

## HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MINUTES

**DATE:** February 10, 2026  
**LOCATION:** Kendall County Highway Department  
**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jason Peterson, Scott Gengler, and Zach Bachmann  
**STAFF PRESENT:** John Burscheid and Francis Klaas  
**ALSO PRESENT:** PJ Fitzpatrick, Colby Wedwick and Jeremy Hudek

The committee meeting convened at 3:32 P.M. with roll call of committee members. Shanley and Koukol absent. Quorum established.

Motion Bachmann; second Gengler, to approve the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Bachmann; second Gengler, to approve the Highway Committee minutes from January 13, 2026. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Bachmann; second Gengler, to recommend approval of a Resolution for Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code appropriating \$3,850,000 from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund of Kendall County. Klaas described resolution as a typical action item to appropriate money for routine maintenance of county highways. For 2026, proposed work includes the resurfacing of Galena Road between Little Rock Road and Orchard Road excluding the area around Project Cardinal. The other project is the shoulder repair and resurfacing of Millbrook Road from Ill. Rte. 71 to Fox River Drive. Gengler asked if Motor Fuel Taxes were going to be reduced for local agencies due to some recent actions by State of Illinois. Klaas discussed the diversion of some sales tax revenues from the Road Fund to the RTA... but he didn't think there would be any substantive reductions to local motor fuel tax revenues. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Motion Bachmann; second Gengler to recommend approval of a Construction Engineering Services Agreement between Kendall County and HR Green, Inc. in the amount of \$59,745 for construction management of the Gates Creek Drainage Improvement. Kendall County and HR Green have been working for years trying to get this project to a letting. ComEd and BNSF have required exhaustive coordination. Klaas said the project is now ready to go to letting, but because it involves some very close tolerances around the railroad, he recommended hiring HR Green to provide construction management. Committee agreed. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Motion Bachmann; second Gengler to recommend approval of a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement between Kendall County and HR Green, Inc. in the amount of \$491,624.17 for Phase I Engineering at Plainfield Road intersections. Klaas discussed the idea of breaking out the Phase I Engineering for these intersections because there is some uncertainty as to what the final recommended improvements will look like. He indicated that it would be best to make that determination first before proceeding with Phase II... which would be most efficient. He also thought that the County would have to hurry a bit to get this improvement ready for the planned construction letting. Bachmann confirmed that this was still planned for 2028 construction. Klaas added that the scope includes improving the drainage along the north side of

Collins Road west of Plainfield Road. Bachmann noted that intersection improvements are not cheap. Gengler pointed out that these improvements were originally planned for 2029 or 2030 but had been moved up due to the perceived need. He was satisfied with getting this ball rolling, even if we don't make the 2028 construction season. Klaas alerted the committee to an upcoming meeting with the Village of Oswego to discuss transportation and pedestrian needs along the Plainfield Road corridor. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Motion Gengler; second Bachmann to recommend approval of a Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement between Kendall County and HR Green, Inc. in the amount of \$497,045.13 for Phase I / Phase 2 Engineering at Grove Road & Caton Farm Road intersection. Klaas stated that this is a combined preliminary engineering agreement for this project, since we already know what is desired, that being a roundabout. It may require the acquisition of the home in the NE quad of the intersection; but that home is in very bad shape. This project is also scheduled for construction beginning in 2028. Gengler wondered if there would be acquisition in all 4 quadrants of the intersection. Klaas said there would, but didn't know exactly what it will look like until they get into the engineering. Motion approved by voice vote.

Motion Bachman; second Gengler to recommend approval of an ordinance for the establishment of altered speed zones on various county highways. Klaas stated that this ordinance is the same as the one presented in December, but without the Plainfield Road speed zones. Peterson pointed out that the speed zones on Plainfield Road would likely be changing anyway after construction of the intersection improvements at Collins and at Schlapp. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

In other business, Klaas reported that IDOT has informed him that the safety improvement at U.S. Rte. 52 and Grove Road will be a roundabout. The bad news is that IDOT has indicated it might be 2030 or 2031 before they build it.

Klaas also reported that he has been in conversation with BP regarding the relocation of their pipeline under Ridge Road just south of U.S. Rte. 52. They want to start with a preliminary agreement of \$100,000 to get the engineering done, and then the actual pipeline relocation could be as much as \$1,000,000. Klaas provided some additional information on the schedule for utility relocation and construction of the Ridge Road improvement. Gengler asked if these pipelines were going to be an issue at other county highways. Klaas indicated that there are numerous pipelines that cross several county highways. The good news is that most of the other county highways will remain as 2-lane roads for the foreseeable future, and so they should not need pipeline upgrades. Klaas recommended that we negotiate with pipelines as they come into Kendall County so that the responsibility for future upgrades at public roadways should be on the pipelines and not on the taxpayers of Kendall County. Gengler wondered if this should be developed as a policy and if the State's Attorney should be working on it. Klaas thought it would be worth looking at but warned that most pipelines would come under authority of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), so it might be really difficult to get anything done at the local level. Bachmann thought that it would be good to have policies in place so that pipelines understand the expectations that the County has. He added that this County is continuing to grow and so it will continue to be an issue. Klaas reiterated that it simply is not fair for taxpayers to have to pay for pipeline protection when the pipeline companies are making tens of millions of dollars off the pipelines. Lawmakers should be made aware of this issue.

Peterson asked if we've had a problem with pipelines abandoning their facilities. Klaas has not experienced this problem. Committee members discussed various issues with utilities and easements on county highways.

Motion Gengler; second Bachmann to forward Highway Department bills for the month of February in the amount of \$648,424.51 to the Finance Committee for approval. Klaas stated that the big items this month were land acquisition on Ridge Road. Motion approved unanimously.

Gengler asked how the Highway Department was doing on salt. Klaas stated that they need some. Due to nationwide demand, he expected that the next deliveries wouldn't happen until later next week. Gengler also wondered how to keep the salt from clumping up. Klaas said that as long as you can keep the salt dry, it will last almost indefinitely with little problem. It might get a crust on top, but that is not a big deal.

Hudek asked about the recent diversions of sales taxes in the road fund for RTA needs; does the County expect reductions in the State Road Fund or reductions for local agencies. Klaas thought the short answer was that it wasn't going to hurt locals substantively. With the increase in MFT funds and indexing it to inflation, there is an enormous amount of money out there for transportation. Additionally, IDOT has had some trouble delivering the program. This has created some enormous fund balances in the Road Fund, hence IDOT's extra \$400 million program for local agencies last year.

Motion Bachmann; second Gengler, to adjourn the meeting at 4:03 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Francis C. Klaas, P.E.  
Kendall County Engineer

### **Action Items**

1. Resolution for Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code appropriating \$3,850,000 from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund of Kendall County
2. Construction Engineering Services Agreement between Kendall County and HR Green, Inc. in the amount of \$59,745 for construction management of the Gates Creek Drainage Improvement
3. Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement between Kendall County and HR Green, Inc. in the amount of \$491,624.17 for Phase I Engineering at Plainfield Road intersections
4. Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement between Kendall County and HR Green, Inc. in the amount of \$497,045.13 for Phase 1 / Phase 2 Engineering at Grove Road & Caton Farm Road intersection
5. An ordinance for the establishment of altered speed zones on various county highways