**Newberry County Transportation Committee**

**Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 17, 2019**

**Present:** Mr. O. L. Johnson, Jr., Mr. Glenn Hamm II, Mr. Tim Carroll

Mr. Arnold Hiller, Mr. Randy Cannon, Mr. Henry Reeder

**Absent:**  Mr. Wayne Pratt, Ms. Eleanor Alewine

**Others in Attendance:** Mr. Mike Pisano, Mr. Jeremy Knight, Mr. Herb Cooper, Ms. Laura Kinard, Ms. Karen Livingston, Ms. Carol Boyd and Ms. Teresa Ball

**Call to Order-Invocation**

Mr. Carroll called the meeting to order and Mr. Hamm led the invocation.

**1. Additions, Deletions, and Adoption of Agenda**.

**2. Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting –**

Motion was made to approve minutes for the meeting held on August 20, 2019. Motion was second and all approved.

**3. Financial Report from Treasurer –**

Mr. Carroll reported that the cash balance for June was $2,879,911.18. Funds received were $122,808.96. Total withdrawals were $25,738.31. Cash balance of $2,976,981.23. Total funds committed are $1,794,970.64 and the uncommitted balance is $1,182,011.19

The non-recurring funds (H4230) balance was $667,279.02. Total funds received were $774.86. Total withdrawals were $261,573.99. Total cash balance is $406,479.89. Total funds committed were $376,930.88 which leaves an uncommitted balance of $29,549.01

The non-recurring funds (P117, 135) cash balance is $138,531.59. Total funds received were $157.12. Total funds committed are $87,556.42 and the total cash balance is $51,132.29.

Mr. Carroll motioned to accept the financial report. Motion was second and all were in favor.

**4. Old Business/ New Business**

**Old Business-**.

Mr. Carroll said that the SCDOT doesn’t want to authorize moving the meeting to their facility. Mr. Knight said that there was an issue with parking during business hours. The supervisor said it was better to have it in a public place. Mr. Carroll said he liked the convenience of the current meeting place. If we have it in a county facility, Teresa can continue to do the minutes. If we change the meeting place, we would have to find our own minutes keeper.

Mr. Johnson said that there is a conference room at the sheriff’s office with an abundant amount of parking. Mr. Carroll said he would check to see if they would allow the meetings to be held there.

Mr. Reeder said he was satisfied with the current meeting place. If we move it to the sheriff’s office, politics might come into play. I know we can decide beyond pressure from the sheriff. At the current location, I think politics are eliminated. Mr. Johnson said he wouldn’t characterize this as politically free with the bullying that went on.

Mr. Carroll said that we can make a motion to continue to meet at the current location until we talk to the sheriff.

Motion was made to keep the meetings at the current location until further notice. Motion was second and all were in favor.

Mr. Carroll said he wanted to give an update on the money before we start to vote so we will know where we will be. We have $1,182,011.19. We have two grants at $100,000 each and the $250,000 for Whitmire that hasn’t come out yet. If we take all of this out plus the request, that leaves us around $100,000. It will build back up every month.

Ms. Livingston said that she had talked to the committee back in May or June about a TAP grant for the other side of the street. We would also like to include sidewalks to the depot and do some work there. We have written a grant for $500,000. I would like to ask the committee for a $100,000 match. It will take the high sidewalk down and the steps will be worked on making it more ADA compliant. It was included in the first project, but we ran out of money.

Mr. Hamm said that he wanted to make two points. One is the thank the town of Prosperity for taking advantage of the grant opportunity. Second is for having a relationship with Mr. Cooper and his guidance.

Mr. Carroll said that they would take this into consideration for the next meeting.

**New Business –**

**5. Public Works Reports**

**A. Mike Pisano, Newberry County Director of Public Works**

Mr. Pisano said that last month he requested $145,674 for Henderson Court to do a full depth patch and overlay. I am hoping the committee had a chance to look at the road. Mr. Carroll said he did check on the road and it was in bad shape.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Pisano how much money does the county budget for road maintenance. Mr. Pisano said that they don’t budget for paving. That money comes from the CTC funds. I do have a certain amount for land improvement. I believe that amount is $70,000 this year.

Mr. Johnson asked if the laws we operate under, are we responsible for funding county roads. Mr. Cooper said that it wasn’t a requirement.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Pisano how long he had been in his position. Mr. Pisano said about 10 years.

