

Shelby County Board  
October 9, 2019

the 1.5 billion dollar bond hasn't been sold by the state as of yet, but should result in an increase of \$959,000 in motor fuel tax for the County and 4.1 million in additional MFT revenues to the townships over several years. Phase 1 of the Cowden -Herrick road project is complete. Patching has been done, however the mill and micro surfacing has been delayed due to issues with the current surface. Spesard stated the original plan is not going to work for this road and it will be necessary to develop another plan to repair this road as well as determine how to fund the project. Spesard will discuss this with the road and bridge committee. Spesard stated this road would be rough for awhile and it might be some time before it is completed. Spesard and the highway department employees were thanked for their prompt attention to road issues brought to them by members of the board.

Public Buildings Chair Dale Wetherell requested approval from the Board to approve the purchase and installation of a generator for the Courthouse from D & M Electrical out of Neoga in the amount of \$53,230. There were 2 complete bids submitted, and this bid was the better of the two. The price includes equipment and labor, as well as installation. Some additional expenses might occur when Ameren has to hook up the generator, but these should be minimal.

Cannon made motion to approve the purchase of the generator from the Courthouse Maintenance line item, which has \$90,000 budgeted. Mulholland seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (18 yes, 1 no, Barr).

Chairman Cruitt called for committee reports. (Committee reports are attached to these minutes). Reports were given and items presented for follow-up or for public awareness were as follows:

Public Buildings Chair Wetherell stated that new LED lighting would be installed in the Courthouse. The total cost of the project will be \$18,026.22 with the cost to the County being \$9,013.11. Ameren pays the difference. The LED lighting should pay for itself in 23 months.

Airport committee member Cannon informed the board the airport has lost 55-56 acres of farm ground due to the FAA not allowing beans and corn to be planted close to the runway. This has resulted in a revenue loss of approximately \$12,000 per year and is eating into the Airport reserves. Cannon asked IL State Representative Brad Halbrook, who was in attendance, if the Airport can be given some type of waiver in an effort to maintain the farm ground with a cash crop.

There were no Chairman updates.

Chairman Cruitt requested the appointment of Earl Baker to the Shelby County Housing Authority to replace Bruce Cannon. Cannon made motion to approve the appointment. Swits seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (19 yes, 0 no).

Cruitt next requested the appointment of Earl Baker to the Airport committee to replace Cannon. Cannon made motion to approve the appointment. Swits seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (19 yes, 0 no).

Cruitt also requested Jared Rowcliffe be named Grant Accountability Transparency Act (GATA) Coordinator for the County. Dnjevic made motion to approve this appointment. Baker seconded said motion, which passed by voice vote (19 yes, 0 no).

Cruitt thanked the Health Department for administering flu shots this morning to County Employees, County Board members and Elected Officials.

At this time Chairman Cruitt opened for discussion changing the day and time of the monthly board meeting to the second Thursday of every month at 6:00 PM. Gary Patterson stated at the meeting he attended it didn't seem as though the County officials had any issues with changing the meeting time to an evening meeting. This would also allow the State's Attorney to attend all board meetings since there would be no conflicts with Court. Terry Metzger suggested if the day and time change was approved, waiting until the new board was seated in December of 2020. That way those board members would know they were running for office and meeting in the evenings. Some voiced concerns about the weather in the winter and being on the roads at night. Others think there will little to no increase in public participation if the time is changed to an evening meeting. There would also be no conflict with Court and the Board would be able to meet in the larger Courtroom A. At one time many years ago the Board did hold evening meetings. Chairman Cruitt advised a vote would be taken regarding the change at the November 13 meeting.

There was no public body comment and no further business to come before the Shelby County Board.