

Richland County Public Works Standing Committee

November 13, 2025

The Richland County Public Works Standing Committee convened on Thursday, November 13, 2025, in-person and virtually at 4:00 PM in the County Boardroom of the Richland County Courthouse.

Call To Order: Committee Chair Couey called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Roll Call: County Clerk Kalish conducted roll call. Committee member(s) present: Steve Carrow, Gary Manning, Kerry Severson, Steve Williamson, and Marc Couey. Committee member(s) not present: Chad Cosgrove and Daniel McGuire.

Verification of Open Meetings Law Compliance: County Clerk Kalish confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed.

Approval Of Agenda: Motion by Carrow second by Manning to approve agenda. Motion carried and agenda declared approved.

Approval Of Minutes From October 9, 2025 Meeting: Committee Chair Couey asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the October 9, 2025 meeting. Hearing none, Committee Chair Couey declared the minutes approved as presented.

Public Comment: None.

Reports:

A. Property Management Report - Departmental Activities: Maintenance Director Nelson noted the following: utilities on campus buildings are being shut off for the winter season, water has been shut off at fairgrounds and lines need to be blew out for winter, and preparations are being completed for Extension relocation.

B. Highway Commissioner Administrative Report - Departmental Activities & Review Of Monthly Bills: County Highway Commissioner Josh Elder provided brief summary of departmental activities and highway projects, reviewed monthly bills, and Highway fund balance.

C. Radio Tower Project Update: County Administrator Clements provided brief update on Radio Tower Project and noted an anticipated cutover date in January 2026.

Discussion & Possible Action – Resolution Approving The Approval Of Changes To The Rural Functional Classification System In Richland County: Highway Commissioner Elder provided brief background information on agenda item. Motion by Manning second by Severson to approve resolution approving the approval of changes to the rural functional classification system in Richland County. Motion carried and item forward to County Board for approval.

Discussion & Possible Action – Acceptance And Approval Of Air Conditioning Unit Bids: Maintenance Director Nelson reported that two bids were received. Precision Controls returned a bid of \$285,600 and Thermodynamics returned a bid of \$172,500. Discussion followed regarding the content of the returned bids being comparable to one another and the cost difference between the two bids

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received. Committee Chair Couey and Supervisor Carrow noted their desire for additional information and an opportunity to speak with representative from each company in person at next scheduled meeting set for December 4, 2025, at 4 PM. No action taken on agenda item.

Discussion & Possible Action – Prioritization Of Future Utilization Of County Facilities:

Supervisor Williamson questioned whether or not the Public Works Standing Committee was the appropriate committee to prioritize the future utilization of county facilities. Supervisor Carrow noted that priorities need to be determined and stated he feels the jail is a priority. Supervisor Severson noted the jail inspector being present for jail discussions would be helpful. Committee Chair Couey stated there are many things to consider and an ad hoc committee would likely be helpful. Administrator Clements noted the original intent of the committee was to determine the overall prioritization of county facility needs. Committee Chair Couey stated that if a new committee was created, it should contain all applicable members. Supervisor Carrow noted that the county has a Capital Improvement Plan and it may need to be reviewed. Motion by Couey second by Manning to remove prioritization of future utilization of county facilities duties from the Public Works Standing Committee and to place duties with a newly created County Facilities Standing Committee. Motion carried.

Future Agenda Items:

Discussion & Possible Action: Acceptance And Approval Of Air Conditioning Unit Bids

Discussion & Possible Action: Review Of 2026 Highway Department Budget And Capital Improvement Plan

Discussion & Possible Action: Public Works Standing Committee Meeting Frequency

Correspondence: None.

Adjourn: Motion by Couey second by Manning to adjourn to 4 PM on December 4, 2025. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM.



Derek S. Kalish
Richland County Clerk