

Public Hearing Minutes

Consolidated Vehicle Procurement Grant Application

Date: April 27, 2022

Time: 9:00am

- I. Call to order-Bill Wagoner
- II. CVP Grant Application-purpose of the meeting was stated-Kaycie Sanders
 - a. The purpose of this hearing is to obtain public comment and consider the economic, social, and environmental effects of the application for vehicle procurement through the application.
 - b. Douglas County asking for 2 replacement medium duty buses for 2 buses in current fleet that have more than 120,000 miles.
 - c. Asking for 1 new service vehicle and 1 expansion vehicle. Both medium duty buses.
 - d. Total budgeted cost is \$300,000 with no match required.
- III. Jim Mikeworth asked for details on the new service.
 - a. Kaycie stated that Douglas County obtained a new service contract with Piatt County Mental Health in 2019. Per IDOT (Zoe Keller), this would allow for a new service request within the application.
- IV. Patricia Hicks stated that Douglas County will be looking for a more permanent storage facility in Douglas County that will be able to store all of the current and future vehicles in the fleet. Only room for 3 vehicles currently.
 - a. Jim Mikeworth asked if there is a new location for the vehicles at this time.
 - b. Patricia answered no. Current location owners have been very generous but there will be a third round of rebuild to find a location. Preferably already owned by the Douglas County.
 - c. Jim Mikeworth asked if the location of a new storage facility would be in Tuscola

- d. Patricia Hicks said yes because Tuscola is more centrally located.
- e. Jim Mikeworth said he liked that idea because current drivers reside in Tuscola.
- f. Patricia Hicks stated that if Douglas County wanted to go this direction, they may have to build
- g. Jim Mikeworth asked for clarification as to whom would own the new facility.
- h. Patricia Hicks answered, the County.
- i. Bill Wagoner asked what level of funding would it take to build a new facility with land acquisition.
- j. Patricia Hicks answered with around 2 million dollars.
- k. Bill Waggoner suggested the property that the county engineer currently uses by the high school.
- l. Jim Mikeworth said county engineer is looking to increase his current office space.
- m. Bill Wagoner suggested that maybe it could be a dual purpose facility.
- n. Jim Mikeworth stated that the county thought they had a new shop lined out but they were outbid.
- o. Patricia Hicks stated that she knew what building he was referring to as Operations Director, Cheryl liked that building as well.

- V. Kaycie Sanders asked if there were any additional comments from the audience.
 - a. None

VI. Meeting adjourned at 9:15am

- VII. After meeting was adjourned, Douglas County PCOM forwarded an email. The email was sent after the hearing but the comment was as follows:
 - a. “Good morning, I am a resident of Arcola and wanted to reach out about the proposed transportation grant. I apologize for not reaching out prior to this morning's meeting but I still wanted to extend my support for the grant application. Expanded public transportation increases access to medical care, economic opportunity, and social interaction, all which help to increase quality of life. There are also environmental benefits such as reducing CO2 emissions and reducing energy consumption. While rural living has many benefits, one of the challenges is a lack of public infrastructure in comparison to an urban setting. Increased access can help stimulate economic growth and opportunity. I look forward to seeing the positive effects of expanded rural transportation in our area. Thank you, Anneke Schweers Miller

Attendees:

Patricia Hicks

Bill Wagoner

Jim Mikeworth

Kaycie Sanders