

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: March 10, 2026
LOCATION: Kendall County Highway Department
MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Peterson, Scott Gengler, Dan Koukol & Brooke Shanley
STAFF PRESENT: Michele Riley, John Burscheid and Francis Klaas
ALSO PRESENT:

The committee meeting convened at 3:30 P.M. with roll call of committee members. Bachmann absent. Quorum established.

Motion Koukol; second Shanley, to approve the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Shanley; second Gengler, to approve the Highway Committee minutes from February 10, 2026. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Koukol; second Gengler, to recommend approval of an agency reimbursement agreement between Kendall County and BP Midwest Product Pipelines Holdings, LLC related to Ridge Road Reconstruction. Klaas provided background information on the proposed agreement. BP typically requires an initial engineering agreement, and after the engineering is completed, will come back to the County with another agreement to address relocating their pipe. State's Attorney Office requested several changes in the agreement, which BP agreed to; and so the agreement is ready for consideration by the County Board. Peterson asked if there would be more pipeline agreements coming. Klaas stated that there are 8 pipeline crossings on the Ridge Road project. The County has already paid TC Energy \$800,000 to mitigate 2 of the pipelines. BP is the third. There may be one or two that won't need relocation; but there are still several to come. Klaas lamented about the cost of the pipeline mitigation work, but stated that there is really nothing the County can do about that. He also discussed some specific problems with the BP pipeline, which is extremely shallow. Peterson asked how deep new pipelines would be placed. Klaas thought it would be 5' or 6'. Gengler wondered if we would have to bid out the engineering. Klaas said that the engineering would be done by BP and reviewed by the County. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Motion Shanley; second Koukol, to recommend approval of a Joint Funding Agreement for Federally Funded Construction between State of Illinois and Kendall County for Ridge Road Reconstruction. Klaas stated that this is the big one: the agreement with IDOT to fund Ridge Road Reconstruction. He provided a schedule to the committee that outlined the breakdown of costs... roughly \$17 million federal and \$25 million local. The agreement has to be in place prior to letting the project, which is scheduled for April 24, 2026. Klaas told the committee members that he had applied for an additional \$10 million federal monies through Lauren Underwood's office; and the County continues to discuss the project with State legislators through the County lobbyist. So there is a decent chance that the County will get some additional State or Federal funding. He also reminded committee members that IDOT will be the lead agency on the project due to the federal funds. They will pay the construction costs up front, and then will bill Kendall County over several years. Koukol asked if these were the costs for all of Ridge Road. Klaas stated that this agreement and these costs were just for the segment

from Holt Road in Minooka to Black Road in Joliet. The next phase of the project will be from Caton Farm Road to Plainfield Road. That 5-mile section is currently in Phase 1 Engineering and is scheduled for construction around 2031. It will have similar costs as the current section. Koukol also asked if there was already some county-owned land on the north end. Klaas confirmed that the area between Wheeler Road and Rte. 126 – which has already been widened – will have little land acquisition because it has already been improved with a raised median. He added that this latter project is already in the program for some federal funding. He expects that more federal funding will be forthcoming as that project gains momentum.

Koukol asked when work will begin on the current project. Klaas stated that all of calendar year 2026 will be spent moving utilities. He expects that road reconstruction will begin in earnest in the spring of 2027 and will last approximately 2 years. Klaas added that if the project comes in over \$35 million on the construction bid, it will be the single biggest project the County has ever awarded. Gengler pointed out that the \$35 million doesn't include pipeline relocations either. Klaas said that with engineering, land acquisition, utility relocation, and construction, the project would be close to \$50 million.

Shanley wondered how we (the County) could get more funding through the State, and volunteered to try to help. Klaas indicated that he had already talked to several state legislators, and Christina has been working with both our lobbyist and legislators. Shanley was curious as to what legislative package this might go under to better target the funding efforts. Klaas wasn't sure exactly what funding programs would be the best for the project. He thought that the County's lobbyist should be aware of the different funding packages and could help that process along. Shanley asked if Klaas knew where the State money came from for the Eldamain project. Klaas did not know. Upon further consideration, motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Motion Shanley; second Koukol, to recommend approval of a resolution appropriating funds for the improvement of Ridge Road and authorizing the County Board Chairman to sign a joint funding agreement with State of Illinois. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Motion Shanley; second Gengler, to recommend approval of a resolution appropriating funds for the payment of the county engineer's salary. Koukol asked Klaas if he had spoken to the Oswego Township Highway Commissioner recently about the t-posts on Collins Road. Klaas said he had not. Koukol has spoken to him, but he is avoiding the issue. Koukol indicated that people are pretty upset about it. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

In Other Business, Klaas presented a draft copy of a proposed ADA Transition Plan for public rights-of-way (PROW). He requested approval from the committee to put the draft plan on the county's website. It would stay there for 30 days, and then another 30 days for public comment. After that, it would go before the County Board in May 2026. Klaas discussed aspects of the plan and the schedule for implementation. Gengler brought up the issue with the red concrete for pedestrian crossings on Route 47 in Yorkville. He pointed out that they are falling apart. Klaas stated that the colored concrete is not required; but he thought the city had requested it in order to have better visibility. He added that, once built, the city is responsible for maintaining the crossings. In general terms, the County's ADA Transition Plan would identify crossings of County Highways as the jurisdiction of the County, while all other pedestrian facilities – even in

county rights-of-way – would be the jurisdiction of the appropriate municipality. Committee members had no opposition to the County Engineer’s request to publish on the website.

Motion Gengler; second Koukol to forward Highway Department bills for the month of March in the amount of \$130,331.06 to the Finance Committee for approval. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion Gengler; second Shanley, to adjourn the meeting at 3:54 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Action Items

1. Agency reimbursement agreement between Kendall County and BP Midwest Product Pipelines Holdings, LLC related to Ridge Road Reconstruction
2. Joint Funding Agreement for Federally Funded Construction between State of Illinois and Kendall County for Ridge Road Reconstruction
3. Resolution appropriating funds for the improvement of Ridge Road and authorizing the County Board Chairman to sign a joint funding agreement with State of Illinois
4. Resolution appropriating funds for the payment of the county engineer’s salary