Mr. Johnson asked if Mr. Pisano remembered what was budgeted for the roads. Mr. Pisano said as far as he knows, all the money for paving has always came from the CTC.

Mr. Hamm said that prior to Mike being here, I think it was close to $250,000. Mr. Pisano asked what line item on the budget and what year that was from.

Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Pisano if he recommends the amount to the county budget. Mr. Pisano said that he has input, but I don’t have the final say. I have a request that I put in under my whole umbrella, I have about $6 million with my different departments. I go line by line to see what the expenditures were and anticipate future expenditures.

Mr. Carroll said that they ask Mike, Jeremy and Mac to give us a 2-year plan so we will know what it is going to cost.

Mr. Johnson asked if he knew what the CTC gave the county last year. Mr. Carroll said that the CTC gave the county about $650,000.

Mr. Hamm said that in 2007-2008 the $250,000 was appropriated to go towards road paving and land improvement. Mr. Johnson said it is almost like we are a cash cow.

Mr. Johnson said that the economic development director said that they are sitting on about $2 million that they received from interest in 2010 sales tax project. My point is that there has been a shift in the budget with time. There are funds that a lot of people don’t even know about. When you consider Piedmont Tech, the engineer didn’t include paving in his estimate. I have just seen a pattern of bullying toward this committee.

Mr. Pisano said that he hoped he never gives that impression to this committee. This is the way the committee has conducted business since I have been here. I don’t look at it as a cash cow. I am fairly restrained in how I request my money. I am aware of what is in the uncommitted balance. I don’t try to come in and ask for the world. I try to prioritize my projects and go with them as I see fit. Mr. Carroll said that Mr. Pisano does a good job. Mr. Hamm said that Mr. Pisano has never came here and demanded anything. I think one thing to look at is working with the county on any corporate development it does to help increase asphalt numbers that are in your budget. One of the things that the committee is good at is using TAP grants. I think there is an opportunity at the county level where we can partner up and tackle more projects.

Mr. Johnson said that in no way were his comments attack on anyone. We have at least 10x more state roads than county roads. We have a commitment to do what is right. Mr. Johnson said that the county needs to make a good faith effort to budget more money. Mr. Carroll said that he didn’t think Mr. Pisano has brought anything in here just to get money. I think all the projects have been decent.

Mr. Hamm said it wasn’t about his judgement, it’s the fact that we are creating an environment with the county and they aren’t carrying their fair share. They have money that no one knows about.

Mr. Reeder said that is where the consultants would come in and help us. They can say what they want to about the consultants, but I appreciate the work they do.

Motion was made to approve the request for $145,670. Motion was second. All were in favor.

**B. Jeremy Knight, SC Department of Transportation**

Mr. Knight said that he requested $794,673 for Lake Road at the last meeting. I would like to go over a couple of things. There is currently $80,000 that is not allocated between two account. We can use this money toward this project, so it is not using all your regular funds. There are two projects that have been completed. They do have to finalize the bills. That is about $150,000 coming back. You can use about $230,000 towards this project.

Mr. Carroll told Mr. Knight that this is about 2 years’ worth of funding and asked if this is the project you want to do. Mr. Knight said he believed it was a good project. It is a developing area and most of the people in that area are paying most of the taxes. I feel like it’s a good investment. It will be a full depth reclamation.

Mr. Johnson said his concern with the request is, we have 2 citizens here that have been trying to get a road repaired, which is a fraction of the cost.

Mr. Carroll said that he talked to Mr. Bartley about King Drive and the city has budgeted the money this year to put the water lines in. That is what we have been waiting on. Ms. Boyd said that the road is rough, and the potholes need to be repaired. Mr. Carroll said that he would get the city and state to repair the potholes until they get it paved. Ms. Boyd said that is hasn’t been patched in a while. Mr. Hamm said that until the city installs the water line, the committee can’t commit the funds.

Mr. Carroll ask Mr. Knight if he would get an estimate on the road.

Motion was made to approve the request for $794,673. Motion was second. All were in favor.

Mr. Knight said that they are starting the interstate paving on the Laurens County end October 21.

C. **Mac Bartley, City of Newberry Public Works Director**

Mr. Carroll said that Mr. Bartley had requested $30,000 for the culvert on Crosson Street.

Motion was made to approve the request. Motion was second. All were in favor.

**6. Public Comments**

**7. Executive Session**

**8. Consideration of Actions on Matters Discussed in Executive Session**

**9. Adjournment -**

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Teresa Ball Newberry Co. Public Works Approved.