

Owen County Board of Commissioners  
Special Meeting-Highway Department  
Minutes-February 28, 2023

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Burton, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public sign-in sheet attached for permanent record.

Attorney Dana Kerr began with reviewing the bidding process for the Community Crossings Grant. There are four separate projects listed. Bidders were instructed "For each project, state the following: a fixed price per ton laid for work and a total price based on the estimated tonnage. Company may bid on: (1) only one project; (2) a combination of projects, or (3) on all projects."

Awarding Bids are generally given to the lowest bidder per IC36-1-12-4B8, however if it is not the lowest bidder the minutes must state the reason why it was not to justify the award.

All Bid Packets are available for review upon request.

Community Crossing Roads were first to be presented. Mr. Melton related that he had spoken with the Commissioners and Attorney and would like to make the following recommendations.

Steubenville Road, E&B Paving bid \$340,220.25 and Milestone bid \$346,659.75. Even though Milestone isn't the lowest bidder, as a previous CCMG project, paved Steubenville Road up to the current project and this finishes out that road he wanted to keep the same contractor for the ability and continuity of the road construction. A motion to approve Milestone was made by Joel Lowe; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0. A question from Mr. Ooley as to why the award was given to them and doesn't understand why they think there is a difference in the asphalt look?

County Road 350 E Bids were accepted from E&B Paving as the lowest bidder \$\_\_\_\_\_ and was approved with a motion made by Bob Curry; seconded by Joel Lowe. Carried 3-0.

Concord Road with a bid of \$344362 was accepted from E&B as the low bidder was made by Bob Curry; seconded by Joel Lowe. Carried 3-0.

Fidler Road was awarded to Milestone as the lowest bidder \$167600 with a motion made by Gary Burton; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

#### ARPA Road Bids

Combes Road (District 1) was approved as the low bid Bid awarded to Milestone \$260302.50 with a motion made by Gary Burton; seconded by Bob Curry. Carried 3-0.

Hillcrest Road (District 3) was approved with a Bid awarded to E&B Paving \$106320.55 with a motion made by Bob Curry; seconded by Joel Lowe. Carried 3-0.

Farmers Road and Orchard Heights will be done in-house by the Highway Department as time allows.

Ms. Reeves ask permission to move the additional ARPA funds into a separate line item that will allow easier tracking of expenses for the Highway and Auditors Office. It was agreed to do so.

Gary Burton thanked Contractors for their bids and hopes that their products last for five to seven years.

Mr. Ooley again spoke as the E&B Paving representative and was extremely frustrated that they took stuff away from him because they think the asphalt is going to look different. He reminded them that they had done a good job on Hardscrabble Road and even had to come back and spent over \$20000 of their own money to come back and fix it. The previous road work from this company were factors in this decision and liability issues. Mr. Melton corrected him on some of his comments and is concerned they may now have issues with the company. The Commissioners reaffirmed that will stay with the decision that was made.

A Folder was provided with Project Assessment Forms (Estimates) for the following:

Kelly Road-Fuel \$3559.41 and Materials \$16435.53

Otterbein Church Road-Fuel \$2626.34 Tons of Stone 1092.84

Stogsdill Road-Fuel \$690.79 Tons of Stone 528.75 Total Cost \$7550.62

Discussion of work on Phillips Road, Kirby Road was also talked about for full depth reclamation or cold mix. A machine has been rented for thirty days that is due in the third week in March that will do a mile a day +/-.

Next was a proposal from VoMac Truck Sales & Services/Huntington for a new Mack GR64BR Chassis w/Asphalt Distributor with a cost at \$337,131.67; options at five-, six-, or seven-year leases with a dollar buy-out at the end of the lease. Proposal available for review upon request. The information will be reviewed and discussed further at their March Meeting pending a financial review of their other funds/debts and transfers needed.

Bridge#52 after further inspection and working with CLR-Bill can have a repair made to it with a couple of different options and can be inspected by United Consulting. It will be put back out for Quotes and ready for their March 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting.

Attorney Kerr and Mr. Burton reviewed the Culross Road situation that is still being looked at with INDOT. Closing the Bridge alleviates the problem if that is approved and if later vacated can be done so by the property owner requesting by a petition process.

Conversation due to the continued accumulating Road Trash concerns was made. Mr. Burton had spoken with John Reeves at the Health Department who has arranged for ten roll-off dumpsters at no cost for a countywide Solid Waste Day to be held on May 6<sup>th</sup> for Owen County Residents only. Kenny Depasse with Republic has approved the request. The Highway location will be utilized with their equipment and manpower. Other dumpster locations to be determined to include Cunot area, Freedom, Coal City will be discussed/arranged further if possible. Tires will be accepted for a fee, amount to be determined. Cameras being put up around the county to help catching individuals who are dumping was also discussed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Gary Burton; seconded by Joel Lowe. Carried 3-0.