams presented a financial report on REDI projects showing proposed cost of each project, grant funding, actual cost and County cost for each project. He will update numbers and include a report with the Public Works Committee agenda on a quarterly basis. Total appropriations for REDI projects exceed \$36 million.

Scott Kolczynski said he is not certain when work on the elevator in the Court House will be complete; for this reason the Annual Budget Public Hearing scheduled for December 5th will be held at the Public Safety Building Conference Room.

Ms. Gerstenslager was asked to reintroduce her 2024 County budget request with more specific points and information. Mr. Humbert said the District works to support County initiatives and generate revenue through grants and access to other State and Federal partnerships. He then read a prepared statement to the Committee regarding the 2024 County budget appropriation request for the Soil and Water Conservation District Office. (A copy of that statement is included with these minutes.)

He stated the County's base appropriation to the District has not changed since 2015 at \$245,000. A power point presentation accompanied his comments. The District will be increasing their part-time Public Relations Specialist position to full-time in 2024 due to the increase in need for working with the public on the many projects and programs the District does. The \$5,000 increase in general appropriation to the Agency would be utilized to match other grant dollars and pay for one-tenth of this position. The 2024 District budget also request \$2,000 more for Aquatic Weed Harvesting; in 2023, 320 person-hours were spent removing 1,400 loads of weeds from Lake Ontario and its bays. Additional funds would be used for equipment maintenance. An additional \$3,330 is requested for the Drainage Program. At this time, 67 drainage projects throughout the County are on a five-year maintenance schedule; to maintain this schedule additional funding is needed for equipment and materials. An additional \$5,000 is requested for the Septic Program to allow for the replacement/repair of one additional septic system in the County.

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Mr. Humbert said the District was not aware their lease with the County for space included the cost of repairs made to the area; however, they are prepared to dedicate grant funding to pay the \$14,688 for the four fireproof doors that were installed and remove this amount from their 2024 budget request. Scott Kolczynski noted the past condition of the doors was cited in a State Code inspection and the doors had to be replaced. In the future, all lease agreements outside agencies have with the County will include a statement that the tenant is responsible for all maintenance/repair costs.

Mr. Humbert noted the frustration and time the District has put into administering two REDI projects for the County, and how they were recently asked by the County's Planning Department to assist with developing a recycling program for the Countywide Solid Waste Management Plan.

Mr. House said he took offense to statements made by Mr. Humbert. All outside agencies were requested to come in with a zero County cost appropriation request or a detailed explanation for the increase. The Public Works Committee did not feel Ms. Gerstenslager's budget presentation detailed the need for her County appropriation increase request. Mr. House said all outside agencies requesting a County appropriation have been treated the same. He questioned the salaries of District personnel. Supervisor Verno noted County Departments have had to make reductions in service to stay within budget. Mr. Brady stated agriculture is the County's #1 business. Mr. House said as the Chief's Financial Officer he is responsible for bringing in a conscience budget that taxpayers can support.

A lengthy heated discussion followed.

Mr. Verno made a request members enter into executive session with Mr. House at 9:47 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter, Mr. Metler second, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m. The next meeting of the Public Works Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, November 8th at 9:00 a.m.