

**Members Present**

Mr. Tripp, Mr. James, Mr. LaGesse, Mr. Liehr, Mr. Olthoff, Mr. Washington, Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Vickery, Mr. Payton, Ms. Polk, and Mr. Tholen

**Members Absent**

Mr. Einfeldt

**In Attendance**

- **Board Members**

Mr. Bossert, Mr. Whitis, Mr. Enz, Mr. Byrne, Mr. Stauffenberg, Mr. Hildebrand, and Mr. Hess

- **Department Heads**
- **Media**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Olthoff at 9:00 a.m. Quorum present.

**2. Public Comment**

- **Deb Morgan commented on stopping the pursuit of a landfill.**
- **Bill Davison commented on the financial justification for a garbage dump.**
- **Nick Mayo commented on a landfill and the county budget.**
- **Warren Piper commented on a garbage dump and board doing what the people want.**
- **Ralph Paarlberg commented on a landfill.**
- **Andrea Taylor commented on turning back from the idea of a landfill in Kankakee County.**
- **Ronald Hansen commented on opposition to a landfill.**
- **Darrel Bruck commented on a garbage dump.**

**3. Approval of Minutes – November 25, 2014**

The minutes were not ready to be approved.

**4. Transportation**

- **Brochure**

Mr. Lammey handed out a brochure entitled “Kankakee County Transportation Initiatives” and reviewed it with the committee. They give this brochure to the committee every three years.

Mr. Lammey stated that something significant happened in the last couple weeks on the Illiana. The Illiana study has been going on for about two and a half years. Two weeks ago there was a significant event in the history of the project. The Federal Highway Administration issued their record of decision on the Tier Two Environmental Impact Statement and essentially approved the project so they are further along the way for the Illiana then they were before.

Mr. Wheeler stated that at some point the I-57 and Court Street interchange was on the radar. Is that off of the radar now?

Mr. Lammey stated that a Phase 1 engineering study just finished and Phase 2 has been budgeted. It is in the long-range plan that they are going to try to lobby for.

Mr. Bossert stated that in the long-range plans shown in the brochure there are a couple of conceptual indications of things being thought about. One is a river crossing west of town. The need for another bridge has been discussed. Nobody has drawn a line on a map yet as it is just a conceptual idea. It is outside the

urbanized area so it is almost out of the scope of the MPO in terms of doing any planning. They can certainly lobby for that to happen someday. There has been discussion amongst the transportation planners and the public officials. The closing of Warner Bridge last winter demonstrated a need for alternative ways to get across the Kankakee River. The other conceptual idea is being able to move traffic in some manner south of Rt. 17 down towards the 308 interchange without bringing truck traffic through downtown. It is a concept being thought about but nobody has identified a good way to get that accomplished.

Mr. Lammey stated that if it was easy it would already be done.

Mr. Bossert stated that there is also a conceptual drawing on Skyline Road that would get traffic to the east side of the urbanized area north and south. It will probably end up being a real high priority someday.

## 5. Other

### • Solid Waste Consultant Status/Update

Mr. Bossert stated that as promised discussions with Mr. Helsten have occurred and he informally directed him to discuss with our outside consultants the feasibility of bringing their activity to a conclusion. Mr. Helsten could not make it today because a family issue prevented him from attending. He promised that he will be here as soon as he can. There is an agreement that he can assist us and he has been working on attempts to bring our consulting agreement to a satisfactory conclusion. The issue is limiting the county's financial obligation. Mr. Whitis has been part of this discussion with Mr. Helsten.

Mr. Whitis commented that in the conference call that they had with Mr. Helsten the discussion surrounded terminating the contract with the current consultants. Obviously, the concern is that our contract has no termination date and we need to limit the liability that the county has. Currently, they have not billed us everything that they could because of the understanding that this was not supposed to be an 18-month process. What they want is to ask this committee to move forward with negotiating an agreement with the consultant to terminate the contract. He thinks that that needs to happen so that we limit the liability that we are currently on for because if the contract continues to go it is \$20,000 a month. They have not charged us that for many, many months. To date, they have billed us \$140,000 and we have paid \$70,000. They want to enter into negotiations with them for our final obligation to them. They will then come back and let the committee know what that amount is.

Mr. Olthoff asked if Mr. Helsten has met with the consultants.

Mr. Whitis stated that he has. He thinks that a motion needs to be made to have Mr. Helsten enter into negotiations with the consultants to terminate the contract.

**Mr. Washington made a motion to have Mr. Helsten enter into negotiations with the consultants to terminate the contract and Mr. Wheeler seconded it.**

## Discussion

Mr. Wheeler asked if the motion should include that the amount will be brought back to this committee for final approval.

Mr. Bossert stated that that would be understood because the board would have to approve it because it would be an expenditure.

Mr. Enz stated that he thinks that the motion should include restoring the moratorium on landfills.

**Original motion carried with a roll call vote of 12 ayes and 0 nays. Voting aye were Mr. Bossert, Mr. Tripp, Mr. James, Mr. LaGesse, Mr. Liehr, Mr. Olthoff, Mr. Washington, Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Vickery, Mr. Payton, Ms. Polk, and Mr. Tholen.**

**6. Old Business**

**7. New Business**

**8. Adjournment**

**A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 a.m. was made by Mr. LaGesse and seconded by Mr. James. Motion carried.**

Bill Olthoff, Chairman  
Joanne Langlois, Executive Coordinator