

## ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE

### MAY 7, 2026

The McDonough County Road and Bridge Committee held their monthly meeting on Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. The Meeting was held at the McDonough County Courthouse, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Law Library. Committee Members present included Chair Craig Foster, Vice Chair Dave Cortelyou, Eric Chapman, Mike Cox, Jarad Royer, and Terry Thompson. Other persons in attendance: Emily Gray, Dave Cadwalader, Scott Hance, County Chair Eric Blakeley, and Deputy Clerk Kyah Beck. Members absent were Travis Hiel and Jerry Raby.

Chair Foster called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

#### **Review Minutes from April 2, 2026**

Member Cox moved with a second by Member Thompson to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried on a voice vote.

#### **Miscellaneous Project Updates**

**Wind Farms:** The roads are under construction. They are stabilizing and rocking them. Tower foundations will be dug here soon.

**Star Bridge:** bids were put in. The county bid was \$2,420,261.70, Brandt \$2,859,092.50, and Otto Baum \$3,143,400.00. More info is to come once awarded.

**Used Truck Bids:** The highway department has been wanting to get rid of a few trucks. These trucks came available due to trade ins. County highway truck #8 got two different bids. The bid accepted was made by Eric Blakeley

Member Cox moved with a second by Member Cortelyou to accept the bid made by Eric Blakeley.

**Intersection Improvements:** There are several high traffic intersections that would like to be updated. These high traffic intersections are rutted up by heavy truck traffic.

**Future County Engineer Position:** Rick Walker brought up to the committee again about having a plan for when he retires. It would be in the best interest as of right now to find someone to shadow Rick while he is still here.

**Abraham Lincoln Signage Request:** These signs were requested to be installed by the county highway department. Originally, these signs were wanting to be put in on all the entrances into the county, but has since changed to only putting up four signs on the main entrances into the county. The size of the signs has also changed.

Member Cox moved with a second by Member Royer to take this signage request to full board.

#### **CH-16 Survey Agreement and Resolution**

This agreement is in regards to improving the St. Francis Blacktop. A while back, it was brought to the county highway departments attention that the road is known for holding water. A road survey will be conducted to get a better repair cost estimate.

Member Thompson moved with a second by Member Cox to approve CH-16 survey agreement and resolution. This will be going to full board.

#### **Work Report**

Report given by Dave Cadwalader.

### **Claims Review and Approval**

Member Royer moved with a second by Member Cortelyou to approve the claims submitted. Motion carried on a voice vote.

### **Other Items as Needed**

None.

### **Executive Session**

None.

### **Public Comment**

Emily Gray came and spoke to the committee about the road construction and wind farm construction going on around where she resides with her family. Unfortunately, she has been having issues accessing her house due to road closures that have not been previously brought to her attention. She has also had an issue with miscommunication between workers as to what roads she can take. Another issue she is having is from a substation that shines a light in their house at night. The committee understands her frustration and Rick Walker plans to speak with the workers.

### **County Chair Comments**

Eric spoke about an insurance meeting that will be held on May 13<sup>th</sup> for insurance users that have any questions.

### **Adjourn**

Member Thompson moved with a second by Member Cox to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote.