



**Champaign County Board**  
**Highway & Transportation Committee**  
County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois

**MINUTES –APPROVED OCTOBER 11, 2024**

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DATE: Friday, August 9, 2024  
TIME: 9:00 a.m.  
PLACE: Lorraine Cowart Conference Room  
1605 East Main Street, Urbana, Illinois

**Committee Members**

**Present:** Samantha Carter, Lorraine Cowart, Diane Michaels, Brett Peugh, Tom “Ed” Sexton,  
Jennifer Straub, Leah Taylor

**Absent:**

**County Staff:** Jeff Blue (County Engineer), Jenni Marner (Assistant County Engineer), Ryan Mumm  
(Assistant County Engineer), Michelle Carter (Office Manager/Accountant),  
Steve Summers (County Executive),

**Others Present:** Lorraine Cowart family member

**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

Committee Chair Cowart called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m.

**II. Roll Call**

A verbal roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present.

**III. Approval of Agenda/Addendum**

**MOTION** by Michaels to approve the agenda; seconded by Straub.  
Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

**IV. Approval of Minutes – May 10, 2024**

**MOTION** by Carter to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2024 meeting; seconded by Sexton.  
Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously**

**V. Public Participation**

None

**VI. Communications**

Carter announced Champaign Urbana Days at Douglass Park kicks off tonight, Friday, August 9, 2024. The event goes from Friday through Sunday.

**VII. County & Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims May, June, and July 2024**

**MOTION** by Carter to receive and place on file the County and Township Motor Fuel Tax Claims for May, June, and July 2024; seconded by Peugh.  
Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

**VIII. Resolution for Champaign County Regional Planning Commission FY 24 CUUATS Fees, Section #24-00000-00-ES**

Blue requested approval of a resolution for the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission CUUATS Fees for fiscal year 2024 paid from the County's Motor Fuel Tax Funds. The annual fee is paid each year for the planning and work done by CUUATS for the whole community. The fee for this fiscal year is \$36,984.00.

**MOTION** by Carter to approve the resolution; seconded by Michaels.  
Upon vote, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously**

**IX. Letter of Intent for the Replacement of Structure #010-0180 on County Road 2000E over I-74 in ST Joseph Township**

Blue discussed a letter he received in an email from Kensil Garnett, IDOT District Engineer. The letter was regarding a bridge on County Road 2000E over I-74 that was closed and removed because it had been struck multiple times. Blue stated that IDOT's intent was to totally remove the structure and not have a crossing at 2000E. There has been a lot of discussion in the community for the bridge to be replaced. The letter states that IDOT will replace the bridge and then the bridge would become a county structure. Blue said that this creates a tremendous burden on the County. He is not aware of another bridge in the state that crosses an interstate that is a county bridge. Summers said he was happy to hear there is some discussion from IDOT regarding the bridge. He is continuing to work with officials to get the structure rebuilt. Summers said he feels the response to this letter needs to be from the Highway Committee. The committee discussed the financial burden this would have on the Highway Department, and that this is not the solution. The committee discussed the wording of their response. Summers and Blue agreed to draft a response to the letter.

By a unanimous voice vote, the committee agreed to have the County Executive and the County Engineer draft a response to the IDOT letter, and the response would be taken to the full county board for approval.

Yeas-7

Nays-None

**X. Other Business**

None

**XI. Chair's Report**

None

**XII. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda**

Cowart stated that item VIII be placed on the consent agenda.

**XIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Cowart adjourned the meeting at 9:33 AM.

*\*\*Please note the minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.